

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

One City Center

**Thursday, August 15, 2019
9:00 AM**

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions**
 - a. Draft minutes from June 20, 2019.
- 2. Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics & New Slides**
 - a. July Statistics
- 3. Federal, State and Local Legislation**
 - a. August Update
- 4. Warming Center Update**
- 5. Other Business**

Next Meeting

September 19, 2019

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: One City Center

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

One City Center

Thursday, June 20, 2019

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Adam Harr	City of Portland	Norm Maze	Shalom House
George Rheault	Bayside Resident	Sara Fleurant	City of Portland
Peggy Lynch	Preble Street	Vickey Rand	CHOM
Ginny Dill	Shalom House	Josh Ruitto	City of Portland
Amy Geren	Portland Downtown	Steve Mortimer	Amistad
Jim Divine	HVJ	Jenny Stasio	Through These Doors
Henry Tarlow	City of Portland	Chelsea Hoskins	City of Portland
Brian Townsend	Amistad	Meredith Pesce	Amistad
Christina Cook	PATH / TOA	Harrison Deah	Westbrook GA
Aaron Geyer	City of Portland		

Introductions

- Approval of Minutes
 - o Vickey moved to accept the minutes, Sara seconded and the minutes were approved without discussion.
- Announcements
 - o HVJ will have the summer solstice event at City Hall with speakers from 12-1:00 PM
 - o Portland Downtown has a resources sheet

HVJ

- Mixed response to selecting Riverside for the Homeless Services Center
- HVJ looking to support the people at the expo

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Dylan Monahan has decided to become a case worker; Heather Zimmerman will step in to be the HVJ organizer during the search
- The mayoral candidate forum is being planned.

May Statistics

- <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1001>

Warming Center

- Downward trend in May before a spike in mid-June.
- Currently operating a warming Center in the Expo Center.

LTS

- Made progress last month and re-strategized into looking deeper t the hardest to house people.
 - Today's meeting will focus on the people who remain from the first list (more time dedicated to the hardest to house)
- Huston Commons
 - Have LTS placements been successful?
 - Yes, the turnover for people at Huston Commons has been due to death.
- Not just homeless services but many kinds of providers that can wrap around and identify the best option for an individual situation.

Legislative Update

- Federal
 - FY20
 - Budget begins October 1st
 - Lifting budget control act caps
 - Sequestration if not assed
 - Fannie Mae, Freddie mac need caps released
 - THUD house bill has increases across the board.
 - Poverty legislation
 - Fewer people would qualify for aid each year using a lower measure of inflation.
 - Would have a 60 day comment period; will be notified if it comes out.
 - Equal access rule diminishing LGBTQIA+ access and disproportionately affect homeless youth.
- State
 - A lot of bills have been passed and on the way for signature
 - 1523- recovery residences: compliance with standards;
 - \$500,000 project based housing subsidy
 - 775 - Act to expand community support services; expands the diagnoses under section 17 with less paperwork to qualify for BRAP
 - 613- BRAP fairness and establish a working working group.
 - 1404 – resolve to provide support services and prevent homelessness
 - Not voted off the table; may carry over to next session

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- 195 youth Maine Care federal funding for parents and families of youth experiencing homelessness trying to reunify.
 - Section 17 looking to be carried over
 - Homeless Youth resolved to increase access to housing under Medicaid waivers passed to be enacted.
 - Billing at Logan Place and other housing who are not currently billable
 - Mental health working group to assess needs and recommend a comprehensive behavioural health response.
 - HBLD1337 Act to save lives establishing a homeless opioid users engagement passed to be enacted.
 - As amended
 - 1317 act to restore services to non-citizens to meet their basic needs
 - Likely to be carried over
 - 795 establish a right to food carried over
 - Hunger passed to be enacted
 - Invest in tomorrow package
 - Help reduce MaineCare, snap and TANF benefits cliffs.
 - Veterans homes passed to be enacted
 - Emergency General Assistance; residency and municipality of responsibility passed in house but senate status unknown.
 - 246 and 510 on table
 - 866 has become law (homeless higher education)
 - LD1294 Maine human Rights Commission to investigate harassment due to housing status became law
 - 1 family dwellings fire code.
- Updated policy sheet to be uploaded later today.
 - Does ESAC want to put together language for comment on HUD Equal Access or Poverty Line.
 - o Brian moved for ESAXC to draft language, seconded and passed.
 - NAEH: 13 person delegation and facetime with representative Golden.

Public Bathroom

- George Rheault asked if there has been an evaluation of the outdoor storage and bathroom at OSS?
 - o Staff log of bathroom use?
 - o Storage use log?
 - o Is there something to be learned planning for the homeless services center.
- Added to the September meeting.

Summer Month Off

- Should July or August be taken off?
 - o July will be taken off.

Family Shelter Response to Expo

Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Brian thanked Chelsea, Jeff and the Family Shelter staff for their excellence in responding to the increase in asylum seekers.
- Vetting of volunteers and keeping everyone focused on the issue are the biggest needs.
- Westbrook is looking to support and help house people.
 - Waiting on GA interpretation however if an asylum seeker encounters border patrol and they are released, they are here legally as the US government is aware of their presence.

