

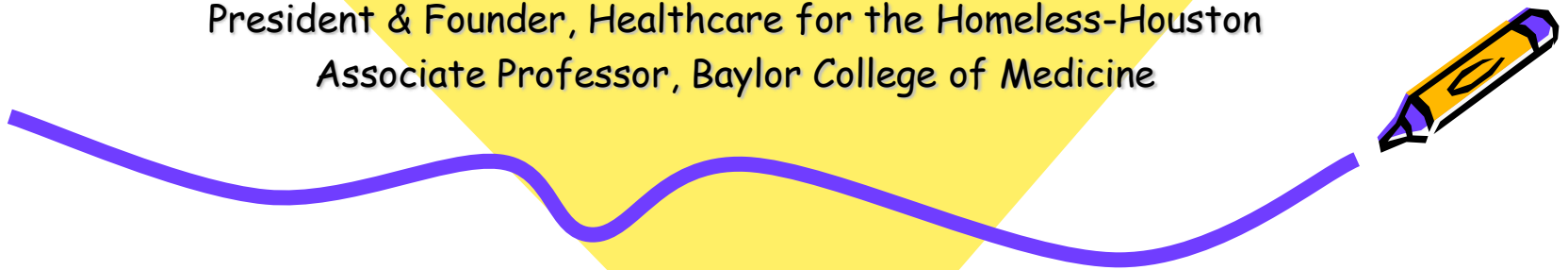


The Health of Homeless Children

David S. Buck, MD, MPH

President & Founder, Healthcare for the Homeless-Houston

Associate Professor, Baylor College of Medicine





IT IS ESTIMATED THAT
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
ACCOUNT FOR 45% OF THE
HOMELESS POPULATION.



American Academy of Pediatrics. The Committee on Community Health Services. *Health Needs Of Homeless Children*. Pediatrics. 179-791. 98:4. Oct 1996.



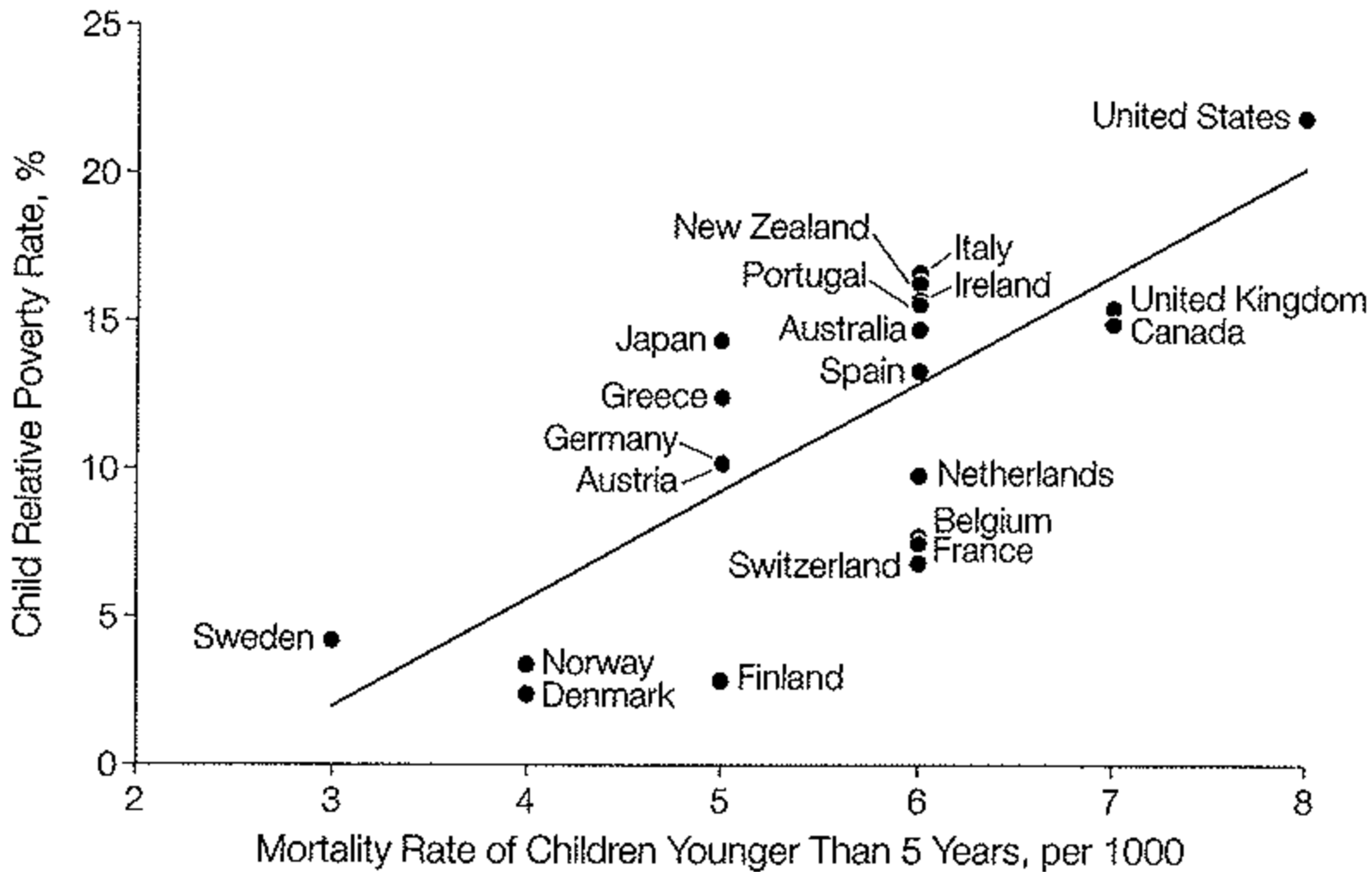
**"RELATIVE CHILD POVERTY
IS ASSOCIATED WITH
HEALTH, AND, IN
PARTICULAR, THE HEALTH
OF NATIONS."**



