

# *Using Brain Science to Score a Hit to the Heart of Poverty*

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**EMPath**  
*Economic Mobility Pathways*



# How do we use new science to forge exits from poverty?



*EMPath transforms lives by helping people move out of poverty and provides other institutions with the tools to systematically do the same.*



EMPath

Economic Mobility Pathways



↑ THINKING ABOUT THE FUTURE

Developmental Stage	Health and Well-Being	Social-Emotional	Self-Regulation	Preparing for Independence	Educational Progress
<p><b>Adolescence</b> By age 18</p>	<p>Generally healthy.</p> <p>Physical health concerns do not pose a barrier to educational progress.</p> <p>Mental health concerns do not pose a barrier to educational progress.</p>	<p>Generally gets along with adults and peers.</p> <p>School behavior does not pose a barrier to academic progress.</p> <p>Social behaviors do not threaten to derail youth's goals: they do not put youth at risk for alcohol/drug abuse, crime, or pregnancy.</p> <p>Can ask for help.</p>	<p>Thinks before acting.</p> <p>Delays gratification for long term goals.</p> <p>Remembers multiple tasks, and applies diverse rules and strategies in different situations.</p> <p>Can easily revise plans when circumstances change.</p>	<p>Identify a career track that will lead to self-sufficiency.</p> <p>Specific plans for post secondary education in place.</p> <p>Building work, volunteer, and/or extracurricular experience related to post-secondary goals.</p> <p>Actively saving money and building financial literacy: bills, budgeting, credit/ debit, financial aid.</p>	<p><u>College and Career Readiness:</u></p> <p>Consistent school attendance.</p> <p>C+ or better in every class.</p> <p>On-track to graduate high school.</p> <p>School meets the needs of the youth.</p>
<p><b>Middle Childhood</b> By age 11</p>	<p>Generally healthy.</p> <p>Physical health concerns do not pose a barrier to educational progress.</p> <p>Mental health concerns do not pose a barrier to educational progress.</p>	<p>Generally gets along with adults and peers.</p> <p>School behavior does not pose a barrier to academic progress.</p> <p>Understands risky social behaviors and how to avoid them.</p> <p>Can ask for help.</p>	<p>Thinks before acting.</p> <p>Ignores distractions while focused on task.</p> <p>Follows complex directions.</p> <p>Adapts to changing situations and/or rules, in school and at home.</p>	<p>Has dreams of "what I want to be when I grow up;" knows what it takes to get there.</p> <p>Understands the difference between "wants" &amp; "needs."</p> <p>Has savings account.</p> <p>Has habit of trying hard and motivating self toward goals.</p>	<p><u>Basic Skill Aquisition:</u></p> <p>Consistent school attendance.</p> <p>Meets grade expectations for Reading and Math.</p> <p>C+ or better in every class.</p>
<p><b>Early Childhood</b> By age 5</p>	<p>Generally healthy.</p> <p>Physical health does not impact child's or parent's daily lives.</p> <p>Mental health does not impact child's or parent's daily lives.</p> <p>Meeting developmental milestones.</p>	<p>Interested in appropriate social interactions with other children or adults.</p> <p>Developing ability to understand and communicate feelings, and to share.</p> <p>Looks to others for help.</p>	<p>Follows 2-step directions.</p> <p>Can delay eating a treat.</p> <p>Adapts to changing situations and/or rules, in school and at home.</p>	<p>Learning about different jobs, and how money is earned.</p> <p>Learning about difference between "wants" &amp; "needs."</p> <p>Has a savings account.</p> <p>Can sleep, eat, and play on own. Practices self-soothing.</p>	<p><u>School Readiness:</u></p> <p>Consistent preschool/ childcare/ daycare attendance.</p> <p>Preschool/childcare/daycare meets child's and parent's needs.</p> <p>Developing pre-literacy skills.</p> <p>Meets school expectations (sits still, listens, follows routines).</p>

← MAKING DECISIONS IN CONTEXT →

# Brain Science- **SCORE!**

- S- Simplify and Scaffold
- C- Coach
- O- Outcomes
- R- Recognize
- E- Expectations



# EMPath Overall Program Outcomes FY'16



- Average hourly wage of all working participants (including homeless) **\$15.82/hr.**
- **98%** of those who were homeless maintained their housing;
- Of those in CFO Program- **100%** of grads in family sustaining careers (**\$27.17/hr.**);
- **\$3,425** avg. savings for all participants

# Adults and Children- FY'16 Intergen Project

- **86%** of parents either worked or were in school;
- **93%** were banked and **78%** had savings;
- **78%** of children had EF gains (Rothbart Scale);
- **71%** of families had improvements in measures of home life (CHAOS Scale);



These outcomes are particularly striking because 67% of families were homeless during the study and 64% of children had diagnosed disabilities.