

Samantha Batko

Samantha Batko is a senior fellow and lead researcher for the Preventing and Ending Homelessness practice area in the Housing and Communities Division at the Urban Institute. Her research focuses on homelessness, housing instability, housing assistance, and supportive services. She has developed expertise on homelessness and housing over a 20-year career in the sector that has included research, federal policy, and technical assistance and training. She has expertise in several primary homelessness programs including homelessness prevention, emergency shelter and transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and supportive housing. She is currently the principal investigator of the evaluation of Denver's All in Mile High Initiative focused on reducing unsheltered homelessness, Colorado's statewide emergency rental assistance program, Connecticut's statewide supportive housing assessment, and Urban's Just Home project. Batko sits on the National Alliance to End Homelessness Research Council, The Homelessness Policy Research Institute based at USC Price, the Homelessness Research Advisory Council for Portland State University, and the Homelessness Research Advisory Board for All Home California. Batko has been cited in the New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Route Fifty, and The Hill multiple times; has published multiple op-eds, including in Wall Street Journal, The Hill and in Street Sense (Washington, DC's "street" newspaper); is frequently a guest on NPR affiliates; and has been a guest on PBS NewsHour.