Emerson, E. Relative Child Poverty, Income inequality, Wealth, and Health. JAMA. 425-6. 301:4. 28 Jan 2009.



Figure. Relationship Between Relative Child Poverty and Under Age 5 Mortality in High-Income OECD Countries

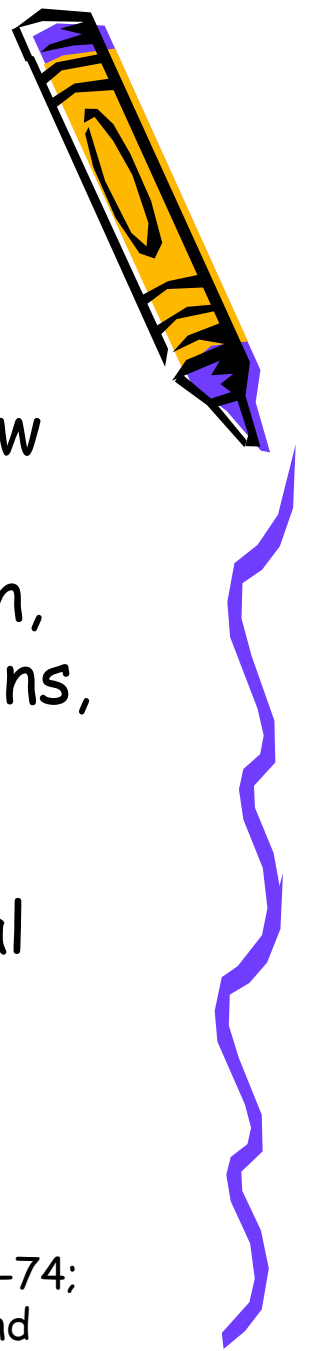




**"INCREASED RATES OF
CHILD POVERTY HAVE
BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH
WORSE HEALTH OUTCOME:**



Emerson, E. Relative Child Poverty, Income inequality, Wealth, and Health. JAMA. 425-6. 301:4. 28 Jan 2009.



... Poorer overall child well-being, infant mortality, low birth weight, not having immunizations, child mortality due to unintentional injuries, juvenile homicide, low educational attainment, dropping out of school, nonparticipation in higher education, aspiring to low skill work, poor peer relations, having been bullied, teenage birth rate, physical inactivity, childhood obesity, not eating breakfast, feeling lonely, and mental health problems...

