

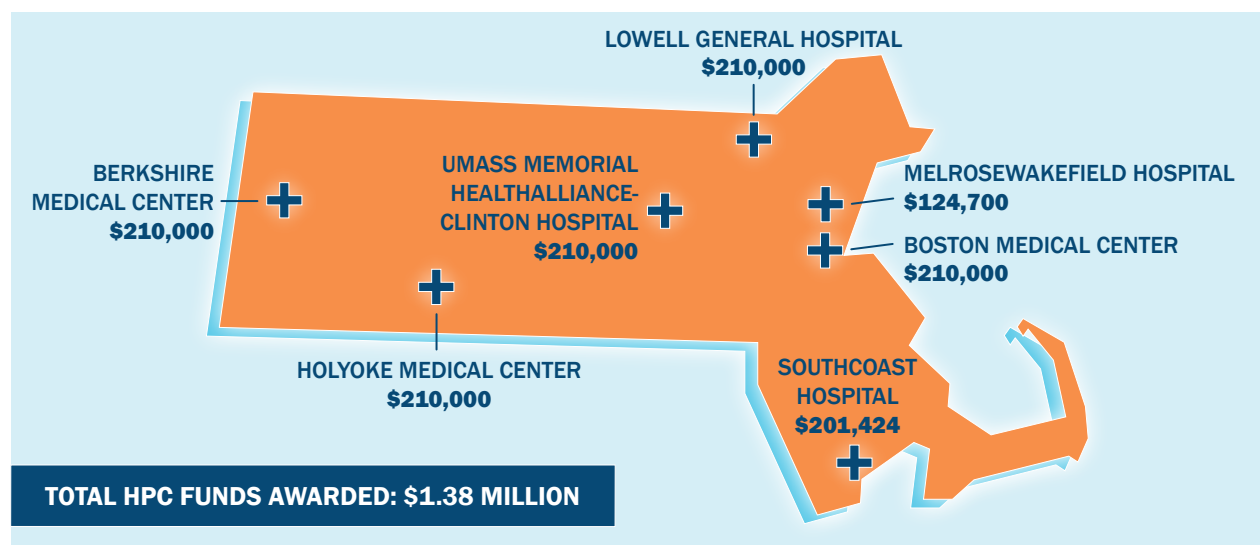
PROMOTING APPROPRIATE TRANSITIONS TO HOME (PATHWAYS) INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Streamlining Patient Discharges to
Homes and Communities

SEPTEMBER 2026

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission's (HPC) [Promoting Appropriate Transitions to Home \(PATHways\) Investment Program](#), which launched in fall 2026, supports acute care hospitals in Massachusetts to advance hospital-to-home programs, facilitating patient discharges to their homes and communities rather than to skilled nursing facilities or other institutional settings. This program facilitates partnerships between acute care hospitals and Aging Services Access Points (ASAPs), which are regional organizations that provide programs and services designed specifically to support adults aged 60 and older. ASAP staff, co-located with hospital discharge planners or social workers, connect patients with services after an inpatient stay or emergency department visit, optimizing discharge planning. The PATHways Investment Program builds on the [Executive Office of Aging & Independence \(AGE\)-funded Hospital to Home Partnership Program](#), which supported partnerships between hospitals and ASAPs through 2025.



PATHWAYS INVESTMENT PROGRAM AIMS

- Build and/or sustain partnerships between ASAPs and hospitals to strengthen communication and promote effective coordination with home and community-based service providers.
- Support institutional (e.g., skilled nursing facility) diversion and hospital discharge directly to home and community-based settings with home and community-based services.
- Collect qualitative and quantitative data to evaluate the effectiveness and feasibility of sustaining partnerships between ASAPs and hospitals.



ABOUT THE MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION

The Massachusetts Health Policy Commission (HPC) is an independent state agency charged with monitoring health care cost trends and making policy recommendations to improve the affordability of health care for all residents of the Commonwealth. Through data-driven analysis, actionable policy insights, public accountability, and innovative investments, the HPC seeks to improve health care delivery, lower costs, and reduce health disparities.