Portland Community Support Fund

- Conversation on pause and an emergency meeting is scheduled for Monday June 24th, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

Next Meeting July 18th at 9:00 AM

PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters per Night:

	July 2018	July 2019
ADOLESCENTS	17 Individuals	19 Individuals
FAMILIES	208 Individuals 64 Average Families	168 Individuals 255 Expo individuals 54 Average Families* *does not include Expo
ADULTS	177 Individuals	270 Individuals
Total	502 Individuals	712 Individuals

31 Days in the Month of July

Prepared by: City of Portland, Health & Human Services Department, Social Services Division

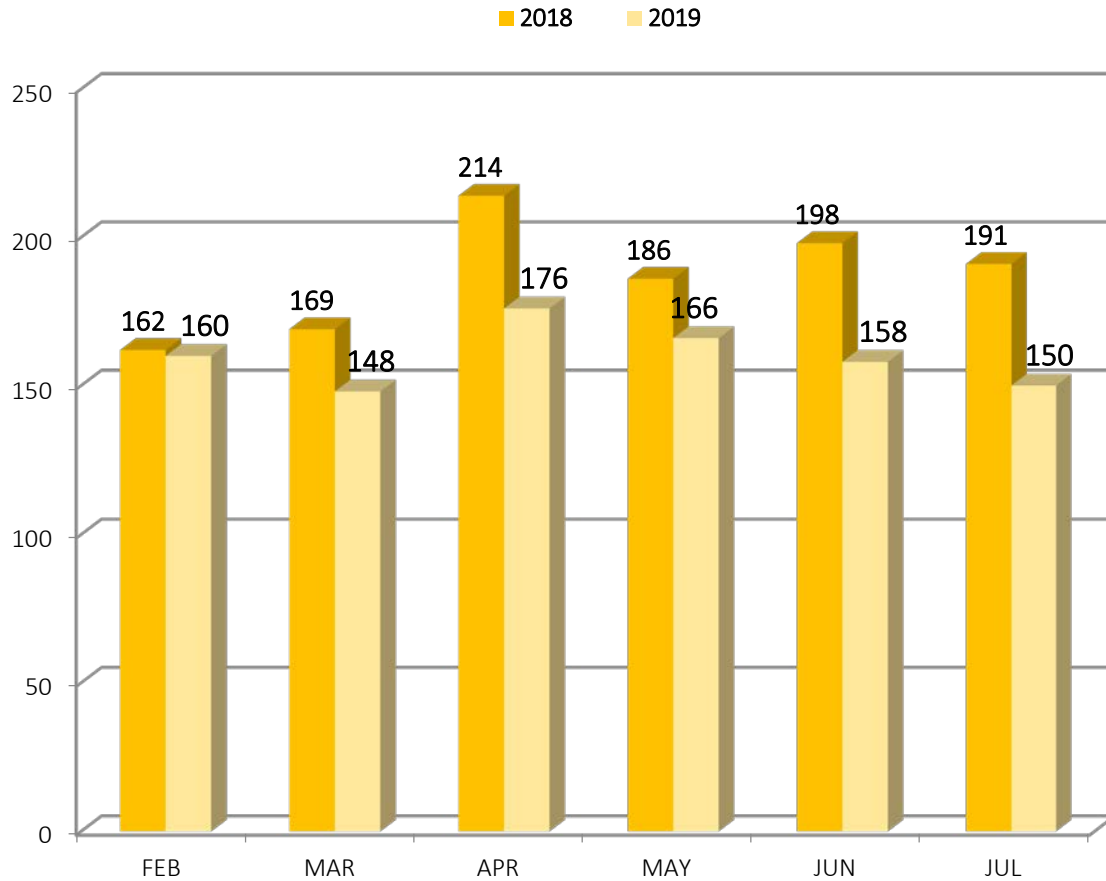
OXFORD STREET SHELTER

JULY 2019

Intakes by Residency

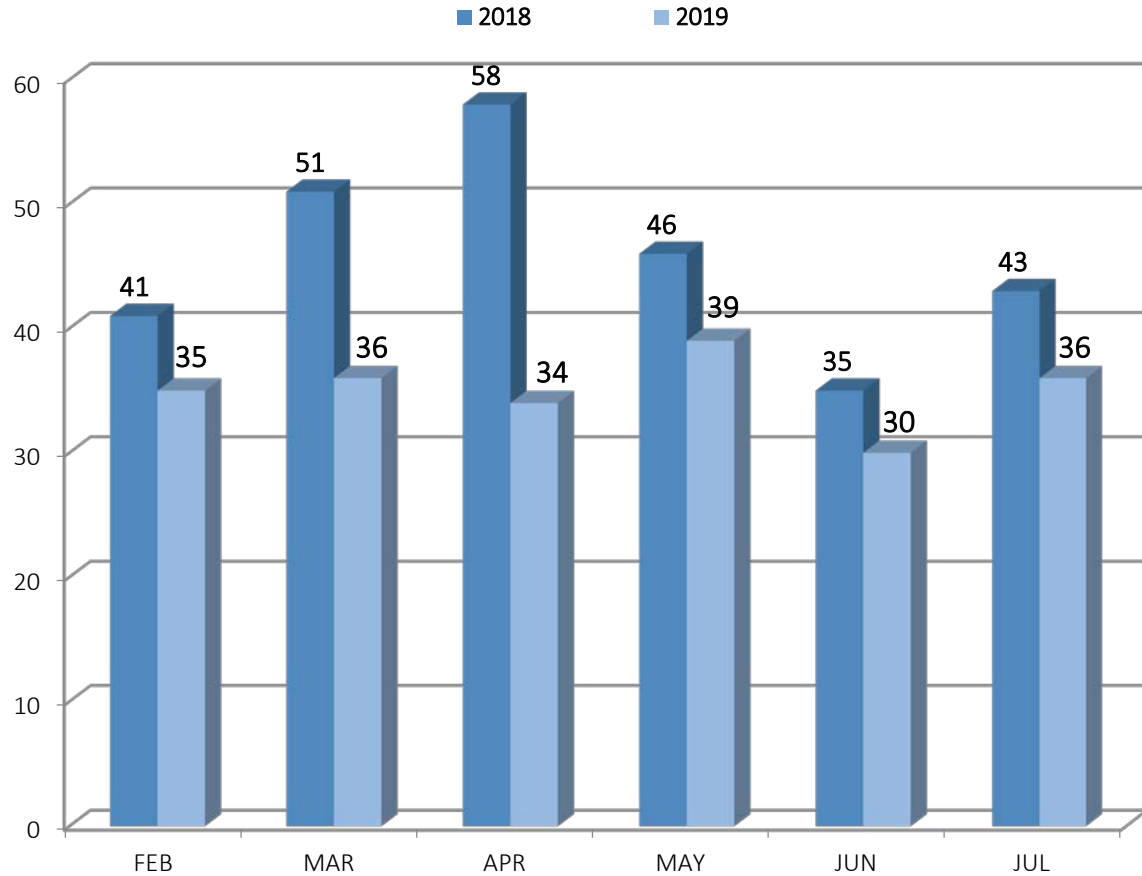
MAINE TOWN						OUT-OF-STATE				OUT-OF-COUNTRY	
Augusta	3	Parsonsfield	2			AZ	2	NH	2	Angola	5
Bangor	1	Sanford	1			CA	2	NJ	1	DRC	4
Bath	1	Scarborough	1			CO	1	NV	1	Rwanda	2
Biddeford	3	South Portland	8			CT	2	NY	4	South Africa	1
Dresden	1	Standish	1			FL	6	OH	2		
East Madison	1	Steep Falls	1			GA	2	OK	1		
Freeport	1	Warren	1			ID	1	PA	1		
Gorham	2	Waterville	1			LA	1	RI	1		
Gray	1	Westbrook	3			MA	1	TN	1		
Leeds	1	Windham	5			MD	1	TX	2		
Lewiston	2					MI	1	UT	1		
OOB	1					NC	1	WV	1		
MAINE TOWN:	42	OUT-OF-STATE:	38	OUT-OF-COUNTRY:	12	PORTLAND:	20	Unknown:	2	TOTAL:	114

