



Roots of homelessness

Tuesday, May 3, 2011 | <http://www.bostonherald.com> | [Letters to the Editor](#)

The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program and, if funded, HomeBASE are the types of programs that can help families avoid homelessness and remain stably housed ("No place like home," April 27). Additionally, these programs rely upon housing rather than temporary shelter, a shift our agency advocates. We applaud the Patrick-Murray administration for taking this first step.

But we also need to address underlying issues: the lack of affordable housing, the lack of predictable resources to help families stabilize their housing, and a system in which families can fall between the cracks.

We know that the assessment/triage/follow-up approach to helping families avoid homelessness works. But families need housing they can afford and the opportunity to increase their ability to earn a living wage.

— *Christopher T. Norris,*

Executive Director

Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership

Article URL: <http://www.bostonherald.com/news/opinion/letters/view.bg?articleid=1335177>