

Missouri Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

The home is the most dangerous place for U.S. families.ⁱ Nearly six million families live in housing rivaling that of developing countries, with broken heating and plumbing, holes in walls and windows, roach and rodent infestation, falling plaster, crumbling foundations, and leaking roofs. Millions more in all 50 states live in housing with serious health and safety hazards, including mold, exposed wiring, radon, unvented heaters, toxic chemicals, broken stairs, missing smoke detectors, and other hazards.ⁱⁱ Home-based interventions to address health hazards improve health and have a large return on investment: Each dollar invested in lead paint hazard control results in a return of \$17 to \$221,ⁱⁱⁱ and each dollar invested in asthma home-based interventions that include education and remediation results in a return of \$5.30 to \$14.00.^{iv}

The need in Missouri

Thirty-one percent of children in Missouri live in households with high housing cost burden, and 23% of children in Missouri live in poverty.^v The potential effect of high housing cost burden and poverty on children and families is exacerbated by the age of Missouri's housing stock. Over 20% of Missouri's homes were built prior to 1950 and likely to contain lead-based paint.^{vi} Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, injuries, and asthma and other respiratory problems, in turn resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed work days for parents.

The need for funding

To protect the health of Missouri families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full funding in FY 2016 and beyond is needed for the following:

- ✓ **CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program = \$29,257,000**
- ✓ **CDC's National Asthma Control Program = \$30,596,000**
- ✓ **HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes = \$120,000,000**

Funding for healthy housing in Missouri

- Since 1999, eligible cities, counties, and qualifying nonprofits in Missouri have received 41 grants for a total of \$69,192,993 in funding from HUD's Office Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for lead hazard reduction, healthy homes production, and education and outreach activities. Of this total, four grants^{vii} were awarded in 2014:
 - \$2,500,000 was awarded to the city of St. Louis.
 - \$2,496,364 was awarded to the county of St. Louis.
 - \$3,216,136 was awarded to the Kansas City Missouri Health Department.
 - \$724,996 was awarded to Washington University.
- Missouri has received a total of \$12,005,109 in funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention and National Asthma Control programs from FY05 – FY14. Of this funding:

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- The Missouri Department of Health has received a total of \$4,509,237 from the Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, most recently for \$366,058 in FY14.
 - The Missouri State Department of Health and Senior Services has received a total of \$4,825,542 in funding for asthma-related activities, most recently for \$647,283 in FY14.
- The Missouri Asthma Prevention and Control Program has been funded by CDC's National Asthma Control Program since 2001.^{viii}

Childhood lead poisoning

- In 2013, 9,237 of the children tested in Missouri had an elevated blood lead level, which is five or more micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood (µg/dL); 1,011 of them had blood lead levels of 10 µg/dL or more.^{ix}

Asthma

- In 2012, approximately 10.1% of Missouri children and 10.4% of Missouri adults had current asthma.^x
 - Current asthma prevalence in the Kansas City and St. Louis metro areas for children under 18 years was 13.5% and 12.8%, respectively.
- There were 32,491 asthma-related emergency department visits and 7,228 asthma-related hospitalizations in Missouri in 2012; hospitalization charges totaled over \$104 million.^{xi}
- In 2008, asthma hospitalization charges for children age 0-9 years in Missouri totaled \$13.8 million, or 14% of all asthma inpatient charges.^{xii}

Radon

- Eleven counties in Missouri have a predicted average indoor screening level greater than 4 pCi/L, meaning they are in a "red zone" or have high radon levels. An additional 96 counties have a predicted average indoor screening level between 2 and 4 pCi/L, qualifying them as "moderate potential" for elevated levels of indoor radon.^{xiii}

Carbon monoxide deaths

- There were 318 deaths due to carbon monoxide exposure from 2000 to 2007 in Missouri.^{xiv}

Injury-related deaths

- In 2009, 577 Missourians aged 65 years and over died from unintentional injuries resulting from falls.^{xv}

National rankings

- NCHH's 2013 *State of Healthy Housing* report ranks 45 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) according to healthy housing-related data in the American Housing Survey. The state of Missouri has two MSAs included in this report. The St. Louis area was tied for 16th and the Kansas City area is tied for 30th; both are categorized as having "fair" healthy housing characteristics.^{xvi}
- The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's listing of "Asthma Capitals" for 2014 ranks the 100 largest U.S. metro areas to identify the "most challenging places to live with asthma." The state of

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Missouri has two cities identified in this listing: St. Louis is ranked as the 26th “most challenging” place to live with asthma and Kansas City was ranked 59th.^{xvii}

Healthcare financing for healthy homes^{xviii, xix}

The National Center for Healthy Housing’s November 2014 [study](#) regarding state Medicaid reimbursement policies for environmental health services in the homes of people with asthma and children exposed to lead shows that in Missouri some level of Medicaid reimbursement is in place for

activities related to lead, and although none are in place, efforts are underway to explore reimbursement for services related to asthma.¹

Opportunities for Missouri to improve reimbursement of environmental health services further include:

- Effecting coverage for home-based asthma services that address environmental triggers in the home environment.
- Ensuring that services and supports are included to eliminate or reduce exposure to asthma triggers or lead hazards identified in the home environment.
- Ensuring that the eligibility criteria for lead-poisoning follow-up services in Missouri is aligned with the current CDC reference value for lead poisoning (5 µg/dL).

