# Community Health Workers: A Valued Health Access Liaison

## Homelessness

### Advocacy Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are some Local organizations that do advocacy work?</td>
<td>Mercy Hospital – Healthcare for the Homeless</td>
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<td>Massachusetts Coalition for Homelessness</td>
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### Advocacy Issue

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<td>Advocacy Issue</td>
<td>Housing the chronically homeless</td>
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<tr>
<td>What specific law, policy or appropriation is being advocated for?</td>
<td>H.R. 1427, Federal Housing Financial Reform Act of 2007- known as the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE) regulatory reform bill</td>
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<td>Who is doing the advocating? (Which organizations?)</td>
<td>National Housing Trust Fund</td>
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<td>Who is being lobbied?</td>
<td>Chronically homeless who need housing</td>
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<td>Whom will this issue affect?</td>
<td>Chronically homeless who need housing</td>
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<td>Were they or will they (in your opinion) be successful?</td>
<td>Potentially</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why or why not? What do they need to be more successful?</td>
<td>There are already a number of state-funded projects that are trying to meet the same needs. The problem is that the issue of homelessness is one that people want to ignore and not spend money on.</td>
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<td>What are the consequences if they are not successful?</td>
<td>Increased number of homeless people. With homeless families, this will prevent children’s needs from being meet – food, clothes, education, stability</td>
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<td>If they are not successful, what other strategies can be used to achieve the same goal?</td>
<td>Focus more on state-level or city-wide projects</td>
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<td>How can physicians and/or nurses be involved in this advocacy issue?</td>
<td>Support clinics who are gaining the trust of homeless men and women, since that is the way that they will find out about housing projects, such as Housing First in Springfield, MA.</td>
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