Resource Guide

Generated November 28, 2026 · 2 open facilities · closed facilities are not listed · call before you go: details change quickly

MA

Father Bill's & Mainspring Coalition for the Homeless

Shelter · Open

Non–Profit Community

54 N. Main St., Brockton, MA 02301

Phone Admin. Office: 617–376–2255
Web www.fatherbillsmainspring.org
Hours 24/7
Service Temporary

MainSpring Coalition for the Homeless is passionately committed to the ending of homelessness of families and single adults in southeastern Massachusetts. Compelled by the growing number of homeless families and individuals in the greater Brockton area in the late 70's and early 80's, Marie Sheehan, Director of Community Services for Catholic Charities, marshaled the efforts and enthusiasm of fifty community leaders to make a difference. Incorporated in 1982 as a non–profit, 501 (c)(3), charitable, educational venture, MainSpring remains, in fact, the only organization in southeastern Massachusetts that provides emergency shelter and support services to both homeless families and single adults. MainSpring accomplishes its work with a dedicated staff of 50 employees and over 500 compassionate volunteers. While never wavering from its commitment to ensure that homeless men, women and children are given safe refuge and life sustaining food, MainSpring has discovered that ending homelessness requires establishing and maintaining a more comprehensive "continuum of care" for homeless people. This philosophical shift has resulted in the development of innovative programs and services including, homelessness prevention, enhanced emergency services, adult education and life skills training, case management, substance abuse intervention and referral, mental health evaluation and referral, health education, screening and referral, and housing search assistance. MainSpring Coalition for the Homeless receives an increasing amount of its revenue from private sources, including the local United Way, Project Bread, grant awards from private foundations like the Harold Brooks Foundation, churches, small businesses and individual contributions. Two annual mail solicitations, a major special event and an annual golf tournament also generate additional financial resources for MainSpring. With these vital financial and human resources, MainSpring Coalition for the Homeless operates MainSpring House in Brockton serving 90 homeless single adults each night and Conway House in Middleboro serving 13 homeless families. Both of these facilities are staffed 24 hours per day and 365 days per year. MainSpring also rents "scattered site" apartments throughout the greater Brockton area that serve 15 additional homeless families. Each year, MainSpring Coalition serves more than 1,500 homeless men, women and children in southeastern Massachusetts. For twenty years the Coalition has not veered from its mission " to provide temporary shelter, social services and advocacy services to homeless individuals and

families. . . to provide services that stabilize, strengthen and build support services for homeless families and individuals. . . (and) work toward the provision of stable housing alternatives to homeless individuals and families.

Administrative Office
422 Washington Street
Quincy, MA 02169
617–376–2255

Quincy
Development Office/Shelter
38 Broad Street
Quincy, MA 02169
617–770–3314

Housing Services
617–770–9706

Brockton
Development Office/Shelter
54 N. Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508–587–5441

Family Programs
135 Pleasant Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508–427–6448

Shelter and support services for homeless people.

MainSpring House, 54 N. Main St., Brockton – 5 families, 100 adults;
Conway House, 14 E. Grove St., Middleborough – 13 families;
Evelyn House, 90 Prospect St., Stoughton – 16 families.

Services offered: Assistance * (ANY Type of: Referrals or "How to" Assistance); Assistance, Referrals, Housing, Housing Resource Referrals; Housing, Apartments; Jobs, Paying; Services, Homeless, Services for the Homeless; Services, Social Services, General Social Services; Services, Substance Abuse, Intervention Services; Shelter * (ANY/ALL Types); Shelter, Emergency Shelter, Youth Focused; Shelter, Homeless Shelter; Shelter, Womens, Battered Womens Shelter; Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training Classes, Employment, On the Job, Training; Training Classes, Life Skills, Misc.; Volunteer Opportunities, In General * (ANY/ALL Types); Volunteers, Groups of Volunteers (This facility accomodates Groups of Volunteers); Volunteers, Individual Volunteers (This facility accomodates Individuals Volunteers)
Campaigns: United Way
Updated May 14, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1028

Louison Family Center

Shelter · Open

Shelter, Community Outreach, Family Programs
137 Newbury St., Brockton, MA
Phone 508–584–4315, ext. 209
Service Temporary

Capacity: 15 Families

David Jon Louison was the 5–year–old son of one of Brockton's prominent attorneys who was kidnapped in 1974. The Greater Brockton community united, raising reward money for use to secure the child's safe return. Unfortunately, that did not happen, and the family made the decision to use reward funds to open a shelter.