For additional information, please contact

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ⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2007). Injury in the United States: 2007 chartbook. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/misc/injury2007.pdf>

ⁱⁱ National Center for Healthy Housing. (2013). State of healthy housing. Retrieved from <http://www.nchh.org/Policy/2013StateofHealthyHousing.aspx>

ⁱⁱⁱ Gould, E. (2009, July). Childhood lead poisoning: Conservative estimates of the social and economic benefits of lead hazard control. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, 117(7), 1162-1167. Retrieved from <http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/wp-content/uploads/117/7/ehp.0800408.pdf>

^{iv} The Guide to Community Preventive Services (The Community Guide). (2013, September 27). Asthma control. Retrieved from <http://www.thecommunityguide.org/asthma/multicomponent.html>

^v The Annie E. Casey Foundation. (n.d.) 2014 kids count data book: Missouri state profile. Retrieved from http://www.aecf.org/m/databook/2014KC_profile_MO.pdf

^{vi} Missouri Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. (2012). *Annual report for fiscal year 2012*. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/living/environment/lead/pdf/AnnualReportFY2012.pdf>

^{vii} U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. (2014, September 30). HUD awards \$112 million to protect children and families from dangerous lead and other home hazards. [Press release.] Retrieved from http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/press/press_releases_media_advisories/2014/HUDNo_14-117

^{viii} Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014, September 25). Asthma: Missouri. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/contacts/mo.htm>

^{ix} Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (n.d.). Number of children tested and confirmed EBLs by state, year, and BLL group, children < 72 months old. Retrieved from http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/data/Website_StateConfirmedByYear_1997_2013_10162014.htm

^x Missouri Asthma Prevention and Control Program. (2014). Asthma in Missouri 2012. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/chronic/asthma/pdf/MO.pdf>

^{xi} Missouri Asthma Prevention and Control Program. (2014). Asthma in Missouri 2012. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/living/healthcondiseases/chronic/asthma/pdf/MO.pdf>

^{xii} Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. (2010). *The state of Missourians' health*. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/data/pdf/StateofMissouriansHealth2010.pdf>

^{xiii} U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2013, June 25). Radon: Where you live: Missouri. Retrieved from <http://www.epa.gov/radon/states/missouri.html>

^{xiv} National Environmental Public Health Tracking Program. CDC Environmental Health Tracking Network (2000-2007). Carbon monoxide deaths (#)/multi-year period. Retrieved from <http://ephtracking.cdc.gov/QueryPanel/EPHTNQuery/EPHTQuery.html?c=CO&i=-1&m=-1#>

^{xv} Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services. (2010). *The state of Missourians' health*. Retrieved from <http://health.mo.gov/data/pdf/StateofMissouriansHealth2010.pdf>

^{xvi} National Center for Healthy Housing. (n.d.). Ranking of communities by healthy housing quality—All units in MSA. Retrieved from <http://www.nchh.org/Policy/2013StateofHealthyHousing/NationalRankings/tabid/861/healthy/1/Default.aspx>

^{xvii} Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. (2014, April 28). The most challenging places to live with asthma. Retrieved from http://www.aafa.org/pdfs/2014_AC_FinalPublicList1.pdf

^{xviii} National Center for Healthy Housing. (2014). 2014 snapshot of healthcare financing for healthy homes in the United States. Retrieved from <http://www.nchh.org/Resources/HealthcareFinancing/Snapshot.aspx>

^{xix} Morley, R., Reddy, A., Horton, K., & Malcarney, M.-B. (2014, November). *Healthcare financing of healthy homes: Findings from a 2014 nationwide survey of state reimbursement policies*. Retrieved from [http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Reimbursement%20Landscape_MAIN%20REPORT_FINAL%20\(18%20November%202014\).pdf](http://www.nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/Reimbursement%20Landscape_MAIN%20REPORT_FINAL%20(18%20November%202014).pdf)

¹ Note: (a) These are self-reported results that have not been independently verified, and (b) the existence of a policy does NOT mean that services are actually being delivered on the ground.