

# Megan A. Gallagher

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The Urban Institute  
2100 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

## CAREER BRIEF

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Megan Gallagher's research focuses on efforts to improve housing and educational opportunities for children in low-income families. She studies how housing and neighborhood initiatives affect schools and how schools and education policies affect neighborhoods. Her research strives to inform policymakers and practitioners about the complex relationship between schools and their surrounding neighborhoods.

Current projects that highlight the breadth of her methodological and substantive knowledge include a pilot demonstration to improve low-income parents' information about their children's educational opportunities, technical support for place-based education initiatives, and analysis of school- and neighborhood-level predictors of school closures.

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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### *Urban Institute, Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center*

Senior Research Associate	2013 – Present
Research Associate I	2007 – 2013
Research Associate II	2005 – 2007

### *Child Trends*

Senior Research Analyst	2004 – 2005
Research Analyst	2001 – 2004

### *ISA Associates*

Research Analyst	2000 – 2001
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### *Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme*

English Teacher	1999 – 2000
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### *Urban Institute, Income and Benefits Policy Center*

Research Associate II	1998 – 1999
Research Assistant	1996 – 1998

### *University of Wisconsin – Madison, Sociology Department*

Research Assistant, Professor Gary Green, PhD.	1994 – 1996
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## GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

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*Technology and Transportation as School Choice Ecosystem Enablers* (with Matthew Chingos). Walton Family Foundation: \$630,000.

*Choice Neighborhoods Resident Tracking*. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development: \$550,000.

*DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative Technical Assistance*. DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative: \$305,000.

*Results Framework and Early Assessment for the Prince George's County TNI@Schools Initiative.* Prince George's County Department of Social Services: \$125,000.

*Developing a Research Agenda on School Choice and Neighborhood Change.* Thomas B. Fordham Institute: \$20,000.

*Developing Housing and Education Partnerships.* Council of Large Public Housing Authorities: \$84,000.

*DC Choice Neighborhood Technical Assistance.* District of Columbia Housing Authority: \$40,000.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Pendall, R., Hendey, L., Greenberg, D., Pettit, K., Levy, D., Khare, A., Gallagher, M., et al. (2015). *Choice Neighborhoods: Baseline Conditions and Early Progress.* Washington DC: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Gallagher, M., Murray, B., Woluchem, M., and Popkin, S. (2015). *Making Good on a Promise: Working to End Intergenerational Poverty in Kenilworth-Parkside.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Jordan, R., and Gallagher, M. (2015). *Does School Choice Affect Gentrification? Posing the Question and Assessing the Evidence.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, M. (2015). *Developing Housing and Education Partnerships: Lessons from the Field.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, M., and Bogle, M. (2014). *Challenges and Choices for the New Mayor: Sustaining and Strengthening DC Schools.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Smith, R., Gallagher, M., Popkin, S.J., Mireles, A., and George, A. (2014). Coercive Sexual Environments: What MTO Tells Us About Neighborhoods and Sexual Safety. *Cityscape*, 16(1), 85-112.

Gallagher, M., Zhang, S., and Comey, J. (2013). *Moving to Educational Opportunity: A Housing Demonstration to Improve School Outcomes.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Pendall, R., Hendey, L., Abravanel, M., Brecher, A., Curley, A., Davies, E., Gallagher, M., et al. (2013). *Developing Choice Neighborhoods: An Early Look at Implementation in Five Sites.* Washington DC: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Popkin, S.J., Gallagher, M., Hailey, C., Davies, E., Buron, L., and Hayes, C. (2013). *CHA Residents and the Plan for Transformation*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Hailey, C., and Gallagher, M. (2013). *Chronic Violence: Beyond the Developments?* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Rademacher, I., Wiedrich, K., McKernan, S., Ratcliffe, C., and Gallagher, M. (2011). *Weathering the Storm: Have IDAs Helped Low-Income Homebuyers Avoid Foreclosure?* *Housing Policy Debate*, 21(4) 605-625.