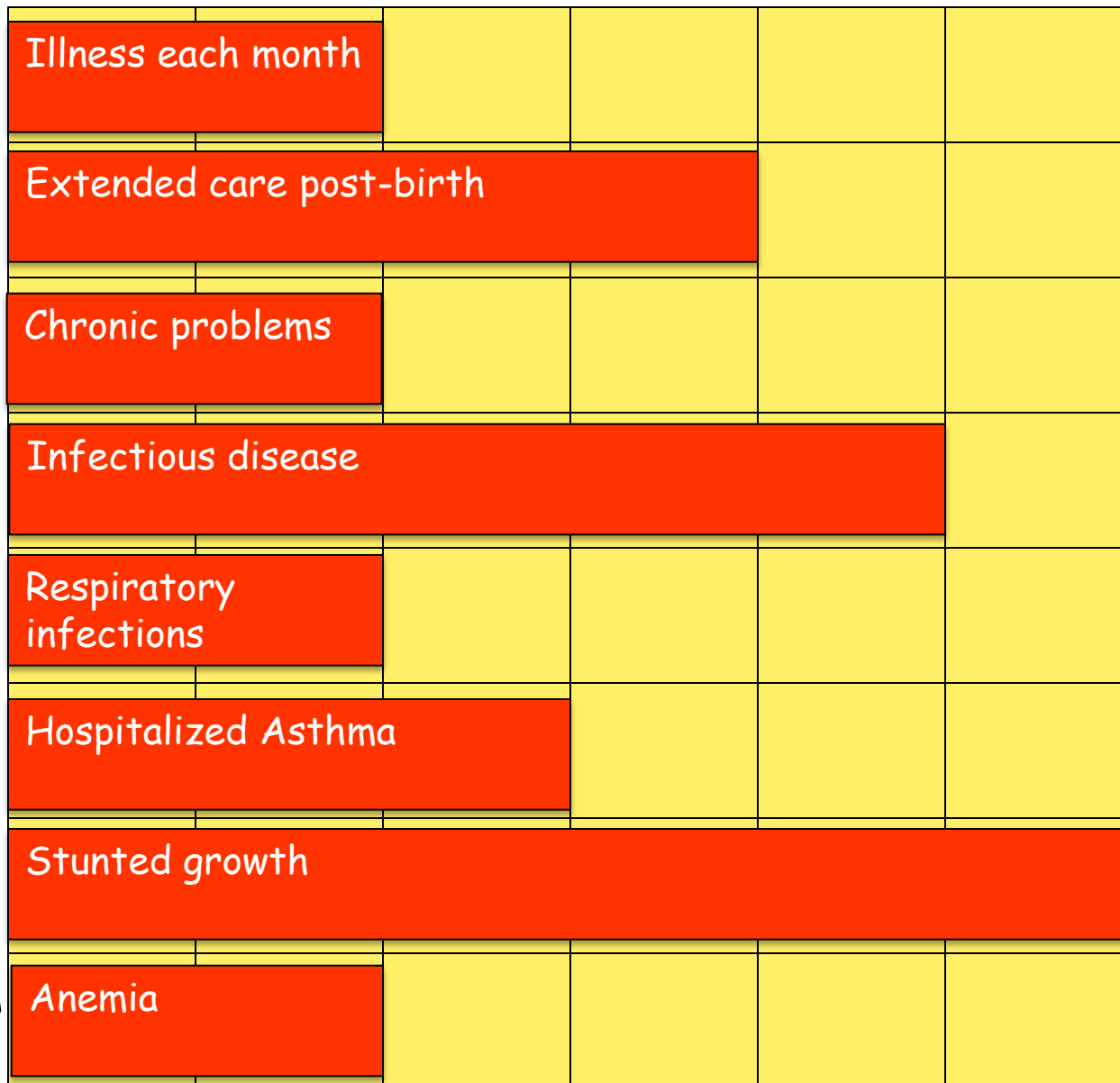


Bassuk, E. Homeless Families. *Scientific American*. Dec. 1991: 66-74;
Emerson, E. Relative Child Poverty, Income inequality, Wealth, and Health. *JAMA*. 425-6. 301:4. 28 Jan 2009.

**"HOMELESS CHILDREN ARE
NOT SIMPLY AT-RISK,
MOST SUFFER SPECIFIC
PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL,
AND EMOTIONAL DAMAGE."**

*Homelessness and It's Effects on Children, The
Family Housing Fund*





Increased likelihood in homeless children.

