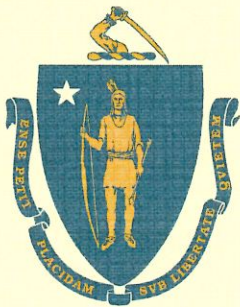


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, In many stories involving homelessness, the lack of affordable housing and the broader housing challenges in Massachusetts often focus on families. We must also elevate stories and voices of the 14-24-year-old youth and young adults who are navigating housing instability and working towards safe and stable futures; and

Whereas, For all youth, stability, safety and supportive relationships are the foundations of success, and youth thrive when they are connected to guidance, opportunity and support as they transition into independent adulthood; and

Whereas, Critical resources are sometimes unknown or out of reach for youth experiencing homelessness, and this group faces distinct challenges: they may be ineligible for family shelters, and adult shelters are not always suitable or supportive spaces; and

Whereas, Many youth have aged out of state systems or have left unsafe environments to pursue safer and more hopeful paths forward; and

Whereas, Across Massachusetts, we rely on a strong network of partner agencies, advocates and community organizations that work tirelessly to expand access to housing, education, employment and wellness support for young people; and

Whereas, Massachusetts data reveals that Black youth are five times more likely to experience homelessness than their peers, and Latino youth are nearly twice as likely. Across Massachusetts, BIPOC youth make up nearly two-thirds of all unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults; and

Whereas, This data helps us better understand the vulnerability and unique experiences of at-risk youth experiencing homelessness, affirms the importance of this month's designation, and reminds us of the urgent need for equity, safety and belonging in every community; and

Whereas, By investing in prevention, early intervention, and youth-centered solutions, we help young people avoid the long-term challenges of homelessness and instead build strong, stable and meaningful lives; and

Whereas, Government at all levels, alongside residents and nonprofits, shares the responsibility to support youth so they may participate fully in Massachusetts' overall prosperity; and

Whereas, Youth benefit from programs that promote leadership, self-sufficiency and belonging, helping them build futures filled with purpose and opportunity,

Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim November 2025, to be,

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of November, in the year two thousand and twenty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-ninth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY

MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts