

THINK TANK

featuring

**MATTHEW
DESMOND**

Keynote Address

**COMMUNITY IN CRISIS:
UNDERSTANDING
HOUSING INSECURITY**

Thursday, April 19 // 7 p.m.
Greaves Hall

Think Tank Session

Featuring panel discussions and breakout sessions on the topics of local housing insecurity, the ways agencies and public officials address it and how each of us can contribute to solutions that work.

Friday, April 20 // 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Student Union Ballroom

Presented as part of the Health Innovation
Center celebration week.



Thank you to Nehemiah
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the Think Tank luncheon.



Schedule of Events

Friday, April 20, 2018

8:30am	Registration	Student Union
9am – 10:45am	<p>Welcome Cindy Reed, Dean NKU College of Education and Human Services</p>	Student Union Ballroom
	<p>Introduction of Matthew Desmond David Childs, NKU Department of Teacher Education</p>	
	<p>Opening Panel Discussion <i>National and Local Perspectives on Housing Insecurity</i> Matthew Desmond, Professor, Department of Sociology, Princeton University Lewis Diaz, Attorney & Partner, Dinsmore & Shohl Kevin Finn, Executive Director, Strategies to End Homelessness Kristy McNally, NSTEP Coordinator, Newport Independent Schools Kim Webb, Executive Director, Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky</p>	
	<p>Q&A with Audience Moderator: Karen Tapp NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</p>	
10:45am – 11am	Break	
11am – 12pm	Breakout Sessions	
	Session A – <i>Education Perspectives on Housing Insecurity</i>	SU 105
	Session B – <i>Treatment Perspectives on Housing Insecurity</i>	SU 107B
	Session C – <i>Policy Perspectives on Housing Insecurity</i>	SU 107C
12pm – 12:45pm	Lunch	SU Ballroom
12:45pm – 1:45pm	<p>Panel Discussion <i>Experiences of Homelessness</i></p>	SU Ballroom
1:45pm – 2pm	<p>Collective and Individual Commitments to Action Facilitator: Verl Pope NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</p>	SU Ballroom
2pm – 4pm	Film Screening: <i>Poverty, Politics, & Profit</i>	SU 105

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Find a list of resources at nku.edu/desmond

Breakout Session Descriptions

Session A	Education Perspectives on Housing Insecurity	SU 105
	<p>Teachers. Textbooks. Schools. All of these are needed to educate a child. But what about a place to sleep, study and shower? More and more educators face the challenge of teaching students whose families have been evicted. Students arrive in class exhausted and hungry. What percentage of school age children are without homes? What impact does being without a home have on children, families, schools and communities? The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act was designed as a social policy to provide children experiencing homelessness a consistent school experience. Is it working? Learn about successes and areas for improvement.</p> <p>Panelists: <i>Kristy McNally, Homeless Coordinator, Newport Independent School District</i> <i>Shelley Werner, Coordinator, District Families in Transition, Erlanger-Elsmere Schools</i> <i>Britney Wischer, (McKinney-Vento) Social Worker, Kenton County School District</i></p> <p>Facilitator: <i>Mark Wasicsko, Professor, NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</i></p>	
Session B	Treatment Perspectives on Housing Insecurity	SU 107B
	<p>Matt Desmond says, "Without a home, everything else falls apart." This panel explores how community services help people put the pieces back together. Panelists will address services available in the community, barriers to receiving services, and will speak to what needs are not currently being addressed. This interactive panel discussion will focus on the realities and barriers of treatment and explore the areas ripe for innovation and growth.</p> <p>Panelists: <i>Amanda Cody, Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health</i> <i>Lauren Copeland, Director, NKY Scholar House, Brighton Center</i> <i>Amber Pegg, Director of Operations/Case Management, NKY Family Promise</i> <i>Amanda Speier, Executive Director, NKY Family Promise</i> <i>Jennifer Wiley, Brighton Center</i></p> <p>Facilitators: <i>Amanda Brown, Asst. Professor, NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</i> <i>Susannah Coaston, Asst. Professor, NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</i></p>	
Session C	Policy Perspectives on Housing Insecurity	SU 107C
	<p>Affordable housing is an unmet need. Most everyone agrees on that point. But the devil is in the details as public officials think about how best to shape policy to meet the need. Where should new or expanded affordable housing be located? What's the cost and who'll pay? Is there a one-size-fits-all solution for the nation, or are solutions necessarily local? What do we know about the extent of the problem – and what don't we know? Our panel includes a mayor whose city is struggling with these issues, a social worker on the frontlines addressing the need, and a public health director whose agency is working to define and address the need.</p> <p>Panelists: <i>Dawna Fogarty, Vice President for Family Services, NKY Community Action Commission</i> <i>Joseph Meyer, Mayor, City of Covington, KY</i> <i>Lynne Saddler, District Director of Health, NKY Health Department</i></p> <p>Facilitators: <i>Mark Neikirk, Executive Director, Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement</i> <i>Verl Pope, Chair, NKU Department of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership</i></p>	

Presenters & Panelists

Matthew Desmond is the author of *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* (2016) which won the Pulitzer Prize in General Nonfiction, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Carnegie Medal among others. The principal investigator of The Eviction Lab, Desmond's research focuses on poverty in America, urban sociology, housing insecurity, race and ethnicity, organizations and work, social theory, and ethnography. Desmond is a Professor of Sociology at Princeton University who was honored with a *MacArthur "Genius"* grant. A contributing writer for the *New York Times Magazine*, Desmond was listed in 2016 among the Politico 50 as one of "fifty people across the country who are most influencing the national political debate."