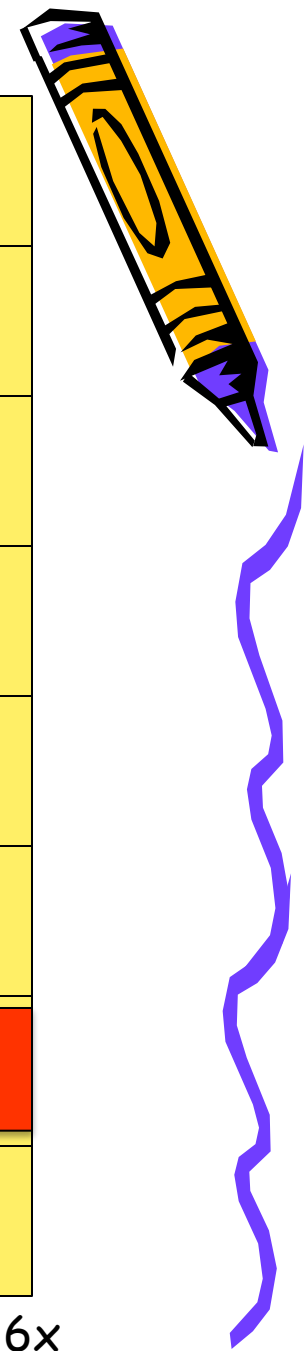
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EXPOSURE TO POVERTY
(LOW SES) AS A CHILD IS
ASSOCIATED WITH
INCREASED MORTALITY &
MORBIDITY IN
ADULTHOOD.



Emerson, E. Relative Child Poverty, Income inequality, Wealth, and Health. JAMA. 425-6. 301:4. 28 Jan 2009.

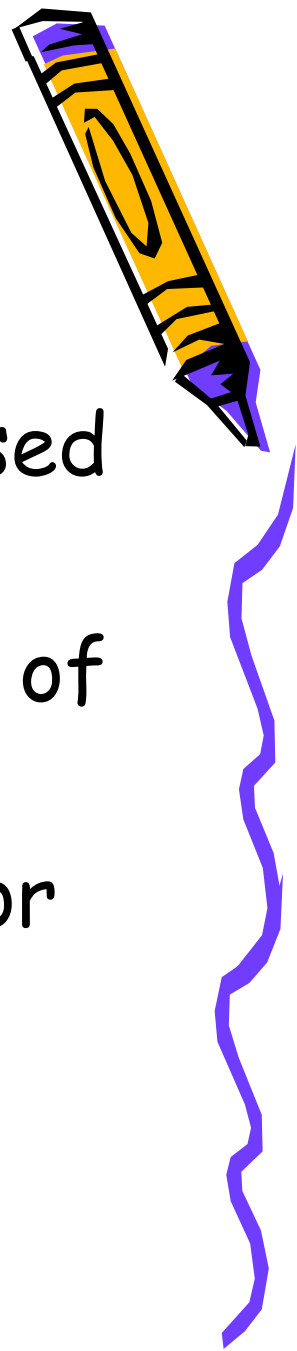


**ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE,
PARTICULARLY PREVENTIVE
HEALTHCARE, IS IMPAIRED
FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES
AND CHILDREN.**



American Academy of Pediatrics. The Committee on Community Health Services. *Health Needs Of Homeless Children*. *Pediatrics*. 179-791. 98:4. Oct 1996.

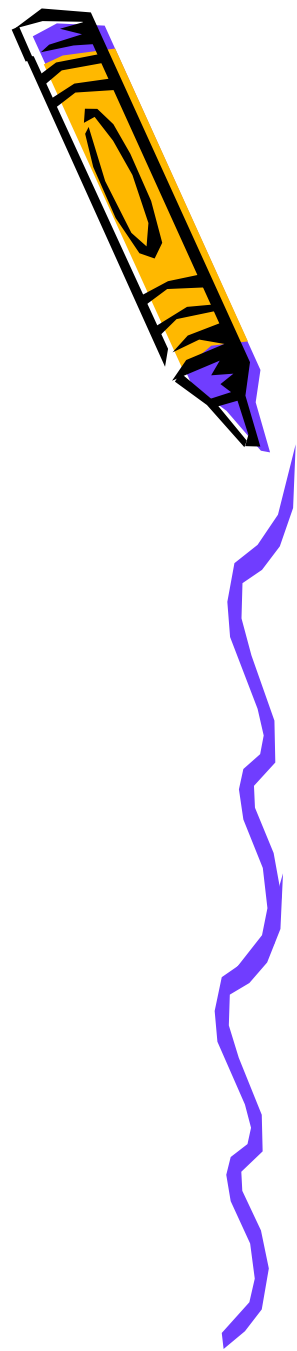
Consequences of Lack of Access to Care



- Health is a low priority when focused on food and shelter
- Frequent relocation results in lack of a health home.
- Acute problems = trips to the ER or clinics
 - Episodic and fragmented care



