

CALL FOR PAPERS

Child Well-Being and Housing: Implications for Policy and Practice

A special issue of the *American Journal of Community Psychology*

Guest Editors: Patrick J. Fowler & Anne F. Farrell

Inadequate housing and homelessness represent significant barriers to family stability. An accumulating body of evidence demonstrates the extent of housing problems experienced by families involved in the child welfare system, while youth aging out of foster care exhibit disproportionately high rates of homelessness in the transition to adulthood. Youth and families frequently interact with additional social service systems intended to mitigate multifaceted and multilevel risks, however, their efforts and resources are rarely coordinated.

A need exists to better understand systems coordination to address housing and family instability. Little evidence exists on how best to identify precarious living arrangements, integrate and deliver necessary resources, and engage families across systems. Additionally, the costs and anticipated benefits from coordination have yet to be reliably estimated, which impedes scale-up of promising models.

The special issue of *American Journal of Community Psychology* aims to inform coordinated responses to inadequate housing experienced by families involved in the child welfare and other social service systems. Possible topic areas include, but are not limited to:

- Experimental and quasi-experimental studies evaluating the impact of housing policies and programs on service utilization, as well as child and family outcomes;
- Economic analyses of program and policy costs and benefits;
- Implementation and dissemination studies investing interagency coordination and systems change;
- Qualitative or mixed methods studies that elucidate experiences of housing stabilization from multiple perspectives, including families, providers, and policy makers;
- Enquiries into development of family and community capacities, urban planning, program sustainability, and diverse housing models for families experiencing hardship;
- Developmental research on prevention, resilience, and life course outcomes associated with housing and family stability.

Manuscripts may be theoretical, empirical, or action-oriented. All papers should inform policy and practice, and therefore, proposals and papers should highlight implications for decision making. Submissions from a variety of fields and contexts are highly encouraged, as researchers, service providers, and policy makers provide important and complimentary insights.

Submission Process: Email proposals (750 words) to Guest Editors Patrick Fowler (pjfowler@wustl.edu) and Anne Farrell (anne.farrell@uconn.edu) by **March 1, 2015**. Guest editors will invite full submissions by May 1, 2015, and final submissions are due **September 1, 2015**. Full manuscripts should be submitted in English through the *AJCP* online system: <http://www.edmgr.com/ajcp>, where authors will find instructions. Peer review will occur in according *AJCP* guidelines. Acceptance and Online First publication is expected in fall, 2016.

Email inquiries to Guest Editors Patrick Fowler and Anne Farrell. **Please disseminate this call for papers to interested colleagues.**