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 Maine families 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 Maine, including:

- In Maine, 30% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 17% of children live in poverty.
- In 2015, 314 Maine children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more).
- Approximately 12% of adults and 10% children (2014) have current asthma in Maine.
- The rate of emergency department visits in Maine from unintentional falls for adults aged 65 and older was 1.5 times higher in 2009 than in 2000.
- Carbon monoxide exposure is responsible for over 100 emergency department visits in Maine each year.
- One-third of Maine homes have elevated levels of radon in their indoor air.