

# End-to-End (E2E) Payments

February 24, 2023



## WELCOME



#### **Asking Questions**

#### We will be monitoring the Q&A for questions



Click "Q&A" to submit a question (or "Raise Hand" to share a verbal question at designated breaks)

2



Enter your question into the "Q&A" box

We will follow up with answers to any questions that we don't get to during the session

## THIS CALL IS BEING RECORDED







# PurposeReview common errors in payment issuance process, and<br/>train on how to correct

# Goal

Decrease number of erroneous payment information sent to Happy and increase processing efficiency

## AGENDA



- Common Payment Errors
  - Tenant Key Reminder
  - Failed Payments
  - Checking Addresses
  - Payment Methods
  - Payment Types
- Q&A Break
- Voided/Returned payments
  - Reissuing Payments
- Q&A Break
- RAA Support & Resources



- Payment records are generated based on expense records
- At 4PM daily, approved payments are exported to Happy
  - Only sent to Happy if:
    - » Payment status 'Verified by Worker'
    - » Case Status 'Ready for Payment'
  - Stipends are sent 5 days prior to the 1st of the month
- At 9AM daily, a response file from Happy is imported into E2E
  - Contains all payments from the day before
  - Contains Tenant Key and Accounting Contact Key for all HOH and Landlords
- Once a payment has been sent to Happy, no changes in E2E will impact that payment





- In order to connect to Happy, staff must review potential duplicates and add the Happy Tenant Key to the contact record when appropriate
- **ONLY** add the Tenant Key *if*:
  - I. The Head of Household in E2E is the same as the Head of Household in Happy
  - (You can check this by looking at the 'relationship' in the Happy Member details (H))
  - 2. The Social Security Number in E2E and Happy match exactly
    - If the HOH has no SSN, the import will put all 999-99-9999 in the file. In order to match to Happy, the HOH in that record must have all 9s as well
- Copy/paste the Tenant Key into the E2E HOH contact record

## 0 <u>DO NOT</u>

- Use Happy Tenant ID
- Use Tenant Key for non H
- Match if SSN is different

## FAILED PAYMENTS



- If the Tenant Key is entered incorrectly and the case is submitted for payment, that payment will fail the Happy import
- These payments will be marked with the status 'Payment Failed' in E2E
- RAAs must monitor the Failed Payments report daily to see which payments didn't make it to Happy - See <u>Failed Payments Report | Salesforce</u>

|   | ~ >              | ~ >                        | ~ <b>` `</b>               | <b>&gt;</b> ~             | Submitted for Payment |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Details Related Documents   | Benefits/Payment | Case Comments              |                            |                           |                       |
| Expense Details (1)     item • Sorted by Expense Code • Updated a few | seconds ago      |                            |                            | \$\$ ▼ C <sup>I</sup> New | Move to Another Case  |
| Expense Code ↑ V  | Record Type V    | Total Amount Requested 🗸 🗸 | Total Verified Amount $~~$ | Verification Status       | ~                     |
| 1 E-15661   | Rent             | \$4,000.00                 | \$2,220.00                 | Verified by Worker        |                       |
|   |                  | View All                   |                            |                           |                       |
| Payments (1)  |                  |                            |                            |                           |                       |
| Payment ID  | Payment Reason   | Actual A                   | mount                      | Status                    |                       |
| P-282032  | ARR              | \$2,220.00                 | )                          | Payment Failed            |                       |
|   |                  | View All                   |                            |                           |                       |

## CHECKING ADDRESSES



- As part of case review before approval, staff must check the landlords' mailing and/or check address
- Confirm that the address has a street number and appears to be a real address

#### Owner Contact Card

Confirm mailing address (Direct Deposit payments will use this address for 1099s)

