



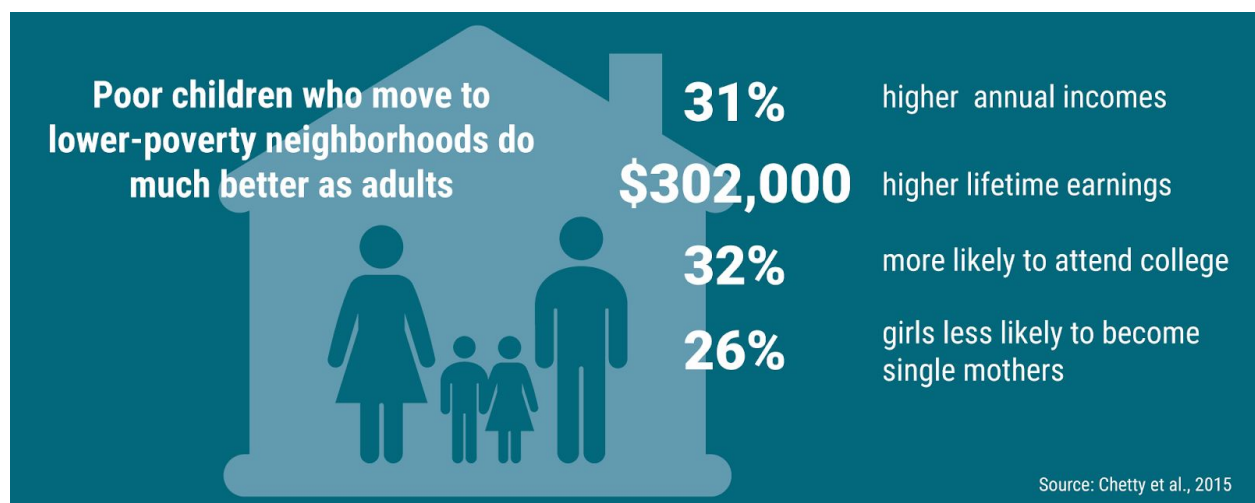
## AFFORDABLE HOUSING ENABLES MOVING TO OPPORTUNITY

# AFFORDABLE HOUSING ENABLES MOVING TO OPPORTUNITY, WHICH IMPROVES LONG-TERM LIFE OUTCOMES

**Economic mobility and anti-poverty advocates ARE housing advocates. Safe, affordable housing enables low-income people to climb up the income ladder and achieve the American Dream.**

A [landmark study](#) by Harvard economist Raj Chetty demonstrates the enormous positive impact that affordable housing can have on upward economic mobility for low-income children. Chetty analyzed the long-term adult outcomes for low-income children whose families used a housing voucher to move to lower poverty neighborhoods through HUD's Moving to Opportunity experiment.

## FOR LOW-INCOME CHILDREN WHO MOVED BEFORE AGE 13





# OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

Because of this, future children and grandchildren were more likely to be raised in a better neighborhood by two parents who have more education and more income, which helps break the cycle of generational poverty.

“Young adults who had lived in public or voucher-assisted housing as teenagers had higher earnings and lower rates of incarceration than young adults from unassisted low-income households. The study suggests that housing vouchers and public housing provide low-income parents with greater financial resources to devote to their children’s development, which improves adult outcomes later in life.” ([Andersson, Haltiwanger, & Kutzbach, 2016](#)).

Quoted from [NLIHC, A Place to Call Home](#).

“In 2012, housing assistance programs such as rental vouchers and public housing lifted 4.0 million people above the poverty line.”

Quoted from [Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, 2015](#).

## **Affordable housing can help children in poor families to grow up in neighborhoods with better opportunities, which helps them to succeed as adults.**

Places with higher rates of upward mobility for low-income children have less segregation and more residential diversity. As Harvard professor [Nathaniel Hendren](#) states: “In places where kids of different economic backgrounds are mixing in the same environment, those tend to be places where kids from low-income backgrounds rise up further in the income distribution.”

“Research shows that increasing access to affordable housing is the most cost-effective strategy for reducing childhood poverty in the United States”

NLIHC, A Place to Call Home