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Did you know that during Massachusetts state fiscal year 2015, **11,856 families applied for housing assistance in order to escape or avoid homelessness?**

If you're like me, you're surprised that there are so many homeless and at-risk families in MA. In truth, **families experiencing homelessness are less visible because they live doubled up in unsafe conditions, sleep in their cars, or are placed in a motel.** These families become invisible, making it difficult for families to get the help they need.

In response to this crucial need to end family homelessness, Housing Families (HFI) provides emergency shelter, affordable housing, quality supportive services, counseling, and pro bono legal services to families and children experiencing homelessness

Since our inception in 1986, we have helped over 3,000 families transform their lives into a better future. **But our work is far from over.**

November is National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Month. **As part of this movement to make a difference in the lives of the families in our programs, we're asking businesses in the cities where our families live to join us this November in raising awareness** by making our informational flyers available to their customers.

We're also providing an opportunity for you to create additional promotions to further engage your communities about the important issue of family homelessness. Whether you collect donations or donate a percentage of proceeds that will go towards our mission, we encourage you to participate in whatever way resonates with you. We'd be happy to publicize your participation on our website and social media platforms.

Thank you for considering participating in our National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness event. Feel free to contact me at 781-322-9119 or at pkelly@housingfamilies.org if you would like additional information about HFI. I am happy to meet with you to discuss further. We are grateful for your generous support.

Sincerely,

Patty Kelly

Manager of Special Events and Community Outreach