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JULY 2019 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH



	INTAKES
Through These Doors	5/7
Family Shelter	12/45
Joe Kreisler	5
Milestone	3
Oxford Street (Men)	82
Oxford Street (Women)	32
Florence House	11
TOTAL	150

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JULY 2019 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH

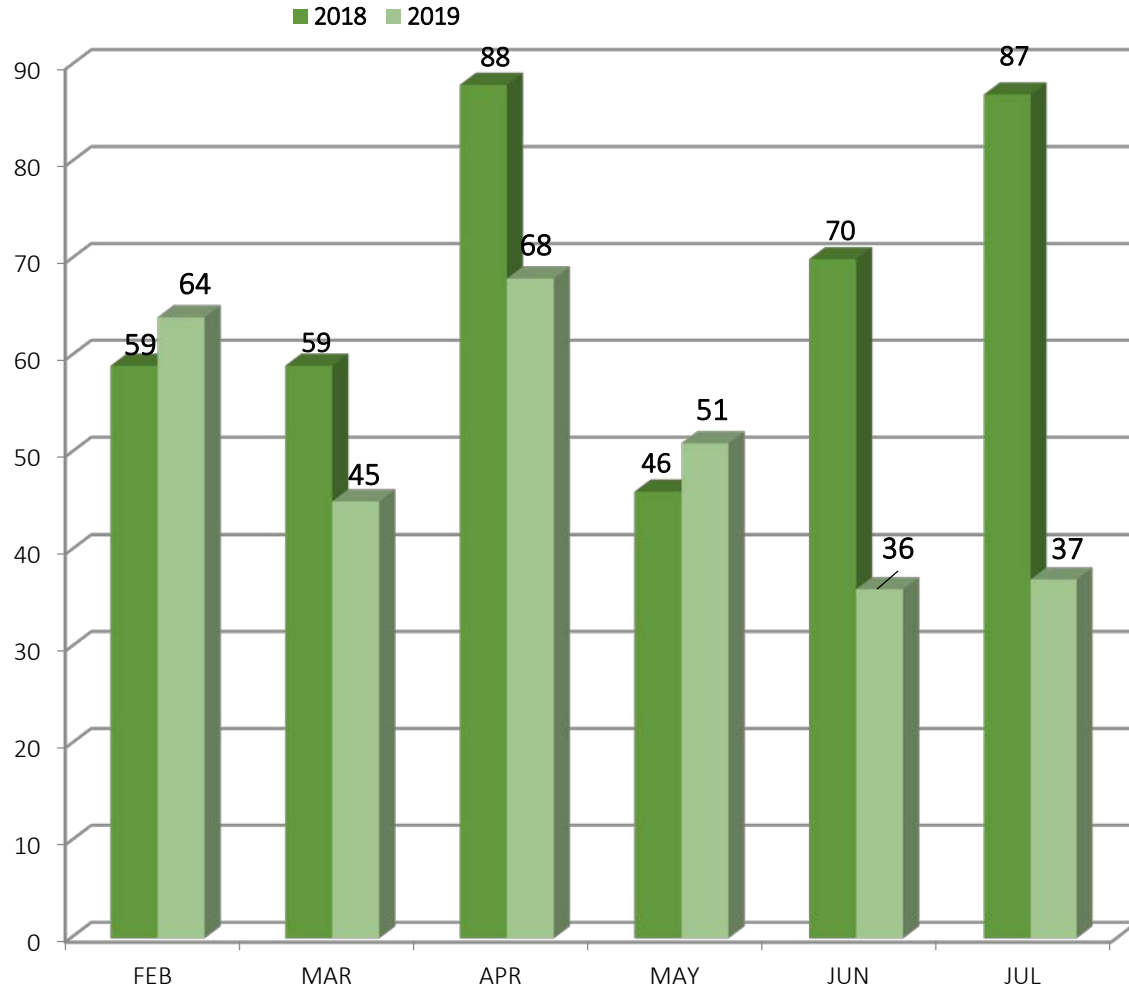


*Starting November, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.

