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metropolitan boston housing partnership

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### Capital Campaign Nears \$2M Goal

With more than \$500,000 in pledges received in July and August, MBHP is only \$114,000 shy of meeting its Capital Campaign goal of \$2 million. We are grateful to all of our campaign supporters, and are confident that with our continued fundraising efforts we will reach our goal. Join the ranks of our generous donors and help put us over the top and thereby secure a more sustainable future. Visit [www.buildingonmission.org](http://www.buildingonmission.org) to learn more and to make a donation.



**We are evolving to serve you!**  
**Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership**  
**is now**



# **Metro Housing**<sup>TM</sup>

**B O S T O N**

**NEW NAME • NEW LOGO**  
**SAME DEDICATED TEAM AND SERVICES**

At Metro Housing|Boston we are committed to evolving in order to provide the very best service. Our new name and look are an important part of that evolution. Our new name is easy to recall while our new logo is symbolic of people, housing, diversity and dynamism. These exciting changes are the first of many in the service to our clients. In the coming months, look for news about our new home in Roxbury Crossing and our enhanced website all designed to put people first.

**PEOPLE FIRST. HOUSING ALWAYS.**

*Our new tagline*

*Our newsletter has a new look too*



# @Home



News and Updates from Metro Housing|Boston

Fall 2017

125 Lincoln Street, 5th Floor, Boston, MA 02111-2503 | 617.859.0400 | toll free: 800.272.0990 (MA only) | metrohousingboston.org

## Our Mission

*We mobilize wide-ranging resources to provide innovative and personalized services that lead families and individuals to housing stability, economic security, and an improved quality of life.*

## Our Programs

MBHP empowers families and individuals to move along the continuum from homelessness to housing stability. Serving more than 25,000 households annually, we work seamlessly to bridge the gaps among government, nonprofits, and corporations to continually increase our impact. With more than 30 years' experience piloting and implementing housing programs, we have solidified our position as an industry-leading expert on navigating the affordable housing field.

Our broad array of programs and services, as well as our extensive network of property owners and fellow service providers, allow us to address a wide range of housing-related issues, from preventing evictions and homelessness, to helping people find suitable homes, to making rent more affordable.

For more information on the many programs and services we administer, visit [www.mbhp.org](http://www.mbhp.org) or call our Housing Consumer Education Center at 617.425.6700.

## Letter from the Executive Director



*Dear Friends,*  
The arrival of fall means changes—cooler temperatures; kids returning to school; leaves turning color.

Exciting changes are happening as well for those of us here

at 125 Lincoln Street. Not only will we be moving to a new home in Roxbury Crossing later this fall, but I am happy to announce that MBHP will now be known as Metro Housing|Boston.

For those of you who are familiar with our work, you know that our staff members are committed and dedicated. We seek to ensure that every person in Greater Boston will always have a place to call home.

A new name and logo will not change that.

We remain dedicated to mobilizing wide-ranging resources to provide

innovative and personalized services that lead families to housing stability, economic security, and an improved quality of life.

Our participant families and partners can count on continued customized services that address a wide range of housing related issues to help them understand, navigate, and access the public and private services that are available.

Being committed to providing the very best service requires us to constantly evolve. Our shift to Metro Housing Boston is part of that transition. In the coming weeks, we will share more information about our new home, and we will launch a new website, all in service to our participants. Because, at Metro Housing|Boston, we believe in people first, housing always.

*Christopher T. Norris*  
Executive Director  
Metro Housing|Boston

## Capital Campaign Nears \$2M Goal

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## Receives Grant from Bank of America Charitable Foundation

Last month, Metro Housing|Boston received a \$50,000 grant from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation as part of their continuing investment in Metro Housing Boston's growing co-location program.

Collaborating with community organizations throughout the region, Metro Housing|Boston's co-location program allows residents to access multiple services in neighborhood locations that are physically and culturally accessible. Metro Housing|Boston staff holds regular office hours at each co-location site. A variety of resources are available, including housing search, housing applications, renewing subsidies and locating job training, educational and self-sufficiency programs, and emergency assistance. With assistance from funders such as Bank of America, Metro Housing|Boston has been able to double the number of families assisted through the program from 500 to nearly 1,000 over the past four years.

"We are grateful for the Bank of America Charitable Foundation's commitment to individuals, families, and communities throughout Greater Boston," said

Metro Housing|Boston's executive director Chris Norris. "The programs and services provided at our co-location sites provide a lifeline for people with the lowest incomes and the highest barriers to secure safe, decent housing."

Metro Housing|Boston partners with community based organizations to offer its programs and services at 11 sites that include Roxbury, Dorchester, Charlestown, Chelsea, Quincy, Somerville, and Waltham.

The Bank of America Charitable Foundation supports programs designed to advance pathways to economic mobility in order to build thriving communities. Special emphasis is directed toward workforce development and education, community development, and basic needs.

“...our co-location sites provide a lifeline...”

## Metro Housing|Boston Joins Call for Federal Budget Support at 'Our Homes, Our Voices' Rally

Metropolitan Boston Housing Partnership joined more than 500 residents, housing advocates, and policymakers from across the state on July 31st in support of federal investments in affordable homes and our communities. U.S. Congresswoman Katherine Clark and Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh were the keynote speakers at the 'Our Homes, Our Voices' rally, where participants called on Congress to invest in affordable homes and our communities and to ensure that everyone has the right to a safe, accessible home they can afford.

