

# REPORT

## MPHA AT A GLANCE: 2024



# POLICY PROGRESS

The Massachusetts Public Health Alliance's (MPHA) policy priorities, strategies, and positions reflect public health solutions identified by those most impacted by inequities. That means prioritizing their voices and experiences and doing our work in a way that holds us accountable to our four commitments:

**Humility, Trustworthiness, Shifting Power, and Transformation.** This approach reflects our commitment to working in alliance, resulting in community-driven policy change that shifts power to those historically excluded from the decision-making process.

Every two years, MPHA develops our policy agenda through a process that begins with our Policy Council and involves our members and partners working on local and statewide public health-related issues. By the end of 2024, we celebrated milestone victories in two of our longest-running campaigns. It's a reminder that the process can be long and windy, and sustained advocacy leads to meaningful change.

MPHA also played a crucial role in shaping three major pieces of legislation passed into law in 2024, advocating for public health approaches to substance use treatment and overdose prevention, climate change, and housing policy.

In each instance, MPHA ensured that public health provisions were embedded in the final laws. We also lent our voice and support to dozens of advocacy efforts led by our partners to shore up reproductive justice and maternal health, immigrants' rights, and more.

Thanks to you, our alliance for public health keeps growing stronger. To find out how you can be involved, please contact us at [mpha@mapublichealth.org](mailto:mpha@mapublichealth.org) or call 857-263-7072.



## Local Public Health

MPHA spearheaded the advocacy to pass **SAPHE 2.0**, the most significant law in decades to improve our statewide local public health infrastructure and bring it into the 21st century.



## Public Transportation

We rallied support that led to historic investments of **\$150M in FY24** and **\$160M in FY25** in regional transit. Accessible public transportation in communities that are too often left behind has already shown major improvements.



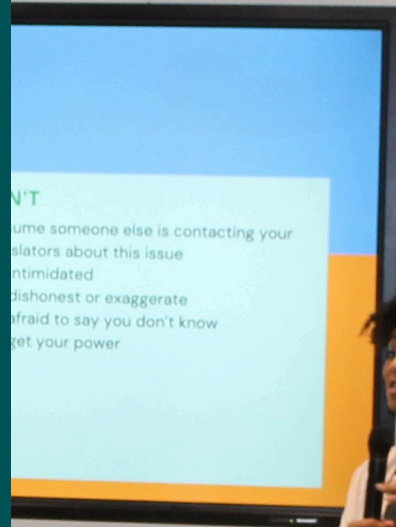
MPHA staff at "People's State of the Commonwealth" state house rally organized by grassroots housing advocates and coalition partners.

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I am so grateful to work alongside such dedicated and compelling advocates at the MPHA. The effort, skill, and policy and strategic insights and planning MPHA brings to the MA4OPC coalition is invaluable. I look forward to our continued collaboration as we work together to increase harm reduction efforts and make Overdose Prevention Centers a reality in Massachusetts.

**Lida Anderson, Esq.**

Director, Advocacy & Government Relations  
Massachusetts Medical Society



# MPHA BY THE NUMBERS

**\$160M**

Funding to make RTA service more affordable, available across regions, and accessible to low-income communities and people with limited mobility

**100+**

Attendees at 2nd Public Health Lobby Day, during which we arranged **constituent meetings with 35 legislators**

**18**

Public hearings where MPHA provided testimony

**11**

Conferences where MPHA staff presented including substance use, mobility, housing, local boards of health, and health care

**33**

Organizations across **6 regions** supported through capacity building partnerships

**19**

Coalitions where MPHA participated, coordinated, or convened

**350+**

Attendees at the 2024 Annual Conference, "Rising in Resistance: Advancing Community-Led Solutions"

**4**

Statewide board appointments: MA LGBTQ Youth Commission, Health Policy Commission Advisory Council, MA Community Behavioral Health Commission, and Public Health Council

**36**

Media engagements achieved on priority issues including public health infrastructure, overdose prevention, regional public transit, vaccine policy, and more