| DHCD E2E Sta                          | ff Por | Cases                               |         | $\sim$  | 🖿 рнср            | Reports | $\sim$ $\times$ | â 0000 |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|-----------------|--------|
| 00004996                              | 000024 | 19 ~ X                              | 🖽 Trai  | inWF    | . ~ ×             |         |                 |        |
| SSN/TIN                               | 22     | 2223333                             |         |         |                   |         | , de la         | Ethn   |
| Race Single 🚯                         |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         |                 | Age    |
| Relationship                          |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         | 1. Martin       | Con    |
| SOA Vendor Code                       |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         | , der           | Lega   |
| ✓ Additional Details                  |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         |                 |        |
| Employment Status                     |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         |                 | Туре   |
| Driver's License Number               | r      |                                     |         |         |                   |         | , der           | Driv   |
| Is Active                             |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         | A. COLOR        | ls Pr  |
| ✓ Contact Info                        |        |                                     |         |         |                   |         |                 |        |
| Phone                                 | (33    | 3) 333-4444                         |         |         |                   |         | 1               | Pho    |
| Email                                 | tra    | nwfll@yopma                         | il.com  |         |                   |         | 1               | Pref   |
| Consent to receiving tex<br>messages. | t 🕕    |                                     |         |         |                   |         | , der           | Pref   |
| ✓ Address Informat                    | ion    |                                     |         |         | _                 |         |                 |        |
| Mailing Address                       | Sp     | Main Street<br>ingfield, MA (<br>5) | Baskett | pall Ha | BEL<br>BEL<br>BEL | MON     | /               | Apa    |
| ✓ System Information                  | n      |                                     |         |         |                   |         |                 |        |

| <b>Owner Payment Method</b>                              |
|--|
| Confirm check address for paper owner checks             |
| Only Business Admin will be able to update if address is |
| incorrect  |

| elated Details                  |                                 |   |                             |                     |  |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <ul> <li>Information</li> </ul> |                                 |   |                             |                     |  |
| ame                             | PM-00226                        |   | Accounting Key              | 212181              |  |
| treet/PO Box                    | EDWARDS ST                      | 1 | Record Type                 | Check               |  |
| heck Address                    | EDWARDS ST SPRINGFIELD MA 01103 |   | Owner                       | S TrainWF TrainWFLL |  |
| ayee Name/Check Addressed       | TrainWF TrainWFLL               | 1 | City                        | SPRINGFIELD         |  |
| ayee Name/Check Addressed       | TrainWF TrainWFLL               |   | Preferred Method of Payment | Check               |  |
| Ď                               |                                 |   | State                       | MA                  |  |
| erification Status              |                                 | 1 | Zip Code                    | 01103               |  |
|                                 |                                 |   |                             |                     |  |

## CHECKING ADDRESSES



• Before sending a payment to a provider, **confirm** that you are sending to the correct mailing address

**Provider List** 

Confirm address for paper checks

|          |         |                       |           |                              | -       |                            |        |            |           |                      |        |        |                |         |          |           |      |
|----------|---------|-----------------------|-----------|------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|----------------------|--------|--------|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|------|
|          | DH      | ICD E2E Staff Po      | or        | Providers                    | ~       | Ø ~                        | â 0000 | 05815      | ~ ×       | 00058306             | ~ ×    | 🙆 RAFT | Weekly Process | ~ X     | 🖥 Faileo | d Payment | s Re |
| 小        | Provid  | ers<br>T              |           |                              |         |                            |        |            |           |                      |        |        |                |         |          |           |      |
| 50+ iter | ms • So | rted by ERAP Provider | Name • Fi | Itered by All providers • Up | dated a | few seconds                | s ago  |            |           |                      |        |        |                |         |          |           |      |
|          |         | Key Accou 🗸           | ERAP P    | rovider Name 🕇               | `       | <ul> <li>Provid</li> </ul> | ler 🗸  | Provider 🗸 | Address   | Line1                | $\sim$ | A ~    | City 🗸 🗸       | Zipcode | ~        | St $\vee$ | Ρ    |
| 1        |         | 136110                | A Fresh   | Start Moving Company         |         | A Fresh                    | n St   | MOVING     | 40 Easte  | rn Ave 218           |        |        | Malden         | 02148   |          | MA        |      |
| 2        |         | 6834                  | A To Z N  | Noving & Storage             |         | A To Z                     | Mo     | MOVING     | 380 UNI   | ON STREET SUITE 1    |        |        | West Sprin     | 01089   |          | MA        |      |
| 3        |         | 167133                | Aarons I  | LLC                          |         | Aarons                     | LLC    | FURNITURE  | 1090 Kin  | igs Highway Unit 2   |        |        | New Bedf       | 02745   |          | MA        |      |
| 4        |         | 130864                | Abc Mo    | ving & Storage Llc           |         | Abc M                      | ovi    | MOVING     | 241 Willa | ard St               |        |        | Leominster     | 01453   |          | MA        |      |
| 5        |         | 150182                | Adams F   | Furniture                    |         | Adams                      | Fu     | FURNITURE  | 394 Seco  | ond St               |        |        | Everett        | 02149   |          | MA        |      |
| 6        |         | 176192                | Affordat  | ble Mattress & Furniture     |         | Afforda                    | abl    | FURNITURE  | 1029 No   | rth Rd.              |        |        | Westfield      | 01085   |          | MA        |      |
| 7        |         | 10790                 | Affordat  | ble Moving                   |         | Afforda                    | abl    | MOVING     | 9 Needh   | ams Landing Road 404 |        |        | Lynn           | 01905   |          | MA        |      |
| 8        |         | 97965                 | All My S  | ions                         |         | All My                     | Sons   | MOVING     | 7 Adam    | Road                 |        |        | Stoneham       | 02180   |          | MA        | 61   |

