

# **IMPACT REPORT 2018-2019**



# PREVENTING FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

#### The Crisis Today

On any given day in Massachusetts almost 13,000 parents and children are living in homeless shelters or transitional housing. Thousands more who are living doubled up with relatives and friends, and even in cars and campgrounds, go uncounted. Most often families experience homelessness after a death or divorce, because of the loss of a job, or as the result of domestic violence in the home. The waiting lists for public housing and for housing vouchers are often years long. Low-income families need to be given resources now that enable them to afford housing.

#### **Our Approach**

No child should be raised in a shelter, much less a car or a tent. Affordable housing is not being created fast enough to meet the growing crisis of family homelessness in our state. One Family believes that families experiencing or at risk of homelessness must be provided pathways to economic security. Parents need to be able to earn enough to afford safe and permanent housing. As a result, we focus our efforts on supporting policies that provide economic opportunity and creating programs that give parents the ability to enter family-sustaining careers.



## CREDENTIAL TO CAREER

One Family's newest program serves low-income parents and those experiencing homelessness. Credential to Career Coaching (C2C) provides resources to help parents create personalized road maps into careers that can fully support their families and position them for successful futures. Our coaching is provided one-on-one and in group sessions, with follow-up support that continues for a year. To date, the program has served 71 parents in the MetroWest area of Boston.



Of parents were unemployed when they enrolled in C2C



Different career paths are now being pursued by participants



Increased average salary for participants who have already secured new jobs

## **ONE FAMILY SCHOLARS**

#### **Expertise in Helping Single Parents Achieve Success**

For the past 18 years, the One Family Scholars program has provided single parents experiencing or at risk of homelessness with the resources and support to succeed in higher education. The degrees they earn lead into careers that provide economic opportunity and change the future for both parents and children. The results the One Family Scholars program achieves are truly amazing!

**College Graduation Rate Comparison** 

75%

One Family Scholars

46%

All students at all colleges in the U.S.

28%

Single mothers in college



## PUBLIC POLICY

In our work to create systems change, One Family amplifies the voices of families who have experienced homelessness and housing instability and advocates with them for solutions that focus on prevention and providing parents the resources to achieve greater economic security.

## **Increase in MA EITC**

As part of the Healthy Families Coalition, One Family successfully advocated for an increase in the Massachusetts Earned Income Tax Credit. This increased credit will put more money in the pockets of over 400,000 low-income families in our state every year, helping them to secure housing and basic needs.

## **Funding for One Family Scholars**

The Massachusetts Legislature and Governor Baker included dedicated funding in the FY2019 state budget for One Family Scholars attending Massachusetts public colleges and universities. The \$300,000 in FY2019 funding from the Department of Higher Education has been critical to the success of the single parents served by the One Family Scholars program.

## Raising Awareness of One Family's Work

This year, participants in One Family's programs, as well as our Board members and staff, have met with dozens of state legislators, members of the executive branch, and municipal officials to share with them concerns about the crisis of family homelessness. These meetings have also raised awareness about programs that help families build better futures, like Credential to Career Coaching and One Family Scholars.



# TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR WORK, VISIT







## or come see us at our new office:

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