Born to Be/Education

Educational opportunity for homeless students

Enabling educational stability and achievement for students experiencing homelessness; education attainment is proven to disrupt patterns of homelessness

Initiative designed to advance best practices for addressing the educational needs of homeless students in New York City and advancing policies through local and national partnerships to create systemic conditions for educational continuity and success

Strategy STH: Educational Success for Students in Temporary Housing (since 2016)
- Responded to research showing the impacts of homelessness on academic achievement over and above the impacts of poverty
- Established a continuum of educational care and supports through school-, shelter- and community-based services for ~2,000 students in the first year: demonstrating improved attendance, engagement and academic attainment
- Project is widely praised and cited for increasing awareness, improving direct services to students and families living in shelters, and strengthening the nonprofit and public ecosystems that serve homeless students
- Strong momentum built and now partnering locally and nationally to influence practitioners, policymakers and public and private funders

Education Leads Home: Campaign to Improve Education and Life Outcomes for Homeless Students (since 2017)
- A groundbreaking national research initiative reports the lack of a high school degree as the top risk factor for youth homelessness, which is the largest pathway into adult homelessness
- Campaign aims to increase high school graduation and post-secondary attainment with a comprehensive PreK-16 approach involving schools and community groups