## PAYMENT METHODS

- In order to successfully send a LL payment to Happy, the Payment Method in the payment detail **must match** the Payment Method in the LL case
- If a LL wants to change the Payment Method for any reason, it must be updated in **both** locations

# Tenant/Landlord Portal Status Denied Contact Name TrainNWHS TrainNWHSLL Payment Method PM-00258 Property Address Verification Verified by Automated Service - Green

|                               |  | Edit P- | 0771           |              |   |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|----------------|--------------|---|
| nformation                    |  |         |                |              |   |
| Payment ID                    | P-0771                                       |         | Owner          | 😸 Carol Fahy |   |
| Actual Amount                 | \$1,200.00                                   |         | Paid to Type   | Landlord     | • |
| Actual Paid Amount<br>(Happy) | \$0.00<br>This field is calculated upon save |         | Payment Method | PM-00258     | × |

|                   |                    | - P        | ending |                        | 1 found           | 1 17255     | 5 total     |                     |             |             |                      | Note             | History | Find |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------|--------|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------|---------|------|
| Initial Data      | Household          | Unit Data  | Owner  | Eligibility            | TTP               | Pro         | gram        | FSSMTW              | Portal      | bility      | Transactions         | Document         | s       |      |
| TRANSACTIO        | N DETAILS          |            |        | UNPOSTED TRA           | NSACTION I        | TEMS        |             |                     |             |             |                      |                  |         |      |
| Action Type       | A Accounting Adjus | tment      | × ∩    | Below is a list of Lod | ked In Transactio | on Items th | at have not | been posted to Acco | unting. Cli | ck the arro | w to review the Tran | saction Details. | i.      |      |
|                   | 2b)                | 12/19/2022 | ■ \$   | Pay Date               | Date              | Action      | tem         | Agency              | Program     | Contact     |                      |                  | Am      | unt  |
| Effective Date (2 |                    |            |        |                        |                   |             |             |                     |             |             |                      |                  |         |      |
| Effective Date (2 |                    |            |        | 02/01/2023             | 02/01/2023        | A           | ARR         | 6                   | 2           |             |                      |                  | \$4,950 | .00  |
| Effective Date (2 |                    |            |        | 02/01/2023             | 02/01/2023        | A           | ARR         | 6                   | 2           |             |                      |                  | \$4,950 | 00   |

#### HAPPY If a payment makes it to Happy without a payee name/address – this is the issue

DRAFT FOR POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT



#### PAYMENT DETAIL

LL CASE

## **PAYMENT TYPES**



#### Expense Record Choose appropriate moving expense category

|  |   | Edit E      | -4527   |   |
|--|---|-------------|---|---|
| Information  |   |             |   |   |
| Expense Code<br>Case<br>Total Amount<br>Requested                    | E-4527<br>00004996<br>\$22.00<br>This field is calculated upon save |             | Record Type<br>Total Verified<br>Amount   | Moving Expense<br>\$22.00<br>This field is calculated upon save |
| Moving<br>Moving Expense<br>Category<br>Provider<br>Requested Amount | Other<br>None<br>Moving<br>Furnishing                               | 5<br>¥      | Business Phone<br>Provider legal busi-<br>ness name<br>Verified Requested<br>Amount | BDs<br>\$22.00  |
| Verification Status  | Verified by Worker  | •           |   |   |
|  |   | Cancel Save | e & New Save  |   |

