



MID-YEAR REPORT

**ONE FAMILY, INC.
FISCAL YEAR 2022**





OUR WORK THIS YEAR

Dear Supporters and Friends,

I am pleased to share One Family's Mid-Year Report for fiscal year 2022. This report outlines our work and impact so far and previews our plans for the coming months.

On any given day, 170,000 parents and children experience homelessness in the United States. This figure, which comes from HUD's 2020 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, is a stark reminder of the critical importance of One Family's homelessness prevention work. We provide personalized coaching and direct financial support to help parents leave poverty and homelessness behind, and we advocate for public policies that support housing stability and economic opportunity.

In this report you will find an array of exciting updates about One Family's efforts, including the launch of our first employer-based partnership with Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital. This will bring One Family's Credential to Career program to low-wage, entry-level Signature

employees and other low-income residents of the Brockton region, helping them achieve or regain economic self-sufficiency.

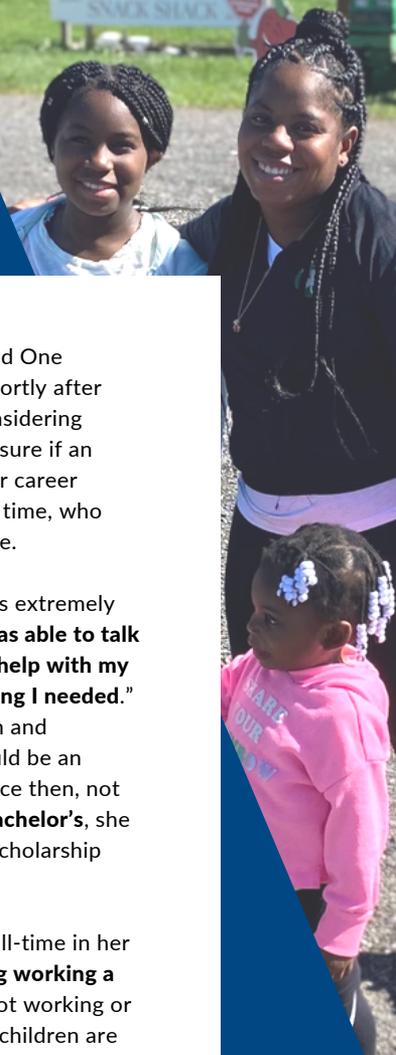
Some of the most devastating economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt in low-income communities, communities of color, and among families who were already living paycheck to paycheck. Investing in supports for these families and communities now will make a profound difference in the effort to help our Commonwealth get back on its feet. We are providing information and resources to help these families build a brighter future, and we are investing in staff to support the increased demand for our work.

We cannot fulfill these critical responsibilities without your support and partnership. Thank you for your help in preventing family homelessness.

In partnership,

Valerie Paric, Executive Director

STORY OF IMPACT: SASHA



A loving single mom of two amazing children, Sasha joined One Family's Credential to Career Coaching (C2C) program shortly after finishing her associate degree in accounting. She was considering returning to school for her bachelor's degree, but wasn't sure if an additional degree was worth the cost or necessary for her career goals. Sasha was working with a housing specialist at the time, who pointed her towards the C2C program for career guidance.

Reflecting back, Sasha says, "The entire C2C program was extremely helpful, especially the one-on-one coaching sessions. **I was able to talk about my career goals and wanting to own a house, get help with my resume and cover letter, and ask questions about anything I needed.**" While working with her coach to map out her career path and expected income, Sasha realized a bachelor's degree would be an important step towards her career and housing goals. Since then, not only was Sasha **accepted to Framingham State for her bachelor's**, she also joined the One Family Scholars program to receive scholarship funds and coaching between now and graduation!

As a One Family Scholar, Sasha has continued working full-time in her field. She shared, "I cannot lie, **it's very difficult balancing working a full-time job, going to school and parenting.** When I'm not working or doing school my time is fully devoted to making sure my children are happy. My daughters are my world, my reason. **I want to give them everything and to show them that it is never too late to follow your dreams.**"

And she's right - it really is never too late to follow your dreams. When Sasha graduates, she will have the credentials and professional experience to achieve her career goals: becoming a Certified Public Accountant and ultimately an Auditor. Five to ten years from now, Sasha sees herself owning a home, enjoying her family and career, and even **helping her oldest daughter make decisions about college and career paths.** In this way, Sasha's hard work now is paving the way for her daughters and future generations to thrive.

CREDENTIAL TO CAREER

The Credential to Career Coaching (C2C) program combines group workshops and one-on-one coaching, **empowering unemployed and under-employed parents to achieve their education and career goals, leading to economic stability.** Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, C2C has been delivered in an entirely virtual format, with technology provided to participants who need it.

"My coaches were advocates. They were encouraging and more than willing to help... that made a big difference. It was exciting that they wanted to know more about me and my goals".

- Elisha, C2C Participant

SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE PILOT PROGRAM

This fiscal year, **One Family launched C2C's first employer partnership with Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital.** This two-year pilot partnership has two main goals: First, it will help current entry-level, low-wage Signature employees access career growth within the hospital network. Second, it will empower Brockton-area residents to enter quality career paths with Signature and other regional employers. This twofold approach is intended to help residents of this gateway city recover from disproportionate economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and improve employee recruitment and advancement at Signature through a racial and economic justice lens. Community outreach is facilitated through partnerships with the Brockton Area Branch NAACP, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, Old Colony YMCA, and other partners.

One Family conducted the first C2C cohort through this partnership in the fall, serving parents with low incomes in the greater Brockton region. In the spring, we will pilot the first C2C cohort serving incumbent entry-level Signature employees, with an intentional focus on ensuring employees who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color have equitable access to quality employment pathways.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Simultaneously, One Family is **continuing our partnership with the MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD),** bringing C2C directly to families who have housing vouchers through DHCD. This partnership allows One Family to reach families living in regions across the state. Through our contract with DHCD, this fall One Family served parents in Lynn and the MetroWest region, with additional regions to be served this spring.





ONE FAMILY SCHOLARS

The One Family Scholars program provides **scholarships and personalized coaching to single parents with low incomes in college in Massachusetts**. Scholarships help cover both the direct costs of college (tuition, fees, books, technology), and the indirect costs (such as transportation and childcare). Our coaching is designed to help student-parents overcome the unique challenges of working, going to school, and raising children at the same time.

This year we are serving 90 single parents in the One Family Scholars program, studying in fields such as business, criminal justice, education, finance, nursing, political science, and many more. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many One Family Scholars have increased the number of online courses they are taking, and our coaches have adapted the coaching curriculum to support their success. The single parents in this year's class of Scholars range in age from 21 to 59 years old. Together they are raising 149 children, with an average age of 11.

In addition to One Family's academic and career coaching, we are currently partnering with **Chase Bank to offer financial literacy trainings** for One Family Scholars and C2C participants. We held our first session in November focused on savings and budgeting, and our second session in February focused on credit and credit scores.

48%

of One Family Scholars are pursuing degrees in health or STEM fields

35

Massachusetts colleges attended by current One Family Scholars

52%

of One Family Scholars have experienced homelessness

"The struggles we face as single parents are real. I am forever grateful to One Family and the generous donors who helped me achieve my goals and make my dreams come true. Without their support, my journey would have been impossible."

- Elaine, One Family Scholar



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Through our Technical Assistance work, One Family staff **train other direct-service providers from nonprofits and government agencies** in our coaching methodology, and provide one-on-one education and career **coaching directly to clients**.

Earlier this fiscal year, One Family completed a contract partnership with Compass Working Capital, delivering education and career coaching directly to over 100 parents in their direct-service programs.

One Family is also engaging in Technical Assistance through our ongoing partnership with the MA Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). This fiscal year, One Family coaches are planning and delivering three technical assistance workshops to Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Coordinators across the Commonwealth. This includes a session to help FSS Coordinators support their clients' executive functioning and soft skills, a session to work through client case studies using One Family's in-house case study protocol, and a training for new FSS Coordinators on coaching fundamentals, all in order to better serve future clients.

This fiscal year we are also partnering with DHCD to compile resources related to the "digital divide" - the gap between those who have access to and fluency with digital technology and those who do not. This work will assist DHCD in supporting families who are impacted by the digital divide, with a focus on three main factors: access to hardware and technology, access to WiFi, and understanding of how to use technology.

**"Thank you so much!
I appreciate you
tremendously for all your
help and support, and for
making me see how
important I truly am."**

*- Anonymous one-on-one
coaching participant*

PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY



ONE FAMILY'S ADVOCACY TEAM

So far this fiscal year, members of One Family's Advocacy Team - a group of 15 current and former One Family program participants - have participated in virtual meetings with legislators and their staff, provided testimony at legislative hearings, participated in issue-based round tables, and more. This has included advocacy around the following topics:

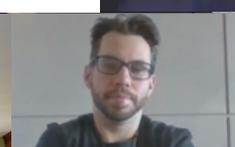
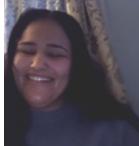
- Cracking down on discrimination against People of Color and people with housing vouchers in the rental market
- Expanding the MA Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- Preventing hunger among college students and their children
- Providing high-quality affordable and accessible childcare
- Investing in affordable homes and closing the racial homeownership gap

COALITION ADVOCACY

Through our involvement in coalitions such as the Healthy Families EITC Coalition, the Coalition to End Housing Discrimination, the Midas Collaborative, the Building Blocks Coalition, and the MA Hunger-Free Campus Coalition, One Family has played an active role in advocating for public policies and funding to prevent homelessness and support families on their journeys to self-sufficiency. Most recently, we became part of the Economic Pathways MA Coalition, which seeks to combat the "Cliff Effect" - a phenomenon where a small increase in income leads to a large reduction in benefits, significantly impacting a family's ability to achieve self-sufficiency.

OTHER ADVOCACY SUCCESSES

One Family, State Senator Jamie Eldridge, State Representative Kay Khan and other legislative supporters succeeded in securing continued state funding for the One Family Scholars program, and State Senator Michael Brady secured federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for our C2C program's pilot project in Brockton. We were also proud to be part of efforts led by the Midas Collaborative and Senator Eldridge to secure state funds for matched-savings programs, and to support the MA Hunger-Free Campus Coalition's successful effort to secure funding to prevent hunger on college campuses, spearheaded by Senate President Emerita Harriette Chandler.



To learn more and support One Family's work, please visit our website:
www.onefamilyinc.org

ONE FAMILY'S MISSION

One Family aims to prevent homelessness and break the cycle of family poverty in Massachusetts by promoting pathways to economic independence through advocacy, education, and innovation.

We envision a Commonwealth where all families have secure housing, access to education leading to employment, and the ability to build assets to create a brighter future. One Family believes that if policies are focused on prevention and programs are designed to promote opportunities, then we can end family homelessness in our state.

CONTACT US

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