

Home for Good--The Plight of Homeless Elders



In this presentation, a companion piece to Joanne Prince's, Shirley Thorne will talk about homelessness of the 20,000 elders here in Massachusetts including steps that are being taken to alleviate the problem, that is, through agencies such as EOEI, private groups such as HEARTH, and current legislation. Included will be several anecdotal reports, literature, and short excerpts from videos, for example, one called "I had a home once." Growing old visuals will include graphs and statistics to document the problem and efforts to alleviate it. Personal anecdotes will be encouraged as well as questions on ways to deal with the issue.

Presenter: *Shirley Thorne*

Shirley Thorne's professional life has been entirely in education. She has taught in Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, all in K-8 schools. Then she became a school counselor, working with children and their parents. Her job as an adjunct teacher at Framingham College involved her in teaching learning styles and learning disabilities. She was a counselor with young adults and had a private practice before retiring in 1992. Upon retiring in 1992, she joined the Board of Directors of HEARTH, formally the Committee to End Elder Homelessness, and is on the Friends of HEARTH Committee. She is also on the Board of Directors of Boston Senior Home Care and the Bay Village Neighborhood Association. While teaching, she was the President of the Brookline Teachers Association and later, Chairman of their Negotiating Team.

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 15, Noon-1:00 pm

Locations: Room 204A, 3rd fl., McCormack Hall, UMass Boston Campus