Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, asthma, respiratory illness, cancer, and unintentional injuries, resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed work days for parents. To protect the health of families in the District of Columbia and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

- CDC’s Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
- CDC’s National Asthma Control Program
- CDC’s Environmental Health Tracking Network
- HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes
- HUD’s Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- HUD’s HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- EPA’s Lead Categorical Grants
- EPA’s Drinking Water Revolving Fund
- HHS’ Maternal and Child Health Block Grants
- HHS’ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- DOE’s Weatherization Assistance Program

Full funding to federal programs such as these will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the families and residents of the District of Columbia, including:

- In the District of Columbia, **38%** of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and **26%** of children live in poverty.
- **81%** of District of Columbia housing was built prior **1978** (37% before 1940) and is likely to contain lead-based paint. Due to the aging housing stock, the District is pursuing a **100%** screening rate for children at ages 1 and 2.
- **Approximately 12%** of adults and **15%** of children have current asthma in the District of Columbia (2014).
- In 2015, **unintentional falls** were responsible for **45 deaths** among adults over the age of **65** in the District of Columbia.
- **In 2014**, **286 District of Columbia children** tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); **50 of them** had blood lead levels of **10 μg/dL or more**.
- In 2010, **wards 1, 4, and 5** accounted for **65%** of elevated blood lead levels identified in District of Columbia children under 6 years of age.
- **In the District**, there were over **8,000** emergency department visits due to asthma among adults aged 18-65 in 2011.
- **22%** of District of Columbia households have severe housing problems, including overcrowding or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities.

For references, additional state-specific healthy homes information, and to learn how you can engage your members of Congress on these vital issues...