#### Payment Record

- Confirm that the payment reason is **correct**, this is the code that will be sent to Happy
- 'Other' should be used very rarely

| nformation                    |  |         |                   |                        |     |
|-------------------------------|--|---------|-------------------|------------------------|-----|
| Payment ID                    | P-1383                                       |         | Owner             | 🖰 Molly butman         |     |
| Actual Amount                 | \$22.00                                      |         | Paid to Type      | Moving Expenses        | •   |
| Actual Paid Amount<br>(Happy) | \$0.00<br>This field is calculated upon save |         | Payment Method    | Search Payment Methods | Q   |
| Return/Voided<br>Payment      |  |         | Payment Date      | 2/13/2023              | ⇔   |
| Case Number                   | 00004996                                     | ×       | Payment Reason    | FUR                    | Ŧ   |
| Paid to Rental Link           | Search Contacts                              | Q       | Tenant            | None                   | Í   |
| Paid To Rental                | TrainWF TrainWFLL                            |         | Status            | ARR                    |     |
|                               | This field is calculated upon save           |         |                   | BRO                    |     |
| Expense Detail                | E-4527                                       | ×       | Payment Object Id | CCP                    |     |
| Payment Voided<br>Date        |  | <b></b> | Paid to Type      | CON                    | - 1 |
| Month                         |  |         |                   | FMR                    |     |
| Month                         | February 2023                                |         |                   | V FUR                  |     |
| Check/ACH Number              |  |         |                   | LMR                    | - 1 |
|                               |  |         |                   | MIS                    |     |
| Happy Information             |  |         |                   | MOR                    |     |
| Happy DD Flag                 |  |         | Happy Paid Amount | MST                    |     |
| U K 1000                      |  |         |                   | MOV                    |     |



- Reject unwanted payments instead of leaving in 'not verified'
  - If created by accident or no longer needed
- Do not manually mark any payments as 'Submitted for Payment'
- Cases stuck in 'Ready for Payment' may be missing information
  - Payment date
  - Payment method
- 'Talend' is the automated tool that sends data to Happy, updates case/payment statuses, and sends out some system notifications





## QUESTIONS



## VOID/RETURNED PAYMENTS



- Payments that need to be voided or returned will be communicated between program staff and fiscal staff outside of E2E (by email or via any internal system that the RAA uses)
- RAA should process voids and returned payments in the 1099 module, as they typically would in Happy
- Fiscal staff can edit the 'Payment Notes' field in Happy
  - Happy will automatically insert a void or returned note, this field can be edited (see green)
  - Add a note here indicating why payment was voided or returned and if the payment should be reissued
- Do **not** edit the payment memo under any circumstance when performing a void/return, as this will break the link between Happy and E2E
  - Payment memo will include application info from E2E, do not change or add to it (see red)

| PAYMENT                   |                |                |                                     |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Payment Type              | UTL            | Payment Notes  | Voided Payment Offsetting Entry -   |
| Amount<br>Payment on 1099 | -\$455.00<br>× |                | Butman - check lost in mail, will v |
| Creation Date             | 11/08/2022     | Payment Memo   | 65646678757:00002787;               |
| Manual Type               |                |                |                                     |
| Abated                    |                | Payment Voided | Voided Payment Offsetting Entry     |
| Abated Amount             |                | Voided by      | Molly Butman on 11/08/2022          |



- Payments that were voided/returned in Happy will have their payment status updated automatically by 9:30AM the following day
  - Do **not** change the payment status manually in E2E for voided payments

| Payments (2) |                |               |                       |   |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---|
| Payment ID   | Payment Reason | Actual Amount | Status                |   |
| P-0431       | UTL            | \$455.00      | Payment Voided        | • |
| P-0432       | FUR            | \$567.00      | Submitted for Payment | • |
|              |                | View All      |                       |   |



