



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Department of Transitional Assistance

MA Emergency Assistance (EA) Sheltering Program for Homeless Families

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MA Department of Transitional Assistance

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Topics

1. Where We're At
2. Where We're Going
 - Biases:
 - Our system is not set up in the best way to effectively combat homelessness
 - Future investments should address this



Where We're At

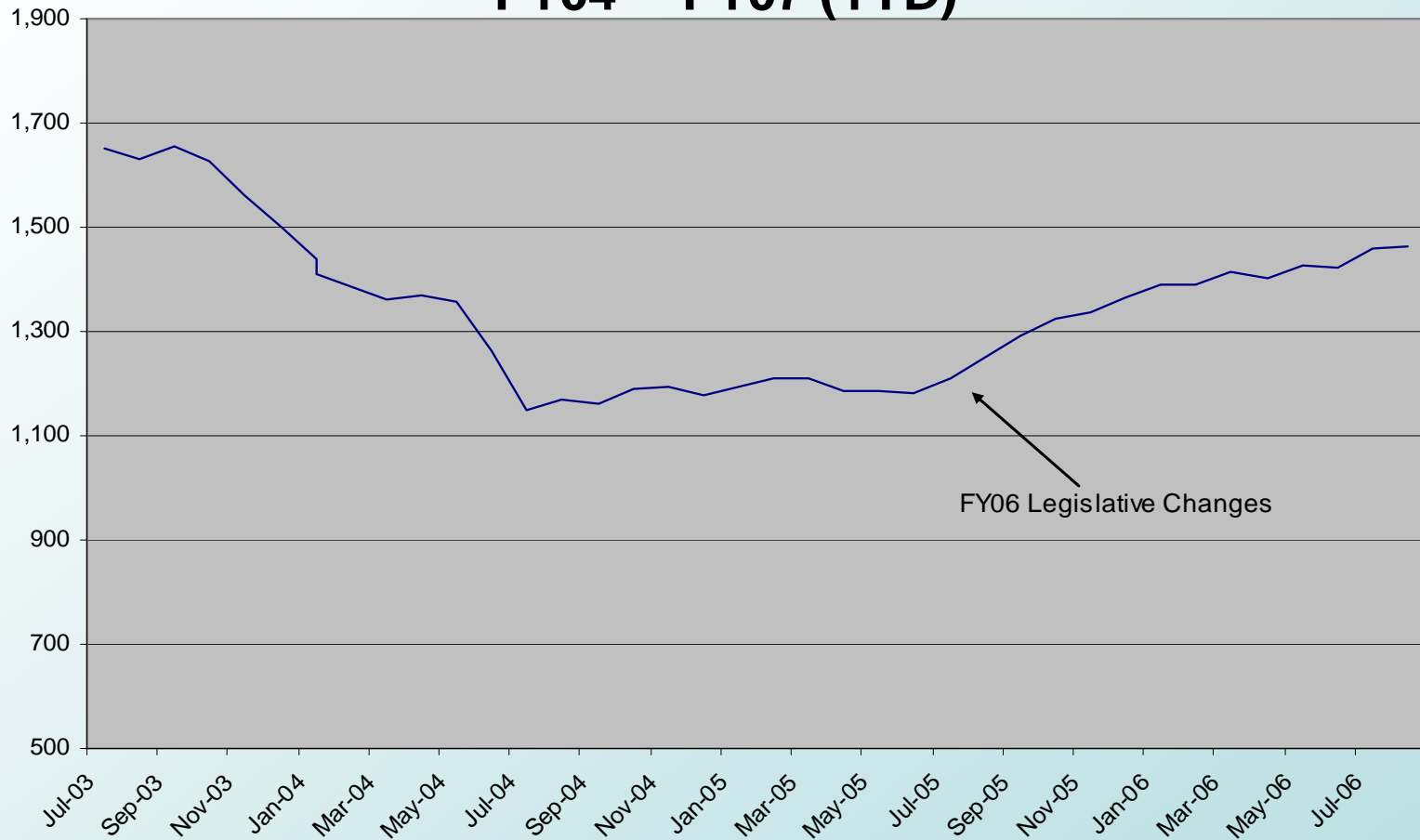
- State (DTA) Shelter
 - FY07 Family Shelter: \$74M*
 - FY07 Individual Shelter: \$35M
- *Family Shelter Growth
 - FY99 \$37M and ~850 Families
 - FY07 \$74M and ~1700 Families**
- **Expanded Eligibility FY06
 - 100% FPL to 130% FPL and others



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EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CASELOAD FY04 -- FY07 (YTD)





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Where We're At, cont.

	Transitional	Episodic	Long-Stay
Percentage of Caseload	74%	6%	20%
Percentage of days used	44%	7%	50%
Service History	33%	40%	25%



Where We're Going

- Began Some Reforms in FY05
 - Assessment Pilot
 - Intensive Case Management
 - 207 S2H Payments
- FY06 and FY07 Expanding Shelter Capacity
- Ahead? Back to the Future



Where We're Going, cont.

- Culhane's, other research promising and helpful to inform system redesign
 - Additional study of “exiters”
 - Review of “assessment tools”
 - Hennepin County, Minnesota
 - Maricopa County, AZ
 - Additional research (TBF and others)
- Move System More Towards Families' Needs (how utilized)



Where We're Going, cont.

- Keeping in Mind:
 - Maintain a safety net (shelter), but invest in housing options. >200 days of emergency shelter is not emergency shelter;
 - Assessments are only helpful up-front. Once someone is “served” in shelter, fiscally hard to then fund other options;
 - Changing systems are difficult, but even more challenging when have to keep current system an option;



Where We're Going, cont.

- Solutions always tied to local (MA) housing market;
- Consequently, system must also leverage workforce development resources/solutions to ensure longer term affordability.