Consequences of Lack of Access to Care



- Continuity of care is rarely comprehensive or nonexistent
- High rates on under immunization
- High rates of unmet health needs

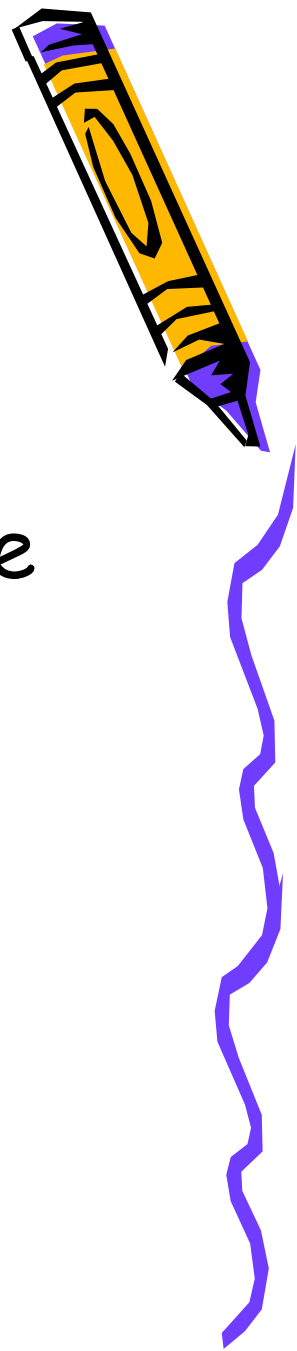


**THE IMPACT OF
HOMELESSNESS FROM
BIRTH
THROUGH SCHOOL AGED**



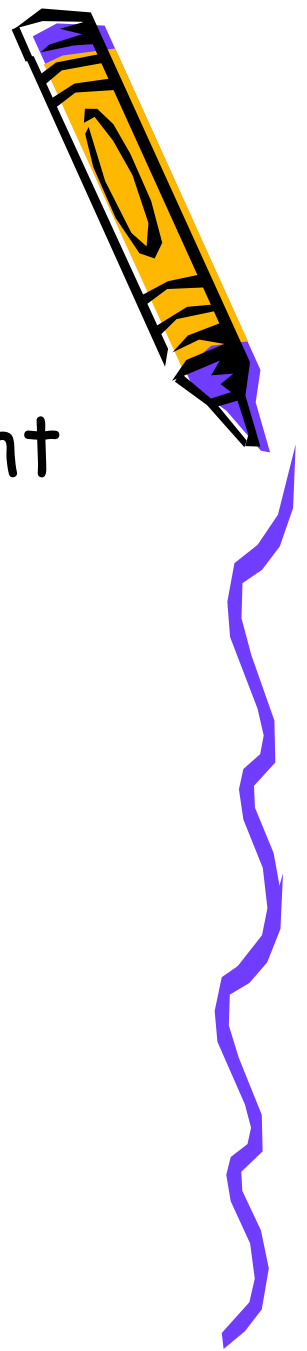
Before Birth

- Majority of homeless parents are single mothers, many of whom were homeless as children.
- Many obstacles to healthy pregnancies
 - Substance abuse
 - Chronic and acute health problems
 - Lack of prenatal care



