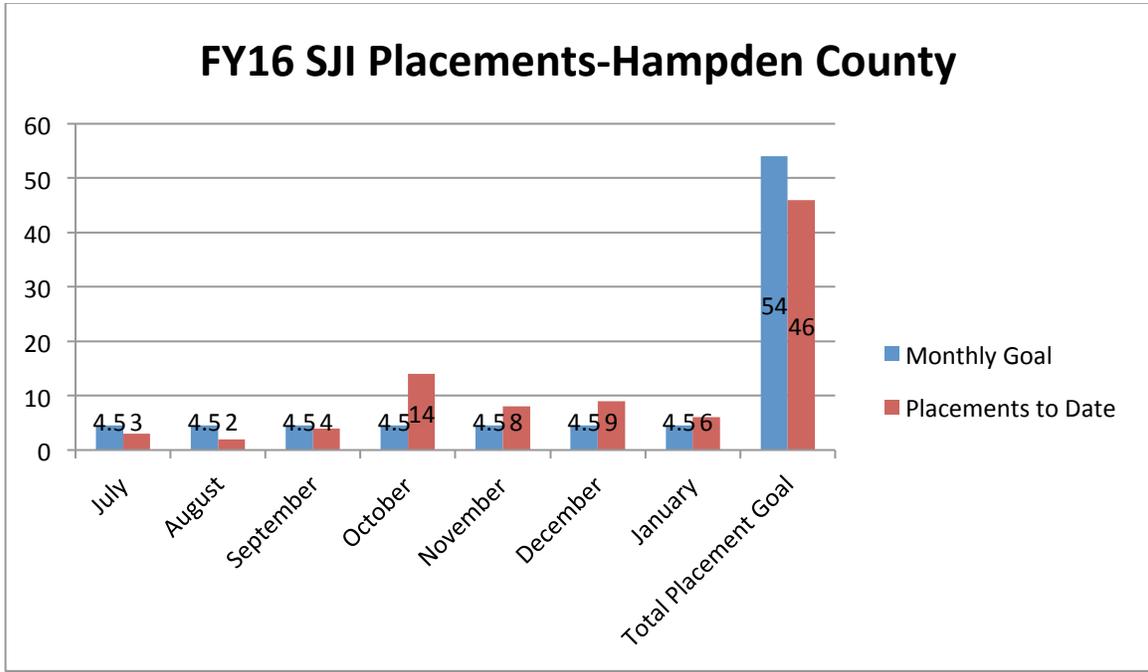
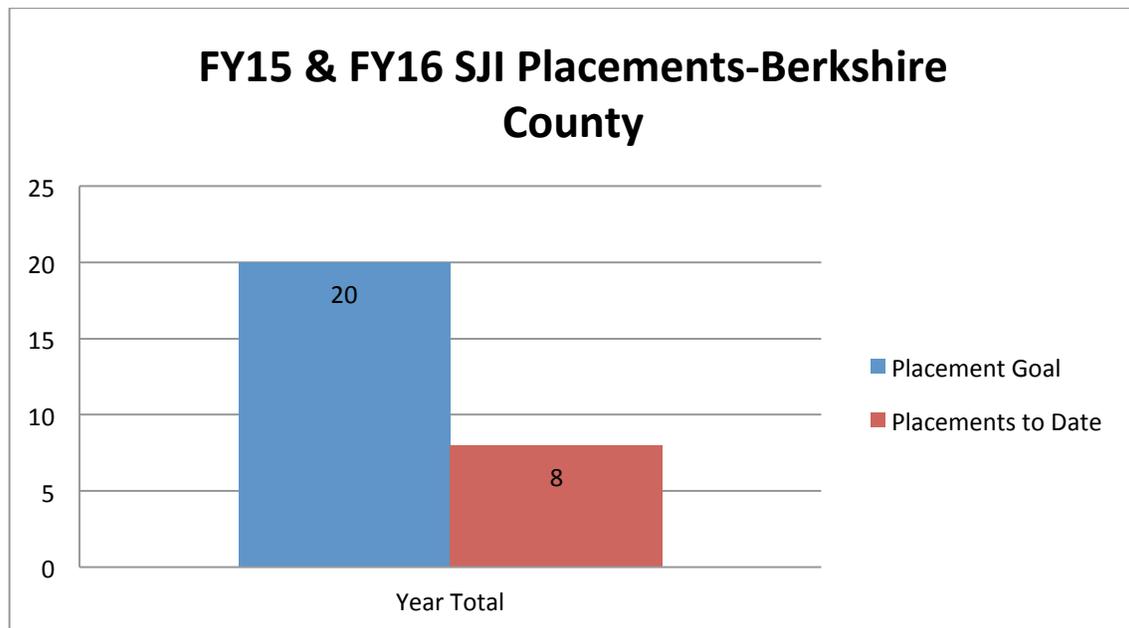


Secure Jobs Initiative FY16 Progress Report-January 2016



Total Numbers-Hampden County	
Total Program Enrollments (All Years)	Total Program Placements (All Years)
415	238



**Average Wage FY15: \$10.46**  
**Current Average Wage FY16: \$11.65**

### Hampden County Goals versus Outcomes:

Proposed Outcomes	DHCD	Fireman	Total	Current
Assessments	71	65	136	188
Enrollments	35	32	67	100
Placements	28	26	54	46
Retain Employment 1 yr.	22	21	43	n/a until year end
Retain Employment 1 yr. AND maintain stable housing	14	10	24	n/a until year end
Retention Rate	79%	80%	79%	n/a until year end

### Berkshire County Goals versus Outcomes:

Proposed Outcomes	Goal	Current
Enrollments	25	26
Placements	20	8

### Success Story:

Abiana Reyes was residing in an EA Shelter before receiving assistance through the Housing First Program. Since the beginning, her housing counselors were very optimistic about Abiana's future. Since she joined the Secure Jobs program in September 2015, her drive to succeed was reflected in her participation and commitment to the Secure Jobs Program. Initially Abiana was assessed and went through our job readiness cohort through the local career center. She had a clear employment goal and SJI helped develop a plan that would guide her through her path of professional growth.

Throughout the course of the assessment process, SJI identified that Abiana had a background in nursing as a LPN. SJI also determined that she had completed a customer service training offered by Springfield Technical Community College. Abiana not only had to drive to seek employment but also had the skills to match. After completing the job readiness cohort, she looked to combine her passion for the health care system with her customer service skills.

As she went through job development with SJI, she applied for an available position as a medical translator in Baystate Medical Center. Although the recruiter who interviewed her determined that it might not be the right position for her, she saw the potential in Abiana. Instead of dismissing her, the recruiter offered her another position as an Administrative Clerk. Abiana accepted the offer on November 19, 2015, being hired full time at \$13.50 / hour.

Throughout this process, Abiana gained the confidence she needed to begin to envision her future. She was able to combine her two passions and realize that hard work makes any goal achievable. With her new visualization in sight, it was just a matter of connecting her with the right people in order to make that happen. Now that she is working with Baystate, she will seek for further opportunities of continuous growth. The SJI team is confident that Abiana will achieve great things and we will be part of her support team and celebrate the foreseen success.