

## More than a roof: Case studies of public housing agency initiatives to increase residents' economic security

*A new brief on programs that promote earnings growth and asset-building among public housing residents and participants in the housing voucher program*

**What:** A new brief in the *Ideas for Housing Policy and Practice* series: More than a Roof: Case studies of public housing agency initiatives to increase residents' economic security

**When:** January 19, 2012



**Where:** NHC.org's [Publications Section](#)

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A new [brief](#) from the Center for Housing Policy - the research affiliate of the National Housing Conference - describes efforts by public housing agencies to help residents make progress toward economic security. Despite budget shortfalls, these agencies are continuing their efforts to use subsidized housing as a platform for economic security and opportunity by implementing programs that combine housing assistance with support for increased earnings and opportunities to build assets.

After a brief overview, the report profiles agencies running four initiatives: the Family Self-Sufficiency program; the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership program; Earned Income Tax Credit Outreach; and Individual Development Accounts. It concludes by highlighting two innovative approaches that merit consideration by agencies seeking to expand economic security opportunities for their residents.

The Center gratefully acknowledges support for this brief from the Annie E. Casey Foundation. Any opinions or conclusions expressed, however, are those of the authors alone. As always, we invite your feedback on these materials at [chp-feedback@nhc.org](mailto:chp-feedback@nhc.org).

### **Related resources from the Center for Housing Policy and our partners:**

**Taking Asset Scale in HUD- by Jeffrey Lubell**

This paper Accounts could



increasing subsidy costs.

**Building and Earnings Incentives to Assisted Rental Housing and Reid Cramer, July 2011**

describes how Rental Assistance Asset be used to expand earnings incentives and asset-building opportunities for families in subsidized housing without

### **Rental Assistance Asset Accounts**

by Jeffrey Lubell and Reid Cramer, January 2009

This paper describes an alternative approach for promoting earnings and asset growth among residents of subsidized housing.

**Video from the National Building Museum's *How Housing Matters* Conference panel, *Housing as Platform for Economic Opportunity***

The Center for Housing Policy's Jeffrey Lubell moderated this panel at NBM's November 2011 conference, a project of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Policy Development and Research.



How Housing Matters: Housing as Platform for Economic Opportunity

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***About the Center for Housing Policy***

The Center for Housing Policy is the research affiliate of the National Housing Conference (NHC) and specializes in developing solutions through research. In partnership with NHC and its members, the Center works to broaden understanding of the nation's housing challenges and to examine the impact of policies and programs developed to address these needs.