

Maryland Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

The home is the most dangerous place for U.S. families.ⁱ Nearly six million families live in housing rivaling that of developing countries, with broken heating and plumbing, holes in walls and windows, roach and rodent infestation, falling plaster, crumbling foundations, and leaking roofs. Millions more in all 50 states live in housing with serious health and safety hazards, including mold, exposed wiring, radon, unvented heaters, toxic chemicals, broken stairs, missing smoke detectors, and other hazards.ⁱⁱ Home-based interventions to address health hazards improve health and have a large return on investment: Each dollar invested in lead paint hazard control results in a return of \$17 to \$221,ⁱⁱⁱ and each dollar invested in asthma home-based interventions that include education and remediation results in a return of \$5.30 to \$14.00.^{iv}

The need in Maryland

Thirty-seven percent of children in Maryland live in households with high housing cost burden, and 14% of children in Maryland live in poverty.^v The potential effect of high housing cost burden and poverty on children and families is exacerbated by the age of Maryland's housing stock. Nearly 60% of Maryland's homes were built prior to 1980 (12.8% are pre-1940) and likely to contain lead-based paint.^{vi, vii} Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, injuries, and asthma and other respiratory problems, in turn resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed work days for parents.

The need for funding

To protect the health of Maryland families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full funding in FY 2017 and beyond is needed for the following:

- ✓ **CDC's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program = \$35,000,000**
- ✓ **CDC's National Asthma Control Program = \$30,596,000**
- ✓ **HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes = \$230,000,000**

Funding for healthy housing in Maryland

- Since 1999, eligible cities, counties, and qualifying nonprofits in Maryland have received 38 grants for a total of \$56,648,010 in funding from HUD's Office Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes for lead hazard reduction, healthy homes production, and education and outreach activities. From this total, \$3,714,272 was awarded to the city of Baltimore in 2015.^{viii}
- From FY05 – FY14, Maryland received a total of \$10,422,384 in funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention and National Asthma Control programs. Of this funding:
 - The Maryland Department of the Environment has received a total of \$7,006,833 from the Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
 - The Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene has received a total of \$3,415,551 in funding for asthma-related activities, most recently \$18,460 for surveillance activities in FY14.

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- Although originally funded in 2001, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is not currently funded by CDC's National Asthma Control Program.^{ix}

Childhood lead poisoning^x

- In 2013, 2,848 of the children tested in Maryland had an elevated blood lead level, which is five or more micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$); 353 of them had blood lead levels of 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or more.

Asthma

- In 2010, approximately 11.9% of Maryland children (over 150,000) had current asthma; 8.5% of adults had current asthma in 2011.^{xi}
- Between 2007 and 2009, current asthma prevalence was significantly higher for black non-Hispanic children (14.9%) compared to white non-Hispanic children (7.5%).^{xii}
- In 2009, Maryland experienced 39,834 asthma-related emergency department visits and 11,474 asthma hospitalizations which totaled over \$26 million and \$73 million respectively.^{xiii}

Radon

- Eight counties in Maryland have an average indoor screening level greater than 4 pCi/L, meaning they are in a "red zone" or have high radon levels. Seven counties and Baltimore City have an average indoor screening level between 2 and 4 pCi/L, qualifying them at moderate levels of radon.^{xiv}

Carbon monoxide deaths

- There were 84 deaths due to carbon monoxide exposure from 2000 to 2007 in Maryland.^{xv}

Injury-related deaths

- For every 100,000 persons in Maryland, there were 19.88 unintentional injury deaths caused by dangers other than automobile-related issues.^{xvi}

National rankings

- NCHH's 2013 *State of Healthy Housing* report ranks 45 metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) according to healthy housing related data in the American Housing Survey. The state of Maryland has two MSAs included in this report. The Washington, DC area was tied for 16th, and Baltimore is tied for 34th; both are categorized as having "fair" healthy housing characteristics.^{xvii}
- The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America's listing of "Asthma Capitals" for 2014 ranks the 100 largest U.S. metro areas to identify the "most challenging places to live with asthma." The state of Maryland has one city identified in this listing: Baltimore is ranked as the 53rd "most challenging" place to live with asthma.^{xviii}

Healthcare financing for healthy homes^{xix, xx}

The National Center for Healthy Housing's November 2014 [study](#) regarding state Medicaid reimbursement policies for environmental health services in the homes of people with asthma and children exposed to lead shows that in [Maryland](#) some level of Medicaid reimbursement is in place for

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activities related to lead; and although no reimbursement for services related to asthma are in place currently, efforts are underway to explore the possibility of adding these services.¹

Opportunities for Maryland to improve reimbursement of environmental health services further include:

- Effecting coverage for home-based asthma services that address environmental triggers in the home environment.
- Ensuring that services and supports are included to eliminate or reduce exposure to asthma triggers or lead hazards identified in the home environment.
- Ensuring that the eligibility criteria for lead-poisoning follow-up services in Maryland is aligned with the current CDC reference value for lead poisoning (5 µg/dL).

