NEW YORK | 2017 Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

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 New York 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 New York, including:

- In New York, 42% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 22% of children live in poverty.
- 79% of New York housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint; 32% was built before 1940.
- Approximately 11% of adults and 9% of children have current asthma in New York (2014).
- In 2014, unintentional falls were responsible for over 1,200 deaths and over 100,000 emergency department visits in New Yorkers over the age of 65.
- In 2015, 11,633 New York children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 2,010 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more, and 5,610 were from New York City alone.
- In 2014, asthma was responsible for over 168,000 emergency department visits in New York.
- Over half of the counties in New York have predicted average indoor radon levels above the EPA action level. Statewide, 18% of basements are estimated to be above the action level.

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

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