	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	TRANSITIONAL	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	0/0	0	0/0
Family Shelter	12/38	0	12/38
Joe Kreisler	3	0	3
Milestone	3	0	3
Oxford Street (Men)	10	0	10
Oxford Street (Women)	2	0	2
Florence House	6	0	6
TOTAL	36		36

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JULY 2019

1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)



1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS % OF ALL INTAKES (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of Total First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	0/0	0%
Family Shelter	11/43	30%
Joe Kreisler	5	14%
Milestone	4	11%
Oxford Street (Men)	12	32%
Oxford Street (Women)	3	8%
Florence House	2	5%
TOTAL	37	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE JULY 2019 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

On July 6:

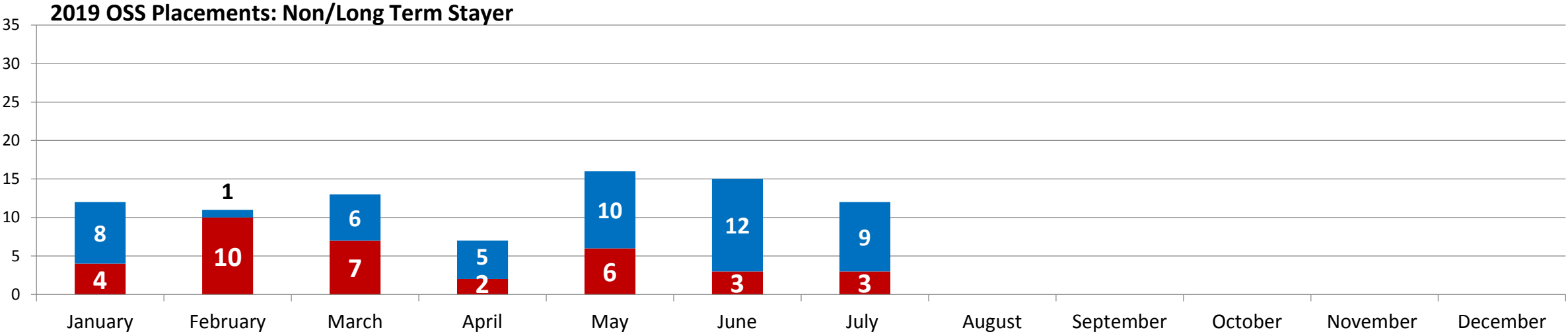
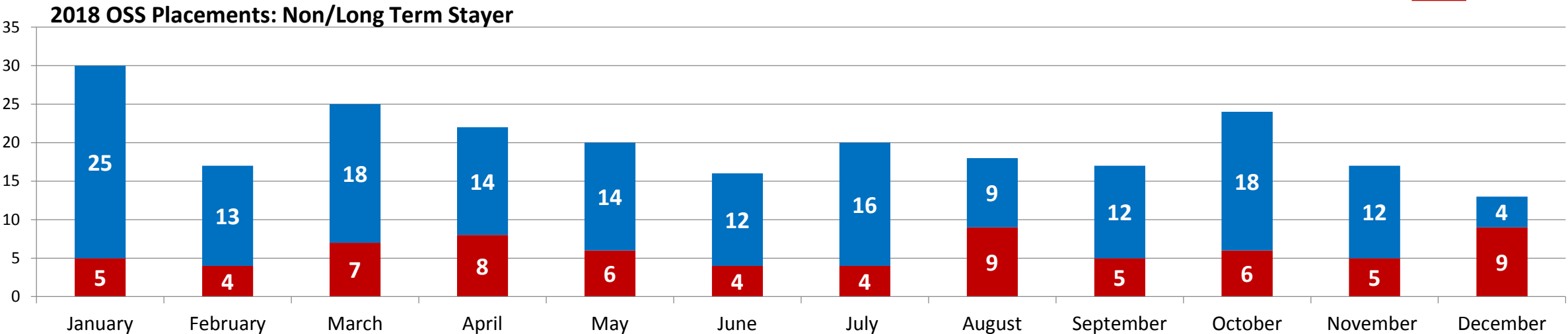
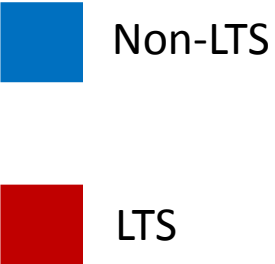
476 individuals

(excluding Expo)

