

Education is dynamic, important, and relevant. In the space of affordable housing, education and housing are sometimes link, but often the data is ignored. Many families are restricted in their choice of schools and location of housing because the family may be economically disadvantaged. More often than not, the economically disadvantaged family will reside in an area that has poor performing schools, limited access to resources, and substandard living environments. My vision of the nexus of educational research and affordable housing will elevate awareness to the continued disparities encountered by low income families when attempting to achieve stable housing. The research will directly support programs that affordable housing providers need to implement to assist low-income families access to good schools and housing opportunities in areas that are not home to concentrated poverty.

In most areas of the United States, the location of residence influences the type of school and quality of education available to children. Housing policy and education policy; the two operating entities cannot be separated. My research is centered around the outcomes of families that are provided an opportunity to in Housing Mobility Programs that relocate the family from areas of concentrated poverty and poor performing schools to what housing advocates term “areas of opportunity”. Families have the opportunity to experience school choice and neighborhood choice with utilizing housing subsidies set at a level necessary to support the family relocation. This necessary education research can provide the information necessary to get the support of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and policymakers. The research provides information to policymakers when they debate educational and housing issues.

This education research will allow affordable housing practitioners to understand the need to be steadfast and diligent about providing opportunities to the families we serve; not just with providing shelter but connecting them to the best education available. Access to a quality education can be a major contributor to ending generational poverty.