Gallagher, Megan. (2010). *Chicago Housing Authority Transformation: Children and Youth*. CHA Families and the Plan for Transformation Brief 5. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Popkin, S.J., Levy, D. K., Buron, L., Gallagher, M., and Price, D. (2010). *The CHA's Plan for Transformation: How Have Residents Fared?* CHA Families and the Plan for Transformation Brief 1. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Rademacher, I., Wiedrich, K., McKernan, S., Ratcliffe, C., and Gallagher, M. (2010). *Weathering the Storm: Have IDAs Helped Low-Income Homebuyers Avoid Foreclosure?* Research Report. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Brash, R., and Gallagher, M. (2008). *A Performance Analysis of SBA's Loan and Investment Programs*. Urban Institute, prepared for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Rossman, S., Theodos, B., Brash, R., Gallagher, M., Hayes, C., Temkin, K. (2008). *Key Findings from the Evaluation of the Small Business Administration's Loan and Investment Programs*. Urban Institute, prepared for the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Gallagher, M. (2007). *Is the Economic and Racial Integration of Neighborhoods Associated with Young Children's Achievement?* Unpublished manuscript.

Buron, L., Levy, D., and Gallagher, M. (2007). *Housing Choice Vouchers: How HOPE VI Families Fared in the Private Market*. HOPE VI: Where Do We Go from Here? Brief 3. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, M., and Bajaj, B. (2007). *Moving On: Benefits and Challenges of HOPE VI for Children*. HOPE VI: Where Do We Go from Here? Brief 4. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Levy, D., and Gallagher, M. (2007). *HOPE VI and Neighborhood Revitalization*. Washington, DC: Urban Institute. Paper prepared for the Chicago Housing Authority by the Urban Institute.

Zaslow, M., Weinfield, N., Gallagher, M., Hair, E., Ogawa, J., Egeland, B., Tabors, P., and DeTemple, J. (2006). Longitudinal prediction of child outcomes from differing measures of parenting in a low-income sample, *Journal of Developmental Psychology*, 42(1), 27-37.

Zaslow, M., Jekielek, S. M. and Gallagher, M. (2005). Match and mismatch through a developmental lens: The implications of maternal employment for children of different ages. In S. Bianchi, L. Casper, and R. King (Eds.), *Work, Family, Health and Well-being*. Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Gallagher, M., McGarvey, A., and McGroder, S. (2004). *Employment by Mothers Receiving Welfare: The Predictive Role of Children's Functioning*. Unpublished Manuscript.

Vandivere, S., Gallagher, M., Hair, E., and Wertheimer, R. (2004). *Severe housing cost burden among working families: Child, parent, and family hardship and well-being*. Washington, DC: Child Trends. Paper prepared for the Center for Housing Policy by Child Trends.

Vandivere, S., Gallagher, M., and Moore, K.A. (2004). *Snapshots of America's Families: Changes in Children's Well-Being and Family Environments. Assessing the New Federalism* Data Brief. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Acs, G., and Gallagher, M. (2000). *Income Inequality among America's Children. Assessing the New Federalism* Issue Brief B-6. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Acs, G., and Gallagher, M. (1999). *Sources of Support and Income Inequality among America's Children. Assessing the New Federalism* Discussion Paper 99-15. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, M., and Acs, G. (1999). *Snapshots of America's Families: Poverty among Nonelderly Americans. Assessing the New Federalism* Data Brief. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, M., and Zedlewski, S. (1999). *Snapshots of America's Families: Poverty among Children. Assessing the New Federalism* Data Brief. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Gallagher, L.J., Gallagher, M., Perese, K., Schreiber, S., and Watson, K. (1998). *One Year After Federal Welfare Reform: A Description of State Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Decisions as of October 1997. Assessing the New Federalism Occasional Paper 6*. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

### **CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY**

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*DC Opportunity Scholarship Program*. Testimony before the United States House of Representatives Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC (May 2015).

### **PRESENTATIONS**

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*Tested (a film about educational inequality)*. Moderator for the documentary film screening and panel discussion at the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Urban Affairs Association Meeting, San Diego, CA. (March 2016).

*Supporting Students at School and Home: Can Place-Based Strategies Move the Needle on Student Achievement?* Panel chair and moderator at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Association for Education Finance and Policy Conference, Denver, CO (March 2016).

