Family Evictions: The Tsunami and the King Tide

Claas Ehlers, CEO
Family Promise, Inc.
September 2020
Incoming Tsunami of Evictions

Calculating America’s eviction crisis: Up to 40 million people are at risk of being kicked out of their homes

The coronavirus pandemic has heightened deep-seated nation's housing market. A Colorado family's possessions
6 days ago

Is An Eviction Crisis On The Horizon?

From The Reading List. Policymakers authored by Emily Benfer. New
4 days ago

Coronavirus stimulus bill deadlock could prompt 'tsunami' of evictions, study warns

As many as 40 million people are at risk of losing their homes across the country as evictions moratoriums expire in dozens of states, a new ... 4 days ago

President Trump's executive order does not extend the eviction moratorium—here's what to know

President Donald Trump signed four executive orders this weekend for coronavirus economic relief, including one meant to prevent evictions. 6 days ago
Renters at Risk of Eviction

Baseline % of Renters at Risk of Eviction
Data Visualization by Jacqueline Woo
Soft Evictions

- Willful neglect
- Verbal Threat
- Harassment
- Withhold housing services
- Change rules
• “We tell our families, whatever you do, prioritize housing. It's the hardest thing to get back once it's lost.”

Program Services Coordinator, Family Promise Affiliate
Downward Mobility
Downward Mobility

“When the moratorium started, we started getting families that had never reached the ALICE {Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed} threshold before. They had no record of receiving financial support. Now, they were one paycheck away from homelessness.”

Case Manager, Family Promise Affiliate
Wider Net of People in Need

- Out of 575 applications for assistance filed since April 10th, 460 were first-time assistance requests.

Family Promise Affiliate
Affiliate Snapshot: Job Loss

• Out of 575 applications for assistance filed since April 10th
Challenges after COVID-19

- Governance: Wider net of people pushed into government services
- Rent: Families spending more of income on rent
- Relationships: Increasing power of landlords
Interventions
CARES Act
“The moratorium isn't sustainable. It's a band aid that is festering underneath. The government will eventually rip the band aid off.”

Family Services Coordinator, Family Promise Affiliate
Impact of Evictions
On Education

“Homework comes last on the list of priorities when you are experiencing homelessness.”

Executive Director, Family Promise Affiliate

Home is: Where I do my homework

Children experiencing homelessness are 8-9X more likely to repeat grades.
Education Deficits from School Closures

• Students studying from home are faced with isolation, anxiety, and uncertainty about the future.

• Students may have a hard time concentrating and manifest symptoms of depression in the months to come.

• Students are likely to enter school with more variability in their academic skills.

"If you have just one eviction on your record, they won't rent to you. And it's not illegal."

Executive Director, Family Promise Affiliate
“When you’re evicted, you lose your place to be in the world. A trauma like this stays with a family for the rest of their lives.”

“When survival is your mission every day, you can’t address the trauma you are experiencing. A lot of healing needs to be done.”

Executive Director, Family Promise Affiliate
Spending on Interventions

• “For $200 per child, we can keep a family housed, compared to $4000 to rehouse them.”
  
  Family Services Coordinator, Family Promise Affiliate

• April 2018 study in Tacoma, WA showed $1,668 cost per successfully diverted family, vs $10,641 cost per family housed in emergency shelter.

  Building Changes, 2018
Questions?