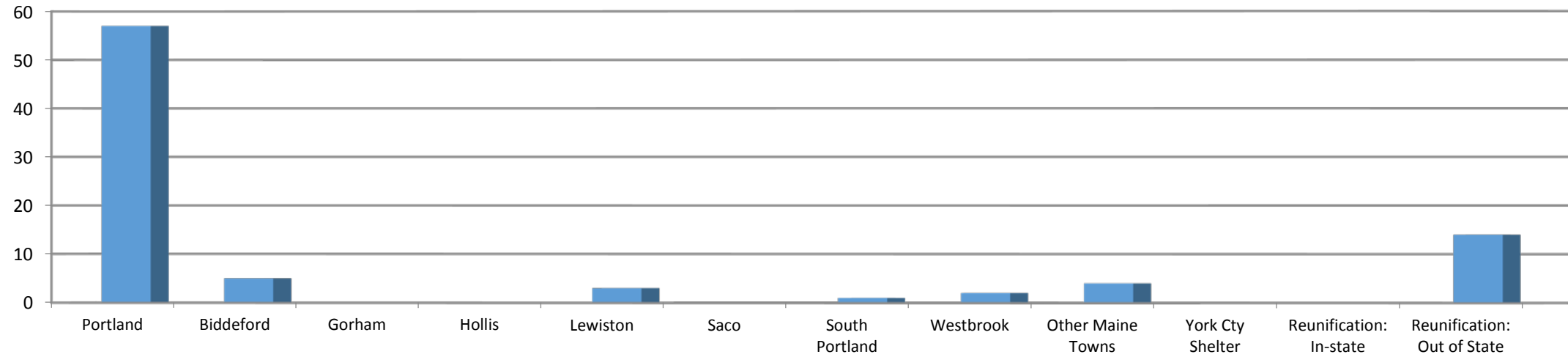
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	OSS Beds	OSS Chairs	Total Bed Nights
1	8	178	38	19	41	184		468
2	8	175	40	16	43	190		472
3	8	179	40	21	42	182		472
4	8	176	39	16	36	173		448
5	8	182	40	23	41	181		475
6	8	182	39	21	42	185		477
7	8	164	39	18	42	196		467
8	9	151	38	18	37	207		460
9	9	150	40	20	43	192		454
10	9	154	39	16	40	208		466
11	9	149	37	15	32	207		449
12	9	149	41	13	41	187		440
13	9	148	39	13	41	171		421
14	9	144	37	15	44	188		437
15	11	149	40	15	41	194		450
16	11	143	39	13	43	199		448
17	11	153	39	19	33	187		442
18	11	150	40	19	35	188		443
19	12	145	41	16	39	185		438
20	12	140	37	13	39	188		429
21	12	142	40	16	42	196		448
22	12	155	37	17	42	211		474
23	12	158	38	13	42	199		462
24	13	158	37	12	43	209		472
25	13	158	40	12	39	198		460
26	13	158	39	15	33	182		440
27	13	162	39	12	35	181		442
28	13	170	37	13	43	194		470
29	13	169	38	13	42	193		468
30	15	172	37	14	44	188		470
31	15	165	37	14	36	190		457
Total*	331	4,928	1,201	490	1,236	5,933	0	14,119
Avg/night*	11	159	39	16	40	191	0	455
Highest*	15	182	41	23	44	211	0	477
Lowest*	8	140	37	12	32	171	0	421

OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

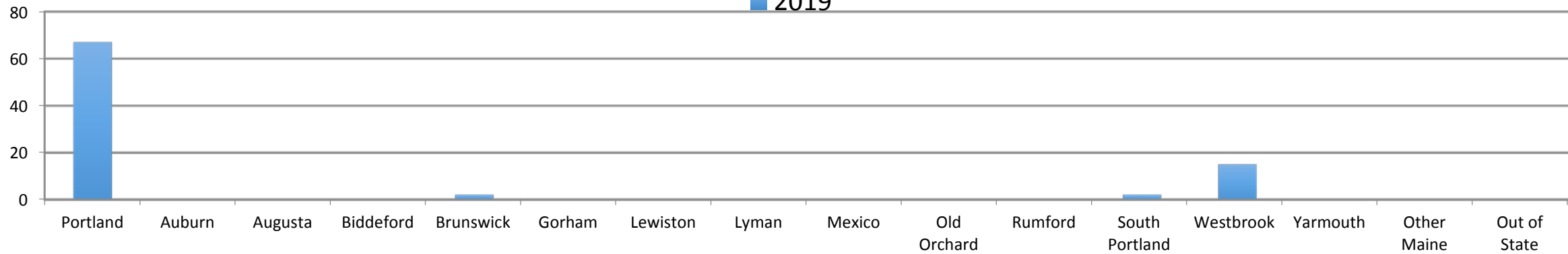


OXFORD STREET SHELTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2019 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	12	11	13	7	16	15	12	-	-	-	-	-	86	100%
Portland	8	8	10	3	10	11	7	-	-	-	-	-	57	66%
Biddeford	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	6%
Gorham	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Hollis	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Lewiston	0	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	4%
Saco	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
South Portland	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1%
Westbrook	0	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2%
Other Maine Towns	0	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	5%
York County Shelter	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*	2	-	1	2	3	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	14	16%

■ 2019

[illegible]

Policy/Advocacy Update – 8/5/2019

Federal Legislation Update:

FY20 Budget & Appropriations – Update – President Trump signed into law a two-year FY20-21 budget deal (H.R. 3877), which lifts low federal spending caps on defense and domestic programs by \$321 billion for the next two fiscal years.

Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Ginnie Mae – Freddie Mac, Fannie Mae, and Ginnie Mae are all down on receipts, which will affect available funding for HUD unless Congress authorizes additional funding. Just to keep housing where it is currently, there is a \$7-8 billion gap which will need to be addressed in addition to raising the caps.

Senate Appropriations FY 20 THUD Bill – Update – Now that the caps have been lifted it is expected that the Senate Appropriations Committee will consider its THUD funding bill after the August recess, after which the House and Senate will attempt to negotiate a final bill.

House Appropriations FY 20 THUD Bill – No new update – The House approved its FY20 THUD funding bill. In total, the legislation provides \$137.1 billion in budgetary resources, an increase of \$6 billion above the 2019 enacted level and \$17.3 billion above the President's budget request.

