Children's Hospital of Philadelphia PolicyLab

To Ensure Children's Health, Create Affordable Housing In High-Opportunity Neighborhoods

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Unaffordable housing is often described as the single greatest economic burden on working-class Americans, with nearly half of renters spending more than 30% of their income on housing. Families with children are at particularly high risk, with a recent study showing that 1 in 6 American children experience unstable housing. As a well-established social driver of health, housing is known to have a significant influence on children's health and opportunity for economic success. This is especially true for children with chronic medical conditions, such as asthma or autism, who are disproportionately likely to experience unmet housing needs.

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