GOV Additional Healthy Housing Programs 2020 Healthy Housing Fact Sheet | Critical Programs and Services

Healthy Homes across Agencies.

Forty percent of U.S. homes have at least one significant health or safety hazard that places American families at unnecessary risk for injuries and illness, such as lead poisoning, asthma, carbon monoxide exposure, fire, and lung cancer; fortunately, evidence-based, cost-effective solutions exist. The programs below provided by multiple government agencies cover topics including the comprehensive health and well-being of families, safe and affordable rural housing, and supportive services in conjunction with housing vouchers for veterans. The diverse HHS, HUD, USDA, and VA programs outlined here, demonstrate the healthy housing work being done across agencies. This work also supports and complements other programs and departments across the federal government (e.g., CDC, HHS, HUD, EPA). For more information on why support for all federal healthy homes programming is critical, please see NCHH's other agency fact sheets.

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USDA WIC Program	Provides services including health screening, nutrition, breastfeeding, and counseling to low-income women, infants, and children . Screens and refers participants for other health services, including child lead screening.	 Funded between \$6.4 (FY08) and \$6 billion (FY21). Available in all 50 states, 34 tribal organizations, all 5 major U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia. 	 WIC services delivered within the first 60 days after birth result in healthcare savings of \$1.77 to \$3.13 for every dollar spent. Reached 6.6 million low-income women, infants, and children per month in 2020.
USDA Rural Housing Service	Lends directly to low-to-moderate- income single-family and multifamily residents to build, buy, or rent safe, affordable housing in rural areas. Also funds community facility programs that prioritize healthcare and education.	Funding increased from \$15 billion (FY10) to \$30.7 billion (FY21). Works with partners to leverage funding from other sources such as private lenders, nonprofit organizations, and state and local agencies.	In 2018, for every USDA dollar invested, approximately \$4 was invested by public and private partners .
HHS Head Start	Delivers services to support the comprehensive health and development of children up to age five . Provides opportunities for home visits and early intervention for children exposed to lead.	Funding increased from \$6.9 billion (FY08) to \$10.7 billion (FY21).	Provides services to over a million children every year, in every U.S. state and territory . In 2019, approximately 69,000 Head Start families received housing assistance , such as subsidies, utilities, and repairs.
HUD/VA Veteran's Housing (VASH Program)	Provides housing vouchers and supportive services, such as healthcare, to veterans and their families experiencing homelessness to obtain permanent housing in privately owned units.	Funding decreased from \$75 million (FY09) to \$40 million (FY21).	At the end of FY19, there were 83,684 veterans using a HUD- VASH voucher. Since 2008, the HUD-VASH program has awarded more than 93,000 vouchers and served approximately 150,000 homeless veterans.

National Center for HEALTHY HOUSING

February 2021. For references, other federal agency fact sheets, additional healthy homes information, and to learn how you can engage your members of Congress on these vital issues...

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