NSHHC members in Maryland

The National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition (NSHHC) is a broad, voluntary coalition of over 225 organizations working to improve housing conditions nationwide through education and outreach to key national stakeholders and federal public decision-makers. Current NSHHC organizational members from Maryland include:

- 270Tech Operations
- Baltimore City Health Department, Healthy Homes Bureau
- Healthy Housing Solutions
- Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy
- Johns Hopkins School of Public Health
- National Lead and Healthy Homes Grantees Association
- University of Maryland School of Public Health
- University of Maryland, Baltimore County
- USA Energy Co., Inc.

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¹ Note: (a) These are self-reported results that have not been independently verified, and (b) the existence of a policy does NOT mean that services are actually being delivered on the ground.

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Funding from HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

State	Name	City	Amount	L or HH	Year	Program
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 3,714,272	L	2015	LHRD
MD	Quantech, Inc.	Rockville	\$ 498,517	L	2014	LTS
MD	University of Maryland, Baltimore County	Baltimore	\$ 749,856	HH	2013	HHTS
MD	Baltimore County	Baltimore	\$ 3,000,000	L	2013	LHRD
MD	Baltimore City Dept. of Housing and Communit	Baltimore	\$ 2,900,000	L	2012	LHRD
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 930,000	HH	2011	HHP
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 649,533	HH	2011	HHTS
MD	County of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 4,000,000	L	2009	LHRD
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 875,000	HH	2009	HHD
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 650,000	HH	2009	GHHTS
MD	Johns Hopkins University	Baltimore	\$ 750,000	HH	2008	HHTS
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 526,522	L	2008	LTS
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 2,000,000	L	2008	LEAP
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 792,570	L	2008	ARRA
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 3,897,094	L	2007	LHRD
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 1,000,000	HH	2007	HHD
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 999,374	HH	2007	HHD
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 658,625	L	2007	LTS
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 150,120	HH	2006	HHTS
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 2,000,000	L	2005	LEAP
MD	Baltimore City Health Department	Baltimore	\$ 2,746,574	L	2005	LHRD
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 520,096	HH	2005	HHTS
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 4,000,000	L	2004	LHRD
MD	State of Maryland	Crownsville	\$ 3,000,000	L	2003	
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 2,600,000	L	2003	LHRD
MD	National Coalition for Lead Safe Kids	Olney	\$ 1,265,415	HH	2003	LEAP
MD	CONNOR Environmental Services	Baltimore	\$ 194,623	HH	2003	LEAP
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 2,998,474	L	2003	LHC
MD	Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning	Baltimore	\$ 872,032	HH	2002	
MD	National Center for Healthy Housing	Columbia	\$ 60,804	HH	2002	
MD	University of Maryland	Baltimore	\$ 435,510	HH	2001	HHD
MD	Kennedy Krieger Research Institute	Baltimore	\$ 491,955	L	2000	LEAP/LTS
MD	State of Maryland	Baltimore	\$ 1,000,000	L	1999	
MD	Kennedy Krieger Research Institute	Baltimore	\$ 446,231	L	1999	
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 200,000	HH	1999	
MD	City of Baltimore	Baltimore	\$ 2,900,000	L	1999	
MD	Prince George's County	Prince George's	\$ 1,000,000	L	1999	
MD	Kennedy Krieger Research Institute	Baltimore	\$ 1,174,813	L	1999	LHCR

\$ 56,648,010 Total FY99-FY15

Funding from CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and National Asthma Control Programs - Maryland

Program and Grantee	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	TOTALS BY PROGRAM
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention*											\$ 7,006,833
Maryland Department of the Environment	\$ 1,084,733	\$ 941,693	\$ 918,188	\$ 918,208	\$ 890,662	\$ 832,407	\$ 594,000	\$ 594,000	\$ -	\$ 232,942	
Addressing Asthma in Public Health											\$ 3,344,105
Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	\$ 350,000	\$ 335,027	\$ 335,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 396,000	\$ 345,308	\$ 307,770	\$ -	
Surveillance - Asthma											\$ 71,446
Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 26,100	\$ 26,886	\$ 18,460	
Other - Asthma											\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS BY FISCAL YEAR	\$ 1,434,733	\$ 1,276,720	\$ 1,253,188	\$ 1,293,208	\$ 1,340,662	\$ 1,282,407	\$ 990,000	\$ 965,408	\$ 334,656	\$ 251,402	

GRAND TOTAL FY05 - FY 14 \$ 10,422,384

* Timeline of CDC's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program's Name:
 2005-2010: Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
 2011, 2012, 2014: Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
 2013: The lead program was not funded.