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 Washington 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 Washington, including:

- In Washington, 33% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 16% of children live in poverty.
- In 2015, 417 of Washington children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); less than 3% of children under six years of age were screened.
- About half of Washington homes were built before 1978 and are likely to contain lead-based paint; 15% are estimated to have existing lead hazards.
- Approximately 9% of adults and 6.5% of children have current asthma (2015) in Washington.
- Hospitalization charges for asthma totaled $73 million, of which $43.1 million was charged to Medicaid and Medicare (2010).
- Unintentional falls were responsible for approximately 85 deaths of adults over the age of 65 per 100,000 in 2015 in Washington (60.55 per 100,000 nationally).
- Approximately 17% of homes tested for radon in Washington in 2016 had levels above the EPA 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...

visit: www.nchh.org contact: sgoodwin@nchh.org