



Transforming Public Housing Developments into Places That Help Residents Find Work

Jobs-Plus — a “place-based,” workforce-development model proven to help public housing residents find employment — is about to be replicated across the country.

What is Jobs-Plus?

The program has three core components that can be adapted to local conditions.



On-site employment services

Activities and referrals to help residents secure and retain work, including job-search assistance, education, and training.



Rent-based work incentives

Changes in rent rules that make work pay by allowing working residents to keep more of their earnings.



Community support for work

Neighbor-to-neighbor information sharing about work opportunities and program services.

Saturation is a distinctive feature of the model.

The program seeks to engage all working-age residents in a housing development.

What is the evidence behind Jobs-Plus?

MDRC conducted a rigorous evaluation that compared the outcomes of residents of the Jobs-Plus housing developments with the outcomes of residents living in similar, randomly selected developments.

When fully implemented, Jobs-Plus increased residents' average earnings over seven years.

GAIN RELATIVE TO THE COMPARISON GROUP

+ \$9,099
+ 16%

The impact endured for seven years without abating.

Why is Jobs-Plus necessary?

Public housing developments are among the lowest-income neighborhoods in the United States.

HOUSEHOLDS IN PUBLIC HOUSING

1.1 million

47 percent of these households are headed by working-age adults between 18 and 61 years of age.

AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME

Public housing households

\$14,450

U.S. households

\$75,700

INCOME BELOW \$20,000

Public housing households

79%

U.S. households

18%

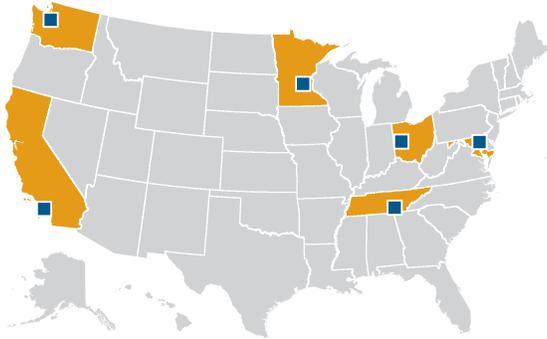
Data on households in public housing are from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and are for the year 2015. Data on all U.S. households are from the U.S. Census Bureau and are for the year 2014. All figures are rounded.

The Evolution of Jobs-Plus

1990s

PROGRAM DEVELOPED

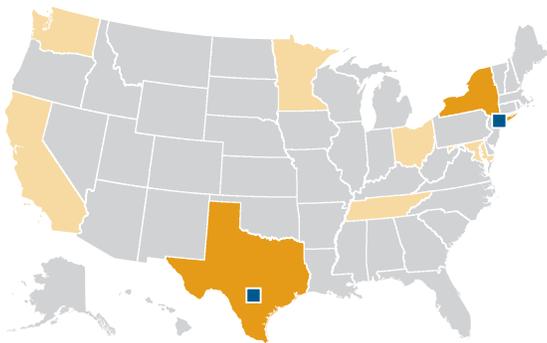
Jobs-Plus was developed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), The Rockefeller Foundation, other private funders and family foundations, and MDRC to address the growing concentration of joblessness, underemployment, and poverty in public housing communities.



1998-2006

TESTED IN SIX CITIES

A MDRC study of six public housing authorities, located in different housing and labor markets, found that nondisabled and working-age residents in the three developments that fully adopted Jobs-Plus earned 16 percent more than residents in comparison developments in the same cities.



2011

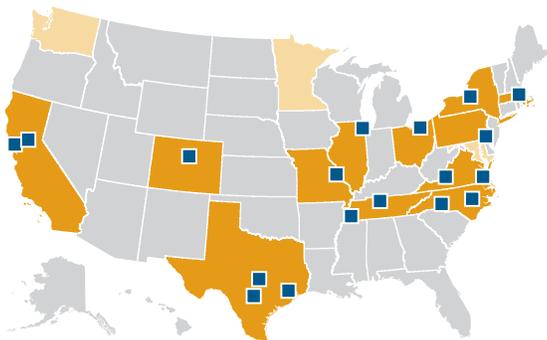
REPLICATED IN TWO MORE CITIES

The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City and NYC's Center for Economic Opportunity used Social Innovation Fund money to replicate Jobs-Plus in the Bronx and San Antonio. MDRC conducted an implementation study that offered analyses of program experiences and costs.

2013

EXPANDED IN NEW YORK CITY

The city of New York announced a \$24 million investment in Jobs-Plus, increasing the program's reach into 23 of the city's public housing communities.



2015-2017

HUD LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE REPLICATION

HUD has selected 18 housing authorities across the country for an expansion of Jobs-Plus, and is expected to select more locations for expansion in 2017.

MDRC will be evaluating the federal implementation of Jobs-Plus at nine sites through 2019.