- House FY 20 HUD funding levels for specific programs (not an all-inclusive list):

- **Tenant-based Rental Assistance:** \$23.8 billion, \$1.2 billion above the 2019 enacted level and \$1.6 billion above the President's budget request.
 - **HUD/VASH:** \$40 million, equal to the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.
- **Project-Based Rental Assistance:** \$12.6 billion, \$843 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$570 million above the President's budget request.
- **Homeless Assistance Grants:** \$2.8 billion, \$164 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$201 million above the President's budget request.
- **HOPWA:** \$410 million, \$17 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$80 million above the President's budget request.
- **CDBG:** \$3.6 billion, \$300 million above the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.
- **HOME:** \$1.75 billion, \$500 million above the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.
- **Public Housing Capital Fund:** \$2.9 billion, \$80 million above the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.
- **Public Housing Operating Fund:** \$4.8 billion, \$100 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$1.9 billion above the President's budget request.
- **Choice Neighborhoods Initiative:** \$300 million, \$150 million above the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.
- **Self-Sufficiency Programs:** \$150 million, \$20 million above the 2019 enacted level and \$75 million above the President's budget request.
- **USICH:** \$4.1 million, \$500,000 above the 2019 enacted level. The President's budget request proposed eliminating this program.

-Policy Provisions included in the funding bill:

- Blocks the administration's public housing rule change on undocumented immigrants in affordable housing, which would threaten the housing tenure of 55,000 children who are citizens or legal residents.
- Requires all HUD grantees to develop a resiliency plan as part of the consolidated planning process.

House Appropriations Labor, HHS, & Education Allocation Would Increase RHYA Funding – No new update – On 6/19 the House passed its H.R.2740, 'Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, Defense, State, Foreign Operations, and Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act, 2020' which would fund HHS for FY 20, among other agencies. With this bill RHYA would be funded at \$147 million in FY 2020--- a 15% increase from FY 2019. This would also fund the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Act (EHCY) at \$100 million---a 7% increase from FY 2019.

SNAP Proposed Rule – New – The Administration has proposed rules for the SNAP program end food stamp benefits for 3 million people with proposed new regulations curtailing the leeway of states to automatically enroll residents who receive welfare benefits. The administration's rule would rein in states' ability to enroll recipients earning more than 130% of the federal poverty guidelines — in most cases capping eligibility to an annual income of \$32,640 for a family of four. The proposed rule would only allow automatic enrollment of people who receive welfare benefits worth at least \$50 a month on an ongoing basis for at least six months. More information on the proposed rule can be found here: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/fr-072419> Comments are due Monday, 9/23 and can be submitted here: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/07/24/2019-15670/revision-of-categorical-eligibility-in-the-supplemental-nutrition-assistance-program-snap#open-comment>

HUD Proposed Rule amending implementing of section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980, as amended (Section 214) – No new update – The proposed rule, published on 5/10 in the Federal Registrar, would bar U.S. citizens and eligible immigrants from receiving federal housing assistance if they share a home with an immigrant family member who's ineligible due their immigration status. The proposed rule would also specify that individuals who are not in eligible immigration status may not serve as the leaseholder, even as part of a mixed family whose assistance is prorated based on the percentage of

members with eligible status. The current rule allows for mixed-status families; under this new rule, every single member of a household must be of “eligible immigration status.” HUD acknowledged that this rule could displace more than 55,000 children, all of whom are legal U.S. residents or citizens. Approximately 25,000 households, representing about 108,000 people, now living in subsidized housing have at least one ineligible member, according to the HUD analysis. Per Diane Yentel with NLIHC: “Tens of thousands of deeply poor kids, mostly U.S. citizens, could be evicted and made homeless because of this rule, and – by HUD’s own admission – there would be no benefit to families on the waiting list.” There is a 60-day comment period closed on 7/9/19. To view the proposed rule go to: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/05/10/2019-09566/housing-and-community-development-act-of-1980-verification-of-eligible-status>

HUD Proposed Rule Re. Equal Access – No new update – Per the NLIHC, on 5/22 HUD announced “a forthcoming proposed rule to weaken the Equal Access Rule and, with it, important protections for LGBTQ people experiencing homelessness. The announcement came just one day after HUD Secretary Ben Carson testified to Congress that HUD had no intention of weakening the rule.”

President Trump’s Poverty Policy Proposal – No new update – Per CBPP: The Trump Administration yesterday [floated a proposal](#) to use a lower measure of inflation when adjusting the poverty line each year. This policy would over time cut or take away food assistance, health, and other forms of basic assistance from millions of people who struggle to put food on the table, keep a roof over their heads, and see a doctor when they need to. If the [poverty line is altered](#) in this fashion, fewer individuals and families will qualify over time for various forms of assistance, including many who work hard but are paid low wages.

HR 1856: Ending Homelessness Act of 2019 – No new update– Reintroduced by House Financial Services Committee Chair Maxine Waters (D-CA). This bill would provide a path to end homelessness in the United States, and for other purposes. This bill passed the House Financial Service Committee on 3/28. This legislation is a comprehensive plan to ensure the lowest-income people have safe, decent, and affordable homes. The bill invests \$13.27 billion over five years to address the shortage of affordable housing and combat homelessness by providing 410,000 new affordable homes for the lowest-income households. The bill earmarks \$1 billion annually to the national Housing Trust Fund (HTF) and \$50 million each year for rental assistance to be used in conjunction with HTF-created housing. Within Congressman Waters’ bill is a 75% set-aside that will help create new supportive housing throughout the country. Additionally, this bill would permanently authorize appropriations for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants Act and permanently reauthorize USICH.

S. 923: Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act – No new update – Sponsored by Senators Feinstein, Murkowski, and Congressmen Lieu and Stivers. This bill would bill authorize \$750 million in grants annually for the next five years for local governments. It also conditions federal funds on a grant recipient’s ability to provide not only housing but also comprehensive services like mental health care, substance abuse treatment and job training.

H.R. 2399: Homes for Our Heroes Act – New – Sponsored by Rep Peters (CA-52), this bill seeks to expand HUD-VASH eligibility to Veterans who are not dishonorably discharged, but who have not received supportive housing services from Veteran’s Affairs, and greater transparency about implementation.