President Donald J. Trump and Congress have proposed devastating cuts, including cuts to Section 8 and public housing. These cuts would undermine the progress that cities, towns, and the state have made in affordable housing, community development, and reducing family homelessness.

Metro Housing|Boston co-sponsored the rally organized by Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA) at Faneuil Hall as part of the National Housing Week of Action which resulted in more than 40 events nationwide. Locally, more than 30 organizations were represented.

"Boston is on track to meet the housing goals we set in our Boston 2030 housing plan, but our city and our region relies on support from our federal partners," said Mayor Walsh. "We need stable, affordable housing for all families, and it's time to move forward and do even more."



Metro Housing|Boston employees turned out in force for the 'Our Homes, Our Voices' Rally.

As a member of the House Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, Congresswoman Clark is one of four Members of Congress responsible for writing the laws that fund the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"It's often said that where we invest is a reflection of our values," said Congresswoman Katherine Clark. "If we value ensuring economic opportunity for every family, we should invest in ensuring access to safe, secure, and affordable homes."



Participants of the Hoarding Intervention Training Institute's three-day certificate program.

## Hoarding Intervention Training Institute Offers Innovative Certificate Program

Metro Housing|Boston's Hoarding Intervention Training Institute offered an intensive, three-day certificate program in June for over 25 non-clinical professionals from across the country wishing to use evidence-based practices when intervening in hoarding situations. Staff from more than a dozen organizations in three states participated.

With support from MassHousing, the certificate program is the first of its kind and is based on an innovative model developed with the Boston University School of Social Work. This model has helped more than 500 people since 2006 avoid eviction and housing loss due to hoarding.

Jesse Edsell-Vetter, program manager for the Metro Housing Boston's Center for Hoarding Intervention, told the *Boston Globe* in an article about the training, "In terms of intervention, [it's about] helping people tolerate having enough, helping people learn to set limits without it being so anxiety-provoking that it's interfering with the rest of their life."

## Metro Housing|Boston Joins United Way for Project Homeless Connect

Metro Housing|Boston was proud to join more than 350 volunteers along with 40 businesses, government agencies, and community-based organizations in support of United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley's first Project Homeless Connect. Held on August 11, the event provided resources to more than 200 families experiencing homelessness. The event was held at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury, across the street from Metro Housing's future office.

Throughout the day, volunteers were paired with an adult or a head of a household experiencing homelessness to guide them through the services they need the most.

Representatives from Metro Housing|Boston met with and provided guidance to families in need of housing assistance. This included financial help and resources, housing search, advice for working with landlords, and a list of workshops offered by Metro Housing|Boston.

Other services provided to families included legal consultation; career coaching; connections to city and state agencies; and back to school supplies.

## Boston Private Lends a Hand with Back-to-School Backpacks!



Staff from Metro Housing|Boston meets with Boston Private staff who are donating school supplies for families served by Metro Housing|Boston. The backpacks were delivered to families residing in motel shelters and participants in the HomeBASE stabilization program in time for the start of the new school year. Boston law firm Ropes & Gray also donated backpacks to the program.

*Pictured, back row: Keith Williams, Kyrenecia Casterlow, Mickey Viola, Chase Ennis, Anthony Woods, Matt Gibson. Front row: Jenna Luongo, Luzdary Sarria, Nancy Gonzalez, Cathy Travers, Chanel Bardaro, Aida Franquíz, Jessy Pena, Alisha Motley.*



Michael Black and Jamila Aden were on hand to provide assistance to families at the United Way's first Project Homeless Connect.

"United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley has been a long-time supporter of Metro Housing|Boston and has allowed us to provide assistance to some of our most vulnerable families," said Chris Norris, Executive Director of Metro Housing|Boston. "We are very proud to give back to the United Way by contributing to Project Homeless Connect. The event epitomized the meaning of our vision of 'people first, housing always.'"



# Metro Housing B O S T O N

People First. Housing Always.

125 Lincoln Street, 5th Floor  
Boston, MA 02111-2503  
617.859.0400

[metrohousingboston.org](http://metrohousingboston.org)

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Christopher T. Norris

## SAVE THE DATE: Ten Years of Celebrating Founders Founders Celebration, Wednesday, November 1

Metro Housing|Boston is pleased to announce that Bank of America will be the presenting sponsor of the Tenth Annual Founders Celebration, to be held at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, November 1. For the second year in a row, the event will be held at John Hancock's headquarters in the Seaport District. The Founders Celebration was established in 2008 to honor the accomplishments of individuals and organizations best representing MBHP co-founder William S. Edgerly's concept of government, nonprofit, and for-profit partnerships to develop, promote, and preserve affordable housing in Greater Boston. New Lease for Homeless Families, Inc. is the recipient of the 2017 Founders Award.

The Lowell Richards Award was established in 2012 to recognize individuals for outstanding leadership and contributions across sectors. The award honors former Board member Lowell Richards in recognition of his twenty-nine years of dedication to MBHP's mission. Recipients of this year's Lowell Richards Award are Steven J. Rioff, Co-Chair of the Metro Housing|Boston Board, the founder of Metropolitan Housing, Inc. and founding Board member of Metro Housing|Boston, and Langley Keyes, Professor Emeritus at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and founding Board member of Metro Housing|Boston.

For more information, please contact 617-425-6705 or [maryjo.kane@mbhp.org](mailto:maryjo.kane@mbhp.org).