



East Bay Community Action Program
THE BRIDGE TO SELF-RELIANCE

RILWAN K. FEYISITAN, JR.
President & Chief Executive Officer

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April 9, 2026

The Honorable Senator Louis P. DiPalma
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance
82 Smith Street - Senate Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman DiPalma,

As a provider and on behalf East Bay Community Action Program (EBCAP), I am writing to express our support for the Pay for Success Program as written in the Governor's Recommended Budget. EBCAP is the state's largest Community Action Agency and is also a Federally Qualified Health Center, Community Mental Health Center, and provider of Head Start services, supporting more than 30,000 individuals annually. As part of our extensive service array, we provide comprehensive services to both prevent homelessness and support those who are experiencing homelessness. Pay for Success has been a unique and important addition to our service array as it provides safety, increased stability, and hope for individuals who are facing some of the most complex challenges imaginable to achieving housing stability.

EBCAP supports the continued investment in Rhode Island's Pay for Success Permanent Supportive Housing Program - a fiscally responsible, outcome-driven approach that protects taxpayers, improves public health and safety, reduces long-term system costs, delivers measurable housing stability, and aligns compassion with accountability.

Even in its early implementation, the program is demonstrating meaningful results by supporting high-risk Rhode Islanders who would otherwise cycle through emergency rooms, shelters, and other costly crisis systems have been successfully housed and connected to supportive services. Stable housing reduces reliance on emergency care, improves health outcomes, and creates a pathway toward long-term stability and self-sufficiency.

Since the program's design nearly a decade ago, Rhode Island's housing market has evolved significantly. While rising rents and post-pandemic economic pressures have increased the need for stable housing, they also underscore the importance of strengthening and investing in proven solutions like Pay for Success. With renewed support, the program is well positioned to expand its reach and deliver even greater stability and impact for Rhode Islanders.

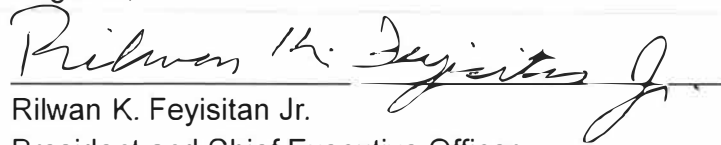
The fiscal case is clear. Preventable emergency room use in Rhode Island costs tens of thousands of dollars per person each year. Supportive housing is significantly less expensive and produces measurable long-term savings.

We are grateful for the Governor's one-year, no-cost extension of operations through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. We respectfully urge the General Assembly to provide the resources needed to sustain and scale this proven model beyond the pilot phase, protecting prior investment, preserving program infrastructure, reducing reliance on crisis systems, and positioning Rhode Island as a national leader in accountable solutions to homelessness.

Stable housing is not only more humane - it is more effective and more fiscally responsible.

For these reasons, we urge your support for continued funding of Rhode Island's Pay for Success Housing Program.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rilwan K. Feyisitan Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Rilwan K. Feyisitan Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer
East Bay Community Action Program