H.R. 508: Trafficking Victims Housing Act of 2019 – No new update – Sponsored by Rep. Joyce Beatty. This bill would require a study and report on the housing and service needs of victims of trafficking and individuals at risk for trafficking.

H.R. 232: Landlord Accountability Act of 2019 – No new update – Sponsored by Rep. Nydia Velazquez. This bill would amend the Fair Housing Act, to prohibit discrimination based on use of section 8 vouchers, and for other purposes.

H.R. 715: To amend section 428 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to provide incentives to grantees under the Continuum of Care program to re-house all former members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes – No new update – Sponsored by Rep. Steve Stivers. Content of bill and bill summary not available.

S. 8: Preserving Our Commitment to Homeless Veterans Act – No new update – Sponsored by Sen. Marco Rubio. This bill would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that the supported housing program of the Department of Veterans Affairs has not fewer than one program manager for every 35 rental assistance cases under such program, and for other purposes.

Trump Administration Proposed SNAP Rule – No new update – Per the Food Research & Action Center: The Trump Administration’s [proposed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program \(SNAP\) rule](#) would time limit food benefits for unemployed and underemployed people who can’t document sufficient weekly work hours. They would lose SNAP eligibility after three months. Comments were due 4/2/19.

H.R. 1724: The Higher Education Access and Success for Homeless and Foster Youth Act of 2019 (HEASHFY) – No new update– This bill was introduced by Senators Patty Murray (D-WA) and Rob Portman (R-OH) in the Senate, and by Representatives Katherine Clark (D-MA) and Don Young (R- AK). HEASHFY amends the Higher Education Act to simplify eligibility for federal financial aid and to improve outreach, resources, and policies for homeless and foster youth. The legislation:

- Streamlines the process of applying for and receiving financial aid;
 - Helps students access housing;
 - Designates a higher education liaison to help students access services;
 - Asks states to grant in-state tuition rates to those students who haven’t had stable residency;
 - Ensures that college access programs identify, recruit, and prepare homeless and foster students for college; and
 - Requires the U.S. Department of Education to help resolve questions about a student’s independence, simplify the FAFSA, and publish useable data and reports.
-

State Legislation Update: *The Legislature adjourned its First Regular Session the morning of 6/20.*

Color key-code: Bills highlighted in yellow have been carried over into the next Legislative Session. Bills highlighted in green have been sent to the Governor and/or been signed into Public Law.

Affordable Housing

- LD 48, An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Housing for Persons Who Are Homeless (Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland). This bill would authorize a \$15 million bond, to go to referendum, to invest in the creation of housing for people experiencing homelessness, to be administered by MaineHousing. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**

Rental Subsidies

- LD 1523, An Act To Ensure the Quality of and Increase Access to Recovery Residences – Sen. Bellow. **On 7/2 the bill was signed by the Governor and became Public Law.**

Support Services

- LD, 775, An Act To Expand Community Support Services for Certain Adult Members of the MaineCare Program – Rep. Gramlich. This bill directs the Department of Health and Human Services to amend its rules in Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter II, Section 17, Community Support Services to include access to services to persons who have a diagnosis of bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, panic disorder or post-traumatic stress disorder. In practice, this would revert back to the previous Section 17 (pre-March 2016) eligibility criteria. **The bill went for the Governor's for Signature, but is being held by the Governor. "Held by the governor" means that the governor neither signed nor vetoed the bill and it did not become law without her signature after 10 days because the Legislature adjourned before 10 days were up. The bill will become law if this Legislature comes back into session unless the governor returns the bill within 3 days after their next meeting starts.**
- LD 613, Resolve, Concerning the Adoption of Rules To Carry Out the Purpose of the Bridging Rental Assistance Program – Rep. Dick Farnsworth. This resolve directs DHHS to adopt rules for BRAP in order to ensure fairness, equity and access to the program for those persons with mental illness who qualify for the program. **The bill became law without the Governor's signature.**
- LD 1404, Resolve, To Provide Support Services and Funds to Prevent Homelessness – Rep. Brennan. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**
- LD 195, An Act To Continue MaineCare Coverage for Parents During the Rehabilitation and Reunification Process – Rep. Patty Hymanson. **The bill became law without the Governor's signature.**
- LD, 763, An Act To Ensure the Availability of Community Integration Services – Rep. Rachel Talbot-Ross. This bill provides funding to increase reimbursement rates in the Department of Health and Human Services rule Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 17 for community integration services to \$24.25 per quarter-hour. This would increase the rate for Section 17 CI services. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**
- LD 1275, An Act To Support Access to Health Services for Homeless Youth in Maine – Sen. Linda Sanborn. **The bill was signed by the Governor and became public law on 6/5.**
- LD 1318, Resolve, To Increase Access to Housing-related Support Services – Rep. Drew Gattine. This resolve directs the Department of Health and Human Services to apply for waivers to provide housing-related services, including housing transition and tenancy sustaining services, to individuals with disabilities, older adults needing long-term services and supports and persons experiencing chronic homelessness under the 1915(b) and 1915(c) Medicaid waiver provisions. **The bill was signed by the Governor and became public law on 6/6.**
- LD 1602 Resolve, Establishing the Working Group on Mental Health – Sen. Breen. This resolve establishes the Working Group on Mental Health to assess the State's capacity to serve Maine citizens with behavioral health needs and propose a comprehensive mental health plan for the State. **The bill was signed by the Governor on 6/28 and became Public Law.**

Combination of Housing, Subsidies, and/or Support Services:

- LD 1337, An Act To Save Lives by Establishing a Homeless Opioid Users Service Engagement Project within the Department of Health and Human Services (HOUSE) – Rep. Gattine. **The bill was signed by the Governor on 7/2 and became Public Law.**

