OUR MISSION

Move to PROSPER improves life outcomes for children and their mothers by creating opportunities for residential and financial stability. We provide temporary rental support and comprehensive coaching to facilitate successful moves to higher opportunity communities.

“[Move to PROSPER] would be great for me and my 3 kids because it will give me a chance to get ahead and also to show my kids something good—let them get a chance to experience a better school district, neighborhood and environment.”

– Mother of three, Columbus, OH
WHY

Families in Central Ohio are Being Left Behind

Columbus, Ohio, is ranked the second most economically segregated metro region in the U.S., making Columbus one of the least promising places in the nation for children in lower income households to climb the economic ladder. Other cities have adopted programs to decrease economic segregation, propelling their communities forward. It’s time for Columbus and our region to do the same.

Creating greater opportunities for families positively impacts our region:

• A lack of diversity inhibits a region’s ability to grow economically.
• Children who live in stable households in high opportunity neighborhoods for even a few years before reaching age 13 have positive long-term life outcomes.
• Children living in substandard housing and neighborhoods have estimated literacy scores 15% lower than those living in the best housing conditions.
• Adult women who move to high opportunity neighborhoods are 40% less likely to be diabetic or obese.
• Children moving from low to high opportunity communities have:
  - 31% higher incomes in early adulthood
  - $302,000 higher lifetime earnings
  - 32% more likely to attend college

HOW

Moving Families and Our Region Forward

Move to PROSPER will serve families headed by single women with children ages 13 and under by providing access to affordable rental housing in higher opportunity neighborhoods with high performing schools, grocery stores, employment and other benefits creating residential and financial stability.

Families who choose to participate in the program will receive:

• Three years of rental support
• Access to a safe, quality and healthy apartment in a high opportunity community
• The assistance of a life coach to support each woman on reaching her financial, career, educational and wellness goals for herself and her family
• Assistance integrating her children into new schools and her family into a new neighborhood
• Educational workshops and programs for women and their families
Our hope is that participating families will:
• Increase their housing stability
• Increase their financial literacy
• Have improved school attendance
• Improve their career potential
• Increase their physical safety
• Improve their physical and mental health
• Learn new skills
• Create new, positive relationships
• Become financially stable

Impacting Our Communities
The Columbus region has seen substantial growth and prosperity in the past decade. But our region’s ability to grow and flourish depends on increasing opportunities for everyone—not just a select few. We want to decrease the region’s economic segregation and create a foundation upon which all families can grow and succeed. By enabling family mobility, more children attain the skills needed to become part of the economic fabric of the community, impacting both them and the next generation.

DONATE TODAY

Create Opportunities for a Family
When you donate to Move to PROSPER, you are providing life-changing opportunities to children and their mothers. Studies show that even just a few years of living in a high opportunity neighborhood positively impacts a child’s life forever. Give a gift that will keep on giving. Funding will provide for rental support, individualized family coaching, and program evaluation.

DONATE ONLINE TODAY: MovetoPROSPER.org/support-us/
OR CONTACT AMY KLABEN: Amy.Klaben@MovetoPROSPER.org
LOOKING FORWARD

Impacting Our Nation

Our program has local roots but our long-term goal is to cultivate research that informs a national opportunity housing model that can be implemented across the United States. Our research during the multi-year demonstration project will measure the health, education and financial outcomes for 110 families, starting with a pilot of 10 families headed by single mothers with children ages 13 and under in the metro Columbus area.

Move to PROSPER is a bold, innovative effort created to demonstrate that our community supports families who are seeking pathways to prosperity. All children deserve equal access to the American dream of receiving quality education and becoming economically self-sufficient. Move to PROSPER makes this a reality by opening doors to opportunity. United Way of Central Ohio endorses this initiative, one that promises to be a game changer.

- Lisa S. Courtice, PhD, President and CEO, United Way of Central Ohio

Central Ohio is experiencing exciting growth and gaining national stature, but at the same time we are perhaps the most economically segregated city in the US. To attain true success we have to provide real opportunities for everyone who wants to participate.

- Mary Lazarus and Trip Lazarus

Having a healthy home in a safe neighborhood is a social determinant of health. We know that when children and adults don’t have such a home, their physical and mental health is adversely impacted. Move to PROSPER will help us understand this critical issue and lead to policy changes to improve the lives of people locally as well as nationally. We are excited to be part of this important and impactful study.

- Dr. Bernadette Melnyk, VP for Health Promotion, Chief Wellness Officer & Dean of College of Nursing, OSU