

Housing influences outcomes across many sectors and the research shows it.

Students do better. Patients are healthier. People can more readily escape poverty and homelessness. The economy is healthier. And our region is more just and equal, when all residents have access to safe, stable, affordable homes. A strategic partnership between Fairfield County's Community Foundation, Partnership for Strong Communities, Regional Plan Association and Supportive Housing Works, FCCHO utilizes a collaborative, data-driven framework, aligning regional resources to deliver impactful systems change and equitable housing solutions.

Education Advocates are Housing Advocates

Teachers know that children learn better and are more likely to graduate when they live in a stable, affordable home. Affordable housing options located in economically diverse neighborhoods can lead to economically diverse schools which consistently drive strong student outcomes for all children.

Stable, affordable housing drives stronger student outcomes. Out-of-school factors greatly influence academic outcomes. After all, children spend more time in and around their home than they do in school. Children from low-income households who switch schools frequently due to housing instability or homelessness tend to perform at lower levels in school, have learning disabilities and behavioral problems, and are less likely to graduate from high school.

"Even when optimized with high expectations, strong curriculum, and expert instruction, today's schools have not proven powerful enough by themselves to compensate for the disadvantages associated with poverty. The exceptions have not proven a new rule, though some practices have shown promise. The gaps, on average, persist. After 20 years of school reform experience, the data don't lie."

— Paul Reville, former Massachusetts Secretary of Education

What the Research Shows

- ▶ Children who live in a crowded household at any time before age 19 are **less likely** to graduate from high school and tend to have lower educational attainment at age 25
- ▶ Living in poor-quality housing and disadvantaged neighborhoods **is associated** with lower kindergarten readiness scores
- ▶ Housing and financial instability **often lead to** children moving to poorer schools
- ▶ Homeless students are **less likely** to demonstrate proficiency in academic subjects. Passing rates for English language arts, math, and science exams are lower among homeless students than among their housed counterparts
- ▶ For typical households in the Fremont Unified School District, the impact of school quality on housing prices is **more than three times greater** than the impact found in studies in other regions. This impact matches the cost of private education for a child, suggesting that home prices act as tuition for in-demand public schools
- ▶ Near a high-scoring public school, **housing costs 2.4 times as much**, or roughly \$11,000 more a year, as housing near a low-scoring public school
- ▶ In one **study in New York City**, improvements in a school's test scores are associated with higher home values and increased spending on residential investments (whether by owners or developers). Improving a school's scores by one standard deviation was correlated with a 1.8 percent increase in housing values
- ▶ Housing and financial instability **often lead to** children moving to poorer schools