Food Security and Basic Safety Net Assistance:

- LD 1317, An Act To Restore Services To Help Certain Noncitizens Meet Their Basic Needs. Rep Gattine. This bill removes limitations on food supplement program benefits and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families program benefits, provides MaineCare coverage and modifies language for state-funded supplemental security income to maintain consistency throughout the law for certain noncitizens who are lawfully present in the United States or pursuing a lawful process to apply for immigration relief. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**
- LD 795, Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish a Right to Food – Rep. Craig Hickman. This constitutional resolution declares that all individuals have a natural, inherent and unalienable right to acquire, produce, process, prepare, preserve and consume and to barter, trade and purchase the food of their own choosing for their own nourishment, sustenance, bodily health and well-being. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**

- LD 1159, Resolve, To End Hunger in Maine by 2030 – Rep. Hickman. This bill directs the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, in consultation and collaboration with interested parties and stakeholders (including various state Departments and Offices) to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to eliminate hunger in the State by 2030. **On 5/20 Governor Mills signed the bill into law.**
- LD 1772 & LD 1774, together known as the Invest in Tomorrow Package. The bills reduce the MaineCare, TANF, and SNAP benefit cliffs. **Both bills were signed by the Governor on 6/27/19 and became Public Law.**
 - o LD 1772, An Act To Secure Transitions to Economic Prosperity for Maine Families and Children (STEP) – Rep. Stewart.
 - o LD 1774, An Act To Reduce Child Poverty by Leveraging Investments so Families Can Thrive (LIFT) – Speaker Gideon.

Other Homelessness Related Bills:

- LD 184 – An Act To Amend the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Coordination Program – Rep. John DeVeau. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. A Public hearing was held on 2/4, and a Work Session was held on 2/4 and 3/27. **The bill was signed by the Governor on 6/28 and became Public Law.**
- LD 459, An Act To Include Homelessness in the Laws Governing Emergency General Assistance – Sen. Ben Chipman. Bill summary: This bill defines "homelessness" for the purposes of the laws governing general assistance and specifies that a person experiencing or facing homelessness who meets the conditions for receiving emergency assistance in current law is eligible for emergency general assistance. **The bill was signed by the Governor on 7/2 and became Public Law.**
 - o *Committee Amendment A changes the bill title to "An Act Regarding Presumptive Eligibility and Homelessness under the General Assistance Laws" and: This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, changes the definition of "homelessness" in the bill to remove references to a need for permanent or safe housing. It adds a requirement for the Department of Health and Human Services to reimburse a municipality 100% of direct general assistance costs after a person has spent 90 consecutive nights homeless or in an emergency shelter for the homeless. It also establishes presumptive eligibility for general assistance for 30 days for persons who are provided shelter at emergency shelters for the homeless and specifies that no other municipality may be determined to be the municipality of responsibility during that 30-day period. It also requires the Department of Health and Human Services to establish a work group of stakeholders to examine the municipal general assistance program and report findings to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services no later than January 2, 2020.*
 - o *Senate Amendment A strikes out the language regarding requiring DHHS to reimburse a municipality 100% of direct general assistance costs after a person has spent 90 consecutive nights homeless or in an emergency shelter for the homeless.*
- LD 46, An Act to Establish a Substance Use Disorder Clinic at the Cumberland County Jail – Rep. Michael Brennan. This bill would provide funding (\$250,000 in each year of the biennium) to create a substance use disorder clinic at the Cumberland County jail. On 5/28 both the House and Senate passed the bill to be engrossed as amended. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**
- LD 510, An Act To Authorize Funding for Transitional Housing for Women Veterans and Their Families – Rep. Bettyann Sheats. This bill would provide a one-time \$150,000 General Fund appropriation in fiscal year 2019-20 to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management for the Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope to provide suitable housing for women veterans in transition and their families. **Carried over into any special or regular sessions, or both, of the 129th Legislature.**
- LD 866, An Act To Support College Completion by Homeless Youth in Maine – Rep. Michael Brennan, & Rep. Charlotte Warren. This bill requires institutions of higher education in the State to designate an existing staff member to serve as a liaison for homeless youth who are enrolled in that institution of higher education. The bill also requires institutions of higher education to give homeless youth priority for on-campus housing, develop a plan to provide homeless youth housing during school breaks and allow homeless youth who are enrolled part-time to access on-campus housing during the homeless youth's first year of school. The bill also expands the tuition waiver for state postsecondary educational institutions to include tuition waivers for homeless youth. **On 6/18 the bill was taken from the Special Appropriations Table and subsequently finally passed. The bill now goes to the Governor for Signature.**
- LD 1294, Resolve, Directing the Maine Human Rights Commission To Implement a Pilot Program To Investigate and Report on Incidents of Harassment Due to Housing Status, Lack of Employment and Other Issues – Rep. Talbot-Ross. **The bill went for the Governor's for Signature, but is being held by the Governor. "Held by the governor" means that the governor neither signed nor vetoed the bill and it did not become law without her signature after 10 days because the Legislature adjourned before 10 days were up. The bill will become law if this Legislature comes back into session unless the governor returns the bill within 3 days after their next meeting starts.**
- LD 353, An Act to Classify Recovery Residences as One-family Dwellings for the Purposes of the Fire Code. This bill requires a recovery residence located in a house to be considered a one family dwelling under rules concerning safety to life from fire if the recovery residence has no more than 6 occupants and contains a fire extinguisher and smoke detector in each room. This bill also defines "recovery residence" as an alcohol-free and illegal substance free shared living residence for persons recovering from substance use disorder that provides peer support and connects residents to support services and community resources. **On 6/18 Governor Mills signed the bill into law.**