Amanda Cody, MS, LPC is a 2015 graduate from the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Northern Kentucky University, and a licensed professional counselor in Ohio. Amanda supervises the Homeless ACT team at Greater Cincinnati Behavioral. The team serves clients with severe and persistent mental illness at risk of or experiencing homelessness by providing assistance with psychiatry, housing, income, and overcoming other barriers to basic functioning.

Lauren Copeland is the Senior Coordinator of Financial Wellness and Volunteer Engagement at the Brighton Center, where she has worked since 2011. A graduate of Indiana University, she has also served as Brighton Center's Family Stability Supervisor, Family Center Coordinator, and Northern Kentucky Scholar House Director.

Lewis Diaz is a partner with the law firm, Dinsmore & Shohl who concentrates his practice and community work in affordable housing and traditional government finance. His practice is dedicated to the goal of ensuring safe, accessible, affordable housing for communities across the nation, and his work includes all the diverse participants in housing transactions. Prior to 2008, Mr. Lewis was chief counsel at the KY Housing Corp.

Dawna Fogarty is vice president for Family Services at the Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission in Covington. During her 20-year career in social services, she has worked on the frontlines, providing safety net services for homeless women and children, and also on the administrative side of social services, guiding programs to provide housing, health care, and education to those in need.

Kevin Finn is President and CEO of Strategies to End Homelessness, an organization that has led a coordinated community effort with 30 non-profit organizations with the goal of ending homelessness in Greater Cincinnati. Local prevention programs show a 90% success rate to keep those at risk from finding themselves on the streets. Because of this work, Cincinnati is nationally recognized as a leader in effective programs to end homelessness.

Kristy McNally, the NSTEP (Newport Service, Tools, & Empowerment Program) Coordinator for Newport Independent Schools, is a zealous advocate for the 14% of children without homes in her school district. A graduate of OSU, Kristy has 18+ years in social services and education. She is passionate on the topic of homelessness/housing instability, even more so with its impact on children. Kristy loves TEACHING ABOUT LIFE! How to put your best foot forward, enjoy every moment--even the not so good ones, and enjoy the journey while you're here on earth!

Joe Meyer is the mayor of Covington. He has served his hometown in various civic capacities, including as a member of the Covington Board of Education. At the state level, he has served as legislator (House and Senate), co-chair of the Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Development and Education, and secretary of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet.

Amber Pegg, MSW, CSW is a recent graduate from Northern Kentucky University with her Master's Degree in Social Work. Amber received her Certified Social Work (CSW) in May of 2017. Amber has previous case management experience with a focus on individuals who have sensory, cognitive, physical and emotional disabilities surrounding housing assistance, coordination of benefits, establishing budgets, and many other activities. Amber hopes to grow her career within Family Promise NKY.

Lynne M. Saddler, MD is the District Director of Health at the Northern Kentucky Health Department. Dr. Saddler oversees a staff of about 150 employees and a budget of more than \$17 million. She works closely with the District Board of Health and leadership in Boone, Campbell, Grant and Kenton Counties to assure the delivery of quality public health services to more than 400,000 residents. She guided the Health Department to be among the first nationally accredited local health departments in the country.

Amanda Speier, MSW, LSW is a 2012 graduate from the University of Kentucky with her Master's Degree in Social Work. Amanda received her undergraduate degree in Social Work from Northern Kentucky University in 2010. For the past six years Amanda was employed with the Center for Independent Living Options in Cincinnati as the Director of Programs. Much of her work has focused on people with physical, sensory, cognitive and psychiatric disabilities in a variety of programs. Amanda's work has been around housing, employment, benefits assistance, personal short and long term goals, advocacy and peer support, etc. Amanda also feels strongly about giving back to the Social Work profession and graciously takes BSW and MSW students for field placements.

Kim Webb is the Executive Director for the Emergency Shelter of Northern Kentucky, which provides life-saving shelter in the winter, and life-changing shelter in the summer. ESNKY opened its doors in 2008 as a cold weather shelter for adults. Webb joined ESNKY in 2015 and continues her mission to educate and raise awareness as a passionate advocate for the homeless community of Northern Kentucky.

Shelley Werner, M.Ed. is the District Families in Transition Coordinator with the Elsmere/Erlanger School District. While working as an AmeriCorps VISTA, Shelley co-founded the non-profit UpSpring to provide educational opportunities and assistance to children and youth experiencing homelessness in the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky region. In her full-time coordinator's role within Erlanger Elsmere Schools, she continues to advocate for students who have no voice or choice in being homeless.

Jennifer Wiley currently serves as the program coordinator at Brighton Center's Family Center leading the work in the Emergency Assistance, Stabilization, Rapid Rehousing, and Stable Families programs. A graduate of Temple University, Jennifer has worked over twenty-two years in the nonprofit world. Jennifer has worked at the Brighton Center since 2013.

Britney Wischer, BSW, is the McKinney-Vento Social Worker for the Kenton County School District. Britney is a PCWP graduate from NKU's Social Work program. Currently, she is an advocate for children and families experiencing homelessness in the Kenton County School District. Her previous experience includes assisting families and children who have experienced abuse, neglect and/or dependency through the Child Protection Service system.

Our sincerest appreciation is extended to the presenters and panelists for their contributions to this event and for the impact they have in our community. Many thanks to the planning committee members listed below for making this event possible.

Planning Committee

Amanda Brown, Dept. of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership

David Childs, Dept. of Teacher Education

Susannah Coaston, Dept. of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership

Danielle Cywka, COEHS Office of the Dean

Melanie Hall, Dept. of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership

Mark Neikirk, Scripps Howard Center for Civic Engagement

Verl Pope, Co-chair, Dept. of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership

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Hallie Sylvestro, Dept. of Counseling, Social Work, and Leadership

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Linda Wermeling, Dept. of Counseling Social Work, and Leadership