



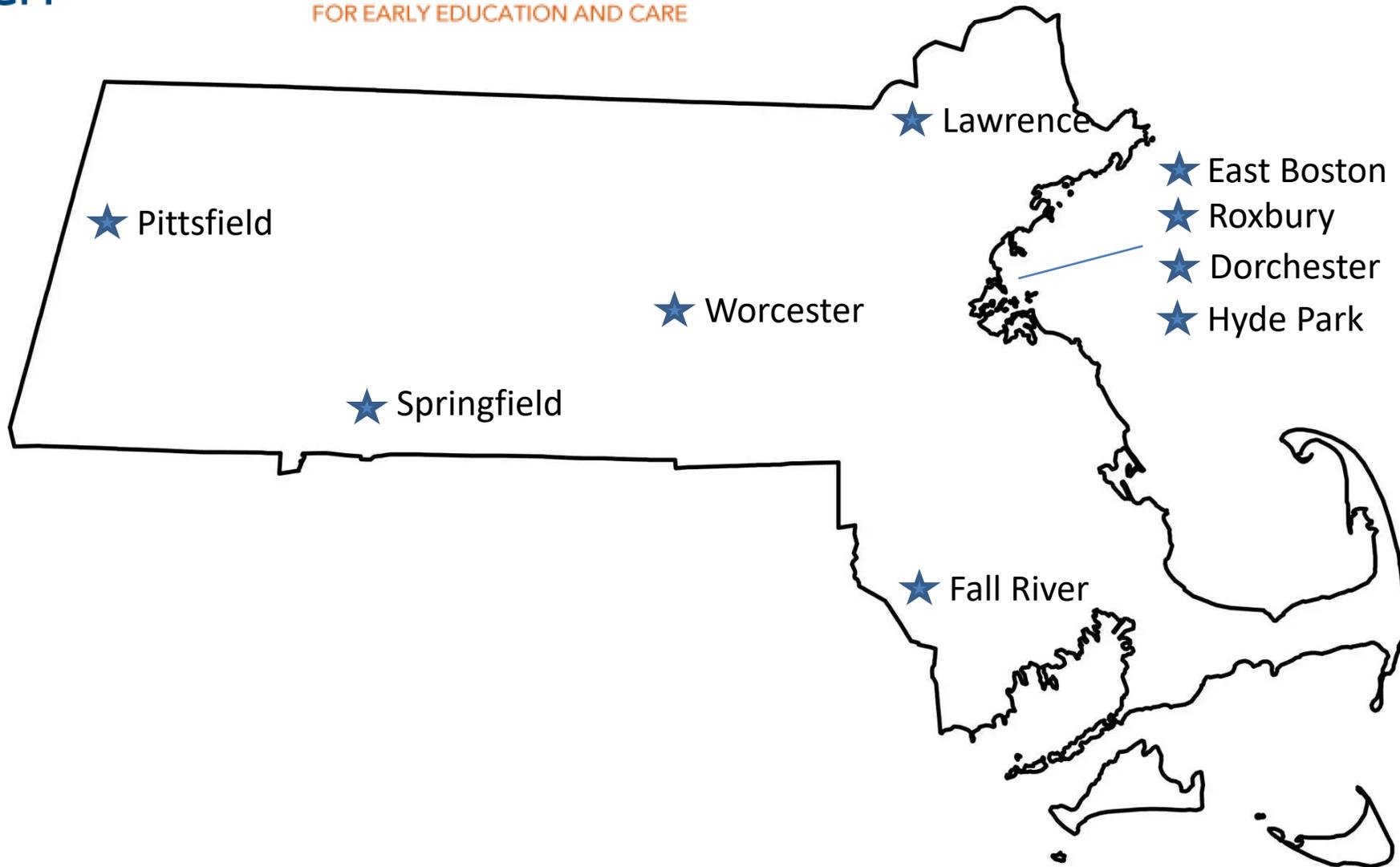
advocacy
network

FOR EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE

The Advocacy Network is an engaging, year-long experience for emerging advocacy leaders. It will create a new structure for connecting and supporting educator-advocates across all regions of the state, while building participants' advocacy skills and first-hand experience. Together, we will bring a new influence to state and local policy that advances an equitable system of high-quality early education and care for children, families, and educators.

- Annually support nine “advocacy leads” from across MA, including four from Boston (East Boston, Hyde Park, Roxbury, Dorchester), 27 advocacy leads over three years.
 - Advocacy leads attend monthly meetings, build advocacy knowledge and skills, network with peers, reach and teach others in their local community.
 - Cohort will represent the diversity of the early education and care field: demographics, provider type, geography.
- Create a new, sustainable advocacy infrastructure
 - Impact state and local policy for early education and care (i.e., state budget and legislation for high-quality, affordable child care; EEC policy; early childhood mental health; local initiatives).
 - Advocacy leads will engage more than 1,200 community stakeholders in advocacy activities (i.e., letters, testimonies) and events (i.e., trainings, tours, advocacy days).





- What is needed to sustain, grow, scale?
 - Time and attention: 1-on-1 support for advocates. Active cultivation, differentiated support.
 - Storytelling (coming soon!)
- Lessons learned
 - LOTS of talent/leadership/creativity in this field
 - Educator priorities: Mental health/trauma supports, staff advocacy trainings, family engagement, support groups for educators of color, men in early childhood.
- What is working?
 - Cohort approach, engaging content, guest speakers, “google doc” reflections, data tracking
 - Advocacy and speaking opportunities (panels, podcasts, testimonies, trainings)
 - Advocacy templates and tutorials (coming soon!)

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