

Abstract: Aging in Place

This research uses a cross-sectional study design to investigate the relationships between aging in place, intergenerational wealth, and quality of life among older Black and non-Black adults with the aim of understanding what influences an individual's decision to age in place, and pass on wealth to younger generations. To conduct this study, the Wealth, Aging in Place and Quality of Life (WAPQL) Survey will be administered to a sample size of approximately N= 1000 homeowners (ages 55 and over) affiliated with the National Rebuilding Foundation. Findings from this study will contribute to a gap in the literature on aging in place, and provide data to support best practice initiatives to develop educational programs and resources to assist with reducing community displacement and improve the quality of life for older adults.

Abstract: Homelessness

In 2023 a total of 653,100 people were experiencing homelessness in the U.S. (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2023). Increasing rents, gentrification, affordable housing deficits, limited housing stock, and growing migrant populations, contribute to homelessness in the U.S. People experiencing homelessness (PEH) have significantly higher rates of mortality and reduced life expectancies compared to the general population. Because of their lifestyle, even compared to housed individuals living in poverty, PEH face a 60% greater mortality risk (Meyer, Wyse, & Logani, 2023). The effects of climate change, like extreme weather, air pollution and displacement can exacerbate mortality rates among PEH, but these effects have been understudied. Using 311 service data from New York, Texas and California, we specifically locate PEH and investigate their exposure to climate impacts. Other datasets that describe unhoused populations, like HUD's Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR), do not specify locations of unhoused populations beyond the county level. Coordinate level data provided by the 311 service can more effectively capture the differing care options, habits, and climate hazards faced by those experiencing homelessness. We predict air pollutants and extreme weather will have greater effects in communities where there is a significant presence of PEH.

Abstract: AARP

One of the largest intergenerational wealth transfers in history is expected to take place in the coming decades, with the potential to reshape the socioeconomic landscape of the United States. This shift in wealth could significantly impact economic stability and the financial well-being of individuals and families. Using data from the Federal Reserve Board's Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF), this study estimates the magnitude of these future wealth transfers, identifying both the transferors and recipients. It places particular emphasis on how these transfers may influence long-standing racial wealth disparities, offering insights into potential shifts in wealth distribution across different demographics.

Abstract: Lifting Voices of Resident Leaders in Public Housing: Exploring Lived Experiences with Leadership

Since the introduction of public housing, residents have been integral to creating living environments where they can flourish and hold governments and housing authorities accountable for maintaining the necessary material conditions for a good quality of life. Within public housing authorities', resident leadership roles include resident commissioners, resident advisory board members, and resident council members. This presentation will discuss feedback from a national sample of public housing resident leaders (N=232) regarding their perceptions of resident leadership in their specific geographic jurisdiction. Using a mixed methods approach, participants completed surveys and attended focus groups where they explored topics including growing into leadership, working with their housing authority staff, perceived levels of support from HUD, and areas of growth for resident leadership programs in general. Self-assessed experience in their role, years in current position, self-assessment of leadership contributions, gender and age, years in role were examined for their predictive factors related to their success (effectiveness) as leaders. Of these possible predictors, two were significant: self-assessed contributions and age. Self-assessed contributions suggest that self-described contributions to leadership strongly enhance how leaders rate their own experience. Additionally, older leaders identified themselves as more effective. Overall, resident leaders feel strongly that their voice is essential to quality programs and emphasized the need for more HUD investment in their leadership including increasing their stipends, ensuring changes are vetted by residents and supporting programs that address a range of resident needs.