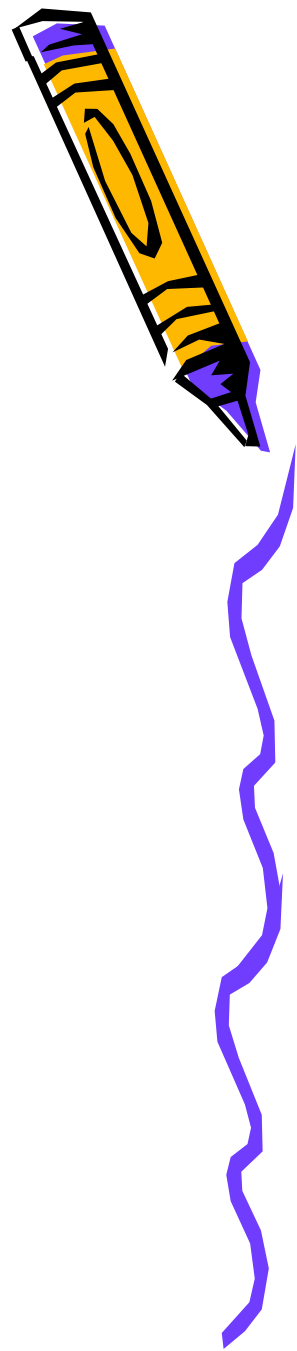
Infants

- More likely to have low birth weight
- At greater risk of death
- Exposed to environmental factors that endanger health
- Lack essential immunizations
- Attachment disorders



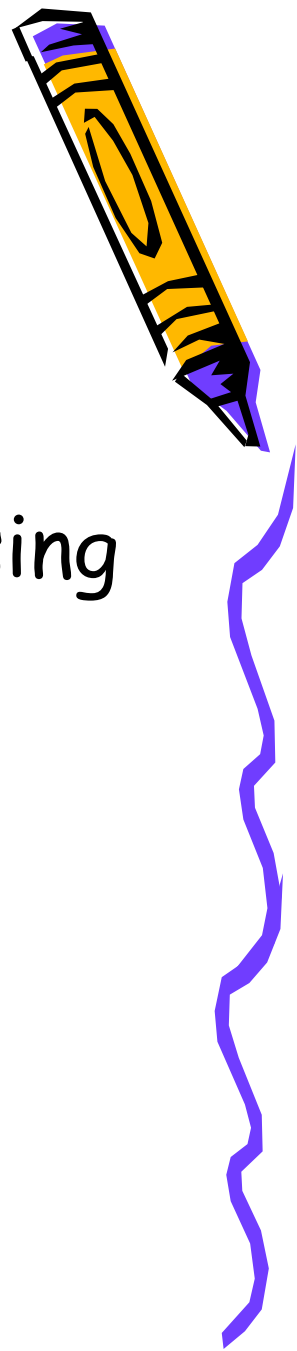
Toddlers

- Significant developmental delays after 18 months
 - Influences later behavior
 - Causes emotional problems



Preschoolers

- Often homeless children are separated from their parents causing long term negative effects
- Receive fewer services than other children their age



School Aged

- Affects social, physical and academic lives
 - Frequent relocation: Lack of relationship building
 - Intermittent, perhaps prolonged, bouts of not going to school
 - Health and psychological problems continued from early childhood



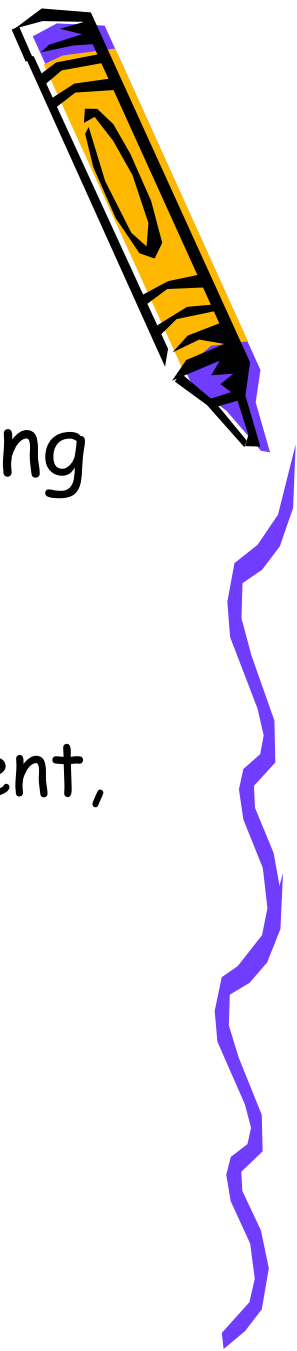


**"WITH EARLY AND
CONSISTENT
INTERVENTION, CHILDREN
CAN OVERCOME MANY OF
THE EFFECTS OF POVERTY
AND HOMELESSNESS."**

*Homelessness and It's Effects on Children, The
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Support Services Should Treat the Family



- Should receive at least the following services:
 - Long-term supportive housing
 - Drug/Alcohol treatment for the parent, if applicable
 - Parenting education
 - After school tutoring for child