The David Jon Louison (DJL) Center was founded in 1982 as a non–profit, charitable, educational foundation created to serve families with infants and toddlers who were homeless or living in cars, abandoned buildings, and overcrowded apartments. The original center has expanded to encompass three adjoining properties located in a residential neighborhood in the Greater Brockton.

After a quarter of a century of successful service delivery to homeless families, the David Jon Louison Center's Board of Directors voted to merge with the Old Colony YMCA, thereby adding value and significantly enhancing the mission of both organizations. The David Jon Louison Center was chartered with YMCA of the USA as an Old Colony Y division in July 2006.

The Old Colony YMCA DJL Center's mission is to assist families through the crisis of homelessness, while providing services that promote a successful transition towards self–sufficiency. The Center was founded on the principle that every human being has

dignity. Homeless individuals often lose their own sense of dignity, therefore, the Center strives to recognize, reinforce, and respect the dignity of all people who come to us for assistance.

The Center offers temporary shelter as well as educational opportunities for the personal, social, and economic growth of all members of the homeless families. Once housed and self–sufficient, it is hoped that these individuals and their families will continue to recognize their own unique dignity, value, and self worth as they work towards the fulfillment of their goals and their own personal potential.

Services offered to families in DJL Center care include:

Emergency shelter
24–hour staff coverage
Food pantry as necessary
Clothing when necessary
Access to medical care
Transportation for housing appointments
Handicap accessibility
Intensive Case Management
Family Care Planning (individualized strength–based treatment plans)
Weekly Meetings with Case Manager
Communal House Meetings
Subsidized Child Care
Job Search
Career Choice Assistance
Educational Counseling/Support
After–Care Case Management and Support
Support Groups (Parenting, Women's Issues, Self–Esteem, Girls Empowerment...)
Mental Health Services through referral to our Mental Health Clinic
Individual and Family Therapy
Mediation and Family Support
Life and Pro–Social Skill Building Activities
Budgeting classes conducted through partnership with Harbor One
Individual financial management and credit counseling
Family Memberships to the Y (includes fitness center and all fitness classes, youth programming, swimming lessons, karate lessons, youth sports leagues, etc.)
Big Sister Big Brother Mentoring Services
Children attend YMCA Summer Camp
Arts and Crafts classes for children
Toddler group – child witness to violence project for 2–4 yr olds
Homework Club and tutoring
Volunteer led "Fun Friday's" and "Family Fun Nights"
BBQ's, game nights, swimming parties, etc.

The Old Colony Y David Jon Louison Center offers services based upon a vision of unifying and fortifying families in crisis by surrounding them with all the strengths the YMCA and our community–based partners have to offer. This vital program provides housing plus intensive wrap around services designed to shorten homelessness and meet individual needs, enabling parents and children to stabilize, work on goals, and eventually flourish independently in the community.

Services offered: Case Management, Homeless; Case Management, Low Income (Individuals/Families); Case Management, * (Providers of ANY Type of Case Management); Counseling (Free or Sliding Scale) * (ANY/ALL Types of Counseling); Counseling, Support Groups, Parents; Distribution * (ANY/ALL Types); Distribution, Clothing Distribution (To the Public); Food Distribution, Food Pantry (Distributes to the Public); Medical, Services, Medical Care * (ANY/ALL Types); Mental Health Services; Services *0* (Choose this if You Provide or Need ANY Type of Social Services); Services, Family, Children, Child Care Program; Services, Family, Children, Recreation, Summer Camp; Services, Tutoring Services; Shelter * (ANY/ALL Types); Shelter, Emergency Shelter; Shelter, Homeless Shelter; Social Event, Arts & Crafts; Training * (ANY/ALL Types of Instruction) ; Training Classes, Education, Parenting; Training Classes, Financial, Money Management; Training Classes, Life Skills, Misc.; Training, Services, Employment /JobTraining ; Transportation * (ANY/ALL Types)
Campaigns: Big Brothers Big Sisters; Homelessness Relief Services; YMCA/YWCA
Updated Dec 28, 2008 · https://reliefdb.org/shelters/1037