# By clicking on the Payment ID, staff can navigate into the payment detail to (a) see how much was returned (b) and view any notes left by Fiscal Staff

|                 |  | Owner                  | 🗟 QA Casemana  | ager   |   |
|-----------------|--|------------------------|--|--|---|
|                 | 1  | Paid to Type           | Provider   |  | -   |
|                 |  | Payment Method         |  |  | 1   |
|                 | 1  | Payment Date           | 10/26/2022   |  | 1   |
|                 | 1. Alter and the second | Payment Reason         | UTL  |  | 1   |
| nt roturned     | 1  | Tenant                 | Rohit Das  |  | - Ali   |
| int returned    | di seconda de la constante de  | Status                 | Payment Voided   | Payment Status   | 1   |
|                 | 1  | Payment Object Id      | a0M3R000003abl   | JkUAI  |   |
|                 | 1  | Paid to Type           | Provider   |  | , di  |
|                 | 1  |                        |  |  |   |
| ewer Commission |  | Account Number 🕚       | 100003530  |  | /   |
|                 |  |                        |  |  |   |
|                 | L  | Happy Paid Amount      | \$455.00 Orig  | inal payment amount  | 1   |
|                 |  | Accounting Contact Key |  |  | - All |
|                 |  | Happy Key Program Key  |  |  | le l  |
|                 |  | Happy Memo             | 65646678757:000  | 02787;a0M3R000003abUkl   | JAI 🥒   |
|                 |  | Happy Notes            | Voided Payment (   | Offsetting Entry - Voided or   | n 11/8/2022 by 🖉  |
|                 | 11 and 11 | Uname Creation Data    | ivioliy Butman - ci                                      | neck lost in mall, will reissu   | e Note fro  |
|                 |  | Happy Creation Date    |  |  |   |
|                 |  | /                      | Happy Rotes<br>Happy Creation Date<br>Happy Payment Type | Happy Notes Moley Payment C<br>Molly Butman - cl<br>Happy Payment Type | Happy Rotes Molly Butman - check lost in mail, will reissu<br>Happy Payment Type  |



- I. Move the case back to 'Reviewer Status'
- 2. On the case details screen, check the 'Stop Payment Notifications' box (optional)
- 3. Reject the old expense record
- 4. Add new expense record
  - If paid to incorrect provider, select the correct provider
  - If payment amount was incorrect, enter correct amount
  - If address of provider was wrong, open Zendesk Ticket for DHCD to edit or create new provider
- 5. Verify the expense
- 6. Press 'Generate Payments'
- 7. <u>Confirm</u> that payments were generated correctly by clicking into each new payment
- 8. If correct, select 'Payment Status Verified by Worker'
- 9. Move the case to 'Ready for Payment'

## REISSUE PAYMENTS: CHANGE TO LL PAYMENT METHOD



- Communicate with the LL that they need to create a new Payment Method in the LL portal
- Once new Payment Method is created, staff must associate the Payment Method with the LL case

| ✓ Case Information      |                                  |   |   |                                       |   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Parent Case             | 00003401                         | 1 | Tenant/Landlord Portal Status           | Denied                                |   |
| Landlord                | TrainNWHS TrainNWHSLL            | 1 | Contact Name                            | TrainNWHS TrainNWHSLL                 | 1 |
| Property Address        | 40 POND ST HANOVER MA 02339-1608 |   | Payment Method                          | PM-00258                              | 1 |
| Street                  | 40 POND ST                       | 1 | Property Address Verification<br>Status | Verified by Automated Service - Green | 1 |
| Select Property Details | P-0244                           |   |   |                                       |   |
|                         |                                  |   |   |                                       |   |

- Business Admins will be given access to edit existing payment methods. Best practice is to have the LL create a new one, but Business Admin may correct if needed
  - If correcting an existing Payment Method and there is an accounting key, updates *must* also be made in Happy

## Once Payment Method is updated in LL case:

- I. Move the case back to 'Reviewer Status'
- 2. Reject the incorrect expense record (with old Payment Method)
- 3. Create a new expense record for payments needing reissue
- 4. Press 'Generate Payments'
- 5. <u>Confirm</u> that payments were generated correctly by clicking into each new payment
- 6. If correct, select 'Payment Status Verified by Worker'
- 7. Move the case to 'Ready for Payment'



- If you find an error or need to make a change to a payment that has been sent to Happy and is <u>not</u> yet paid:
  - Void the transaction in Happy (Because it was not paid, this will not be communicated back to E2E)
- In E2E (to reissue)
  - Mark the payment as 'Rejected by Worker'
  - Move case back to 'Reviewer'
  - Generate payment with appropriate corrections (See previous slides on how to correct different situations, i.e. LL payment method, vendor, amount etc.)
  - Verify payment
  - Move case to 'Ready for Payment'
- In E2E (no reissue)
  - Mark the payment as 'Rejected by Worker'
  - If all payments were cancelled, close the case



## QUESTIONS





## RAA SUPPORT

## RESOURCES



#### **RAA Resource Portal**

Central resource to provide RAA staff with key updates, training and learning opportunities, and helpful information to support programs

#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that provide additional, concise program guidance.

