

FEMA Awards Nearly \$4.8 Million to Massachusetts for COVID-19 Operating Costs

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BOSTON – The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be sending nearly \$4.8 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for the costs associated with caring for youths in its custody during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The \$4,788,225 Public Assistance grant will reimburse the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families for the costs associated with operating safely during the pandemic between July 2020 and July 2021.

The department temporarily closed its congregate care facilities, and contracted with several vendors to provide safety units, with single bedrooms and site care service placement for youths who tested positive or were presumed positive for the COVID-19 virus:

- The Justice Resource Institute, Inc. - \$1,827,258;
- The Stetson School, Inc. - \$628,202;
- The Home for Little Wanderers, Inc. - \$1,756,428; and
- Centerboard, Inc. - \$370,499

The Department of Children and Families also contracted with U.S. Security Associates, Inc. for \$205,837 to provide security services at these locations.

“FEMA is pleased to be able to assist Massachusetts with these costs,” said FEMA Region 1 Regional Administrator Lori Ehrlich. “Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and our success as a nation.”

FEMA’s Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.



So far, FEMA has provided more than \$1 billion in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