*Which School and Why? Examining the process of school choice for public housing residents in Washington DC*. Panel presenter at the 45th Annual Urban Affairs Association Meeting, Miami, FL (April 2015).

*Developing Housing and Education Partnerships: Lessons from the Field*. Plenary presenter at the 2015 Summit on Affordable Housing and Education, Washington, DC (February 2015).

*A Neighborhood Survey in the Nation's Capital: Balancing Rigor, Resources, and Respect*. Panel presenter at the 37th Annual Eastern Evaluation Research Society Conference, Galloway, NJ (April 2014).

*Place-based Initiatives of the Obama Administration: Emerging Findings about Choice and Promise Neighborhoods*. Colloquy presenter at the 44th Annual Urban Affairs Association Meeting, San Antonio, TX (March 2014).

*Intensive Family Services and Housing – Evaluations of Place Based Interventions*. Colloquy discussant at the 34th Annual Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Fall Research Conference, Baltimore, MD (November 2012).

*Balancing Redevelopment and Historic Preservation in the Wake of Disaster: Lessons from Louisiana's Alternative Housing Pilot Program.* Colloquy discussant at the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Urban Affairs Association Conference, New Orleans, LA (March 2011).

*Female Borrowers in the Washington Mortgage Market.* Analysis presented at the Washington Area Women's Foundation Stepping Stones Research Briefing, Washington, DC (May 2007).

*The Benefits and Challenges of HOPE VI for Children: Linking Changes in Housing and Neighborhoods to Changes in Child Well-Being.* Paper with Bajaj, B. presented at the meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Madison, WI (November 2006).

*Is the Economic and Racial Integration of Neighborhoods Associated with Young Children's Achievement?* Paper presented at the Spring Practicum Presentation Forum, Georgetown Public Policy Institute, Washington, DC (April 2005).

*The Link Between High Housing Costs and the Well-Being of Children in Working Families.* Poster with Vandivere, S., Hair, E.C., Wertheimer, R., and Cleveland, K. presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Atlanta, GA (April 2005).

*Prediction from parenting to child outcomes: The added value of increasingly intense measurement strategies.* Poster with Hair, E., and Zaslow, M. presented at the meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Tampa, FL (April 2003).

*Employment by mothers receiving welfare: The predictive role of children's development and well-being.* Paper with McGarvey, A., and McGroder, S.M. presented at the meeting of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Dallas, TX (November 2002).

### **URBAN INSTITUTE BLOG POSTS**

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Chingos, M. and Gallagher, M. (2015). *Evaluating the DC school voucher program.* *Urban Wire.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/urban-wire/evaluating-dc-school-voucher-program>

Gallagher, M. and Burnstein, E. (2014). *The intersecting worlds of education and community development policy.* *Metrotrends Blog.* Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://blog.metrotrends.org/2014/10/intersecting-worlds-education-community-development-policy/>

Gallagher, M. and Jordan, R. (2014). *When neighbors are no longer classmates, what happens to the community?* Metrotrends Blog. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://blog.metrotrends.org/2014/05/neighbors-longer-classmates-community/>

Gallagher, M. and Burnstein, E. (2014). *The revitalization of American central cities: fact or fiction?* Metrotrends Blog. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://blog.metrotrends.org/2014/04/revitalization-american-central-cities-fact-fiction/>

Gallagher, M. and Zhang, S. (2014). *What charter school growth means for cities and neighborhoods.* Metrotrends Blog. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://blog.metrotrends.org/2014/04/charter-school-growth-means-cities-neighborhoods/>

Gallagher, M. (2013). *Why Housing Policy Really is Education Policy.* Metrotrends Blog. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://blog.metrotrends.org/2013/10/housing-policy-education-policy/>

#### **EDUCATION**

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M.P.P., Public Policy Analysis 2005  
*Georgetown University*

B.A., Sociology and Social Welfare 1996  
*University of Wisconsin – Madison*

#### **OTHER PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

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*Journal Referee:* Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Social Problems, Journal of the American Planning Association, Urban Affairs Review

*Member:* Urban Affairs Association, Association for Education Finance and Policy

*Volunteer:* Rolling Terrace Elementary PTA; Takoma Junction Task Force, Takoma Park, MD