#### OFFERED BY Housing and Community Development **Regional Administering Agencies Resource Portal**

WELCOME TO THE REGIONAL ADMINISTERING AGENCIES (RAA) F PORTAL

DHCD is partnering with RAAs to create more cross learning and engagement so that we are better positioned to reach our shared goals. We invite RAA staff t page to learn about key updates, training and learning opportunities, and provi information to support our programs.

DHCD continues to work with RAAs to streamline and implement initiatives that administration of the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), En Rental and Mortgage Assistance (ERMA), and the Housing Consumer Education Massachusetts (HCEC) Programs. Thank you for your ongoing support of Massa households. This repository of information is specifically intended to be used by please avoid sharing this link with other parties.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

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Mass.gov

EVICTION DIVERSION INITIATIVE (EDI) OVERVIEW

EVICTION DIVERSION INITIATIVE (EDI) PROGRAMS

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Office Hour Training sessions will occur every Friday from 1:00PM-2:00PM, cove topics aimed at sharing knowledge about EDI programming and increasing enc the RAAs. Weekly topics and dial-in information will be shared with RAA staff in session



SEARCH Q

OFFERED BY Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development Housing and Community Developme

🝯 🌐 Select Language 🗸 🔺 State Organizations 🛛 🕂 Log In to...

#### PRESS RELEASE

3/15/2022

Search Mass any

**Baker-Polito Administration Announces Upcoming** Closure of Federal Rental Assistance Programs to New Applications, State Programs Remain Available

Eviction Diversion Initiative continues to offer state-funded RAFT, legal aid, mediation, and other services

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development Housing and Community Development Office of Governor Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito

#### MEDIA CONTAC Michael Verseckes, Director of Media and Public Relations

 Online Michael.W.Verseckes@mass.g

BOSTON — Today, the Baker-Polito Administration alerted renters, landlords, regional agencies and other stakeholders that the Massachusetts housing payment assistance programs funded by federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) will stop accepting new applications on or around April 15, 2022. This decision is based on the remaining balance of available federal funding. Federally funded programs include the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), the Subsidized Housing Emergency Rental Assistance (SHERA) program, and the ERAP-Enhanced HomeBASE program. After April 15, households will still be able to apply for the state-funded Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program, subject to funding availability. Other existing eviction prevention programming will continue to be available for eligible households.

The Department of Housing and Community Development, in partnership with its network of Regional Administering Agencies, has distributed more than \$582 million to approximately 72,000 households since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and anticipates it will use all remaining federal funding for the three ERA programs before the end of the current fiscal year.

Last month, the Baker-Polito Administration filed a FY22 supplemental budget, which includes funding to extend the state RAFT program through the remainder of FY22. The proposal also includes an extension of the Chapter 257 eviction protections until January 1, 2023, which require a continuance or stay in eviction cases if a tenant has an active rental assistance application.

In January, Governor Baker released the Administration's FY23 budget proposal, which includes a 264 percent increase in RAFT compared to the FY22 budget. This funding represents a four-fold funding increase over pre-pandemic levels and a projected three-fold increase in households served. The proposal also maintains the current maximum RAFT benefit level of up to \$7,000 a year per household, which would enable DHCD to serve roughly 15,000 households in FY23. Prior to the pandemic, the RAFT program was a homelessness prevention program with an annual budget of approximately \$20 million, which served 5,000 to 6,000 households and provided up to \$4,000 a year to low-income households for rent, utilities, and other housing costs.

## QUESTIONS





#### **Further Questions**

Direct questions to your supervisor and then contact the RAA support inbox (<u>dhcdraaraft@mass.gov</u>) as a point of escalations for questions. A member of the RAA Support Team will respond.

• **Time-sensitive Questions**: Critical questions that require responses within 24hrs should be submitted with a subject line that includes "**URGENT**."



#### **Best Practice**

Please **specify the program** that you are reaching out about to ensure that the DHCD RAA Support team is best positioned to provide policy guidance.



## THANK YOU!

