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# FAMILY SHELTER

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**(EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE) as of August 1, 2011**

**If your family is in a housing crisis and need to apply for Emergency Assistance (shelter), here are some important things you should know:**

- Beginning August 1st, 2011, your family will be helped in a new way.
- To receive assistance, first you must be determined Emergency Assistance (EA)-eligible by a Homeless Coordinator. Eligible families who are homeless and are:
  - ◆ Victim of domestic violence or a natural disaster (e.g. fire, etc.): You will be placed in an EA shelter.
  - ◆ 18 through 21 years of age: You will be placed in an EA congregate shelter or a Teen Living Program.
  - ◆ Risk of homelessness for other reasons (overcrowding, asked to leave, evicted from housing, etc.): You will be referred to a new program called HomeBASE.

## WHAT IS THE HomeBASE PROGRAM?

- ◆ The HomeBASE Program offers time-limited assistance designed to provide alternative solutions to families who are at serious risk of homelessness rather than going into a shelter.
- ◆ The type of assistance is based on the individual needs of a family which will be determined through an assessment.
- ◆ There is no guaranteed amount or type of assistance. The new system will be based on your family's needs, situation, and contribution.

*If you are in a housing crisis and need help and/or want to know more about the HomeBASE Program, please call:*

- ◆ Housing Consumer Education Centers: 1-800-224-5124, or
- ◆ DHCD Division of Housing Stabilization: 1-877-418-3308, or
- ◆ Dial 211 for general information about programs in your area that may be able to help you, or visit [www.mass211help.org](http://www.mass211help.org) or [www.massresources.org](http://www.massresources.org)



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