



FY2020 Budget Priorities

Rosie's Place Public Policy department works to seek social justice on behalf of the women we serve. We work to achieve this goal through direct lobbying, coalition building and by empowering guests to be actively involved in advocacy.

Our FY2020 budget priorities aim to positively impact the lives of poor, homeless, and at-risk women.

FY2020 Budget Requests

Budgets are more than just financial allocations; they are moral documents that tell society what we value. We advocate to retain—and in some cases, expand—key funding provisions that support our guests and poor people.

Housing and Homelessness Prevention

Today we face a housing crisis that is spurring widespread evictions and ultimately increasing homelessness. We must increase funding for key housing programs that work to end housing insecurity and homelessness.

Program	Line Item	FY2020 Request	Gov. FY20 Budget	FY19 Budget
Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT)	7004-9316	\$27,000,000	\$15,274,232 ¹	\$20,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase RAFT by \$7M to help create a rent arrearage pilot program that will assist households who have fallen behind on rent before they face an eviction. 				
Mass. Rental Voucher Program (MRVP)	7004-9024	\$130,000,000	\$100,000,000	\$100,000,000
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Fair Market Rate (FMR) levels, last changed in 2005, to meet today's housing costs. 				
Emergency Assistance Family Shelters and Services (EA)	7004-0101	\$180,000,000	\$177,900,000	\$161,745,706 ²
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include language that grants families ability to access EA without having to first prove that they slept in a place not suitable for human habitation such as an ER or a car. 				

¹Governor Baker has proposed allocating \$4,725,768 to RAFT from the Housing Preservation and Stabilization Trust Fund, bringing RAFT to \$20,000,000.

²Anticipated FY19 amount is higher pending a request for supplemental funds.

Food Access

Access to enough support to purchase food and basic needs is essential to being healthy people. We must protect and increase funding for anti-poverty programs.

Program	Line Item	FY2020 Request	Gov. FY20 Budget	FY19 Budget
Healthy Incentives Program (HIP)	4400-1001	\$8,500,000	\$5,030,000	\$4,000,000 ³
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund HIP program to last full fiscal year so that more families can benefit from it. 				
Closing SNAP Gap/Creating Common Application	4000-0300	n/a	n/a	n/a
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a pilot program to allow MassHealth and/or Medicare Savings Program (MSP) applicants to start SNAP application at the same time. 				

³HIP received \$6,150,000 in FY19 which included \$2,150,000 from supplemental funds.

At Rosie's Place, we don't just educate our guests in the democratic process. We strive to engage and empower them through it.