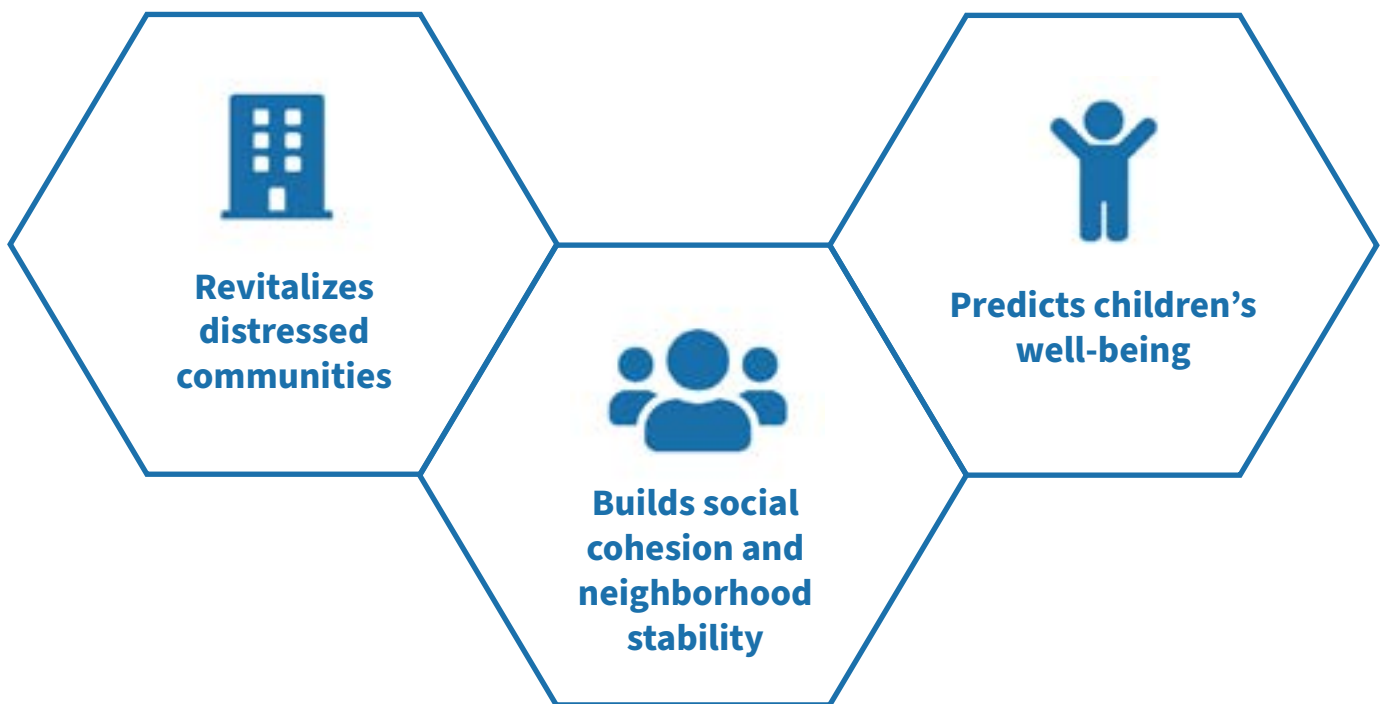


AFFORDABLE HOUSING BENEFITS COMMUNITIES

Housing is the central component of every community. Affordable housing in a neighborhood improves community engagement and stability, strengthens social connections, maintains property values and reduces crime. Socioeconomically diverse communities with a variety of housing options provide important opportunities for children's development.



NORTH CAROLINA

**HOUSING
FINANCE
AGENCY**

www.HousingBuildsNC.com

1-800-393-0988 or 919-877-5700

A self-supporting public agency.

J. Adam Abram, Chair
Scott Farmer, Executive Director





One study found the development of a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) property increased the property values of adjacent homes by up to [6.5%](#). [Research](#) also finds the presence of LIHTC developments reduces both property and violent crime in low-income neighborhoods and slightly reduces property crime in high-income neighborhoods.



Paying an affordable rent or mortgage increases residential stability, which in turn [strengthens social ties among neighbors](#). Affordable housing can also help promote socioeconomic diversity within a wide range of communities, bringing together people from different racial and economic backgrounds. Homeowners, in particular, tend to be [more politically, civically and socially](#) involved in their communities, all of which strengthens the neighborhood as a whole.



[Research](#) indicates housing, and the community in which it is located, play a central role in determining economic, social and physical and mental outcomes of children. Children raised in affordable, safe housing experience fewer health issues, such as asthma or exposure to lead-based paint, and fewer traumatic experiences associated with evictions and homelessness. Securing affordable housing in high-scoring public school districts is crucial for children's academic success. Community revitalization efforts have been tied to increased math and reading scores. Additionally, children raised in households that their families can afford earn more as adults.