

Family Homelessness

More than one million American children under the age of six experience the trauma of losing their homes. Here are free, bilingual digital resources for providers who support families and children coping with shelter insecurity and difficult transitions. Parents can view most of the resources as well. The materials will:

- Support providers with ready-to-use tools and materials;
- offer help, hope, and healing to families in crisis; and
- build awareness and reduce stigma around families in housing-related crises.



We Got This!

This digital storybook introduces Lily, a resilient, hopeful 7-year-old who knows what it's like to not have a permanent place to stay. When Lily meets a mama and baby bird who have lost their nest, she gets a chance to offer help and hope. There's also a companion parent-child coloring page and a read-together poem.

5 Videos

- **“A Rainbow Kind of Day”** introduces the topic to providers and parents.
- **“Dot to Dot”** shows Lily learning that she's surrounded by love.
- **“Home Is...”** demonstrates that a home is much more than a house or an apartment.
- **“Hooray for Hands”** reminds kids of the power of helping and reaching out for help.
- **“Special-Special Comfort”** celebrates the power of the Muppet's comfort items.

Short Articles

- Supporting Families Experiencing Homelessness
- Talking About It (answering children's questions)
- In the Classroom
- Creating a Sense of Home

4 Printable Pages

- Resources for Providers (web sites and hotlines)
- A “Together Poem” parents and children can read together
- 2 parent-child coloring pages

Professional Development

- Two short provider-portrait documentaries provide tools, tips, and tricks for providers who may be unfamiliar with the particular needs of families experiencing homelessness. Topics include trauma-informed play spaces and bridging communication gaps between health-care providers and families.
- Three provider-facing workshop “bundles” share strategies for supporting children and families experiencing homelessness.
- This December, we will convene our first Virtual Expert Forum on the topic of homelessness. In this virtual expert forum, we will present homelessness through a young child's perspective, share best practices from experts in the field, and empower providers to better meet the needs of children in their care.