



## Creating Stability for Success

As families help prepare students to go back to school, they need support and resources to assure academic success. While parents bear much responsibility, other factors also play a role.

For example, housing stability is critical. Multiple studies have shown that frequent moves negatively affect the health and well-being of children, particularly children of low-income parents who experience several moves within a short time period.

Another factor is family income and access to educational materials like books and school supplies.

In this issue, we look at one NeighborWorks organization that helps prepare children for kindergarten, and what NeighborWorks organizations nationwide are doing to help families avoid evictions.

On average, young children who move frequently understand 37 percent less vocabulary than children who don't.

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## Preventing eviction

Eviction is bad for everyone. Children may face housing instability or a disruptive change in environment. Landlords and property owners may find themselves with an empty unit and lost revenue.

For these reasons, a growing number of NeighborWorks organizations are developing ways to help people avoid evictions. This includes helping people to create a manageable repayment schedule or access cash-assistance programs. Additionally, they refer them to local agencies for more assistance.

In a new blog post, Pam Bailey explores a new study that documents best practices.

[Read more](#)

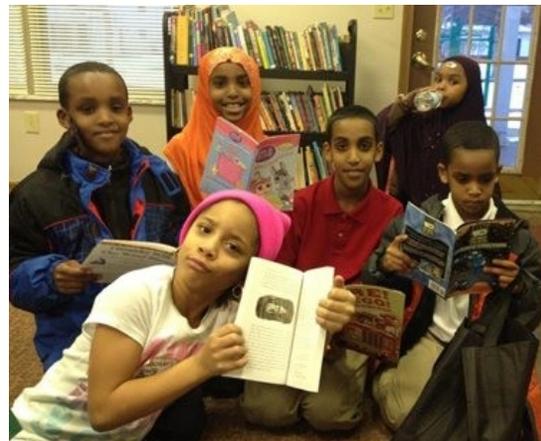


## Homeport prepares Ohio children for school

When you hear about someone getting a checkup, you typically think about going to a doctor. At this time of the year, however, checkup has an entirely different meaning for children in Columbus, OH. That's where network member Homeport has teamed up with the United Way to offer free learning checkups to ensure young children are ready for kindergarten.

The program is called Columbus Kids and in 2014 Homeport's outreach coordinators provided the learning checkups to 765 children in Franklin County, including 87 who are residents of Homeport properties. After the 20-minute assessment, children receive a free book to encourage reading and parents receive a grocery store gift card.

Another Homeport initiative, the [Bright Ideas Book Bank](#), which occurs during winter and spring breaks, brings needed books to school-age children. More than 2,000 books have been donated so far and



the program won a commendation from the American Association of School Librarians.

These are two just two of many resident services programs that Homeport offers to help provide a stable, health environment for all of its residents – especially its youngest – and give them the best possible opportunities for success.

[Read more](#)

