

Department of Housing and Community Development
**NOTICE REGARDING FAMILY SHELTER/
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**
August 1, 2011



Is your family on the verge of becoming homeless?

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

- To receive assistance, you must first be determined to be Emergency Assistance (EA) eligible by a DHCD Homeless Coordinator. Eligible families must meet income and other criteria that includes providing documentation on the reasons for homelessness.
- If you are determined to be eligible you may qualify for the following:
 - ✓ You will be placed in an *EA shelter if you are a victim of domestic violence or a natural disaster* (e.g. fire, etc.)
 - ✓ You will be placed in an *EA congregate shelter or a Teen Living Program* if you are between the ages of 18 through 20
 - ✓ You will be eligible for a new alternative to family shelter called HomeBASE if your reason for homelessness relates to health and safety, overcrowding, asked to leave, or evicted from housing, among other reasons.



What is the HomeBASE Program?

- The **HomeBASE** Program offers an alternative to shelter and is time-limited assistance designed to provide a housing solution to families who are at serious risk of homelessness rather than going into a family shelter or motel.
- 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 or www.massresources.org

IMPORTANTE

- *Una versión en español de este documento está disponible a través de su proveedor o su coordinador de personas sin hogar si usted lo solicita*