Equitable resources for residents of low-income neighborhoods and communities of color

Neighborhoods place a significant role in shaping access to resources. Economic and social conditions in neighborhoods influence access to employment, schools, health care facilities, grocery stores, and green space, among many other critical resources. Residents living in neighborhoods with concentrated poverty often have less access to rich resources and opportunities. In order to address this challenge, cities should employ a variety of policy tools and strategies that cross sectors, including housing, community development, health, and other areas.

Brief: Addressing neighborhood disparities
This brief provides background on how we got here, and what communities can do to help address segregation. Read the brief.

Brief: Strengthening the resources and opportunities in high-poverty neighborhoods
Compelling evidence indicates that growing up in high-poverty neighborhoods has negative effects on children’s life chances. This brief describes several approaches that local jurisdictions can use to improve residents’ quality of life, stabilize population losses and diversify income levels, and increase access to opportunity. Read the brief.

Brief: Balancing increases in affordable housing in resource-rich areas with investments in low-income neighborhoods
This brief outlines an approach for cities, towns, and counties to use in determining how to balance these goals by focusing on developing plans appropriate to each neighborhood. Read the brief.

Selected local housing policies
Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD)
Code enforcement
Downpayment and closing cost assistance
Homeowner rehabilitation assistance programs
Enforcement of fair housing laws
Rent regulation
“Just cause” eviction policies
Eviction prevention programs
Foreclosure prevention programs
Targeted efforts to create and preserve dedicated affordable housing in resource-rich areas
Increased voucher payment standards in high-cost areas
Mobility counseling for housing voucher holders
Landlord recruitment and retention

Related content
Issue brief: Continuing segregation: trends, consequences, and local policy responses
Issue brief: Balancing increases in affordable housing in resource-rich areas with investments in low-income neighborhoods
Resources on affirmatively furthering fair housing
Resources on community development
Resources on affordable housing in opportunity areas or resource-rich neighborhoods
Resources on housing discrimination
Elevate Data for Equity
Housing Policy Library section: Combatting housing discrimination
Housing Policy Library section: Expanding the availability of affordable housing
Housing Policy Library section: Promoting mobility for Housing Choice Voucher holders
Explore external links for equitable resources for residents of low-income neighborhoods and communities of color