

## **Homeward Bound: A NABB Special Series on Homelessness**

### **Fast Fact:**

**Permanent Supportive Housing** (PSH) is an intervention typically targeted to people who have experienced chronic homelessness and who also face the challenges of chronic illnesses, mental health needs or substance use disorders. In addition to providing low-cost housing, the program offers supportive services to help residents stay on track with needs such as medical care, addiction treatment, job training and budgeting. PSH is seen as a preferable long-term solution to homelessness than emergency shelters or transitional housing; positive findings include reduced involvement with the criminal justice system and increased employment and earnings. The cost of the program has been found to be more than offset by savings in inpatient and outpatient costs including visits to the emergency room.

### **What you can do:**

Volunteer with or donate to one of the organizations working to increase the availability of PSH, such as the Pine Street Inn: <https://www.pinestreetinn.org>, or the Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance: <https://mhsa.net>

Sign up for the MHSMA email newsletter to receive updates on efforts to end homelessness in Massachusetts, event invitations, advocacy alerts and more.

Learn about and support PSH initiatives planned for the Back Bay:  
<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/12/11/business/yw-building-back-bay-become-affordable-housing-complex/>