

# 150 Leaders Gathered to Combat Homelessness in Western Massachusetts

Over 150 leaders from across the four Western Massachusetts counties came together today to combat homelessness in the region and to learn from a [newly released report](#) by the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness.

In a packed room at Greenfield Community College, a dozen state legislators, including the five just elected from the Upper Pioneer Valley, two sheriffs, 7 mayors, 2 town administrators, 8 housing authorities, state agency leaders, every community college, career center and major hospital in each county, and over 100 others across every sector showed up to find out what it will take to prevent and end homelessness in Western Massachusetts.

“Today our region made an extraordinary demonstration of its commitment to end homelessness,” said Pamela Schwartz, Director of the Western Massachusetts Network to End Homelessness. “And today our Network shared some vital tools that will bring us all closer to making that goal a reality.”

The report found that since 2012 in Western Massachusetts:

- Chronic homelessness declined 38 per cent
- Veteran homelessness declined 24 per cent
- Family homelessness remained level

Read more in the report **here**.

Today was a big step forward to help us do even better tomorrow. See [here](#) for "[What you can do next.](#)"