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 workdays for parents. The requirement for safe and healthy housing has become even more urgent as people spend more time than ever in residential environments due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To protect the health of Alabama families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services.

Full funding to federal programs such as those listed above will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Alabama. For example:

- In Alabama, 26% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 24% of children live in poverty.

- In Alabama, 45% of housing was built prior to 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.

- 211 Alabamans aged 65 years and older died from unintentional falls in 2018.

- Homes located in 15 counties throughout northern and central Alabama have a predicted average indoor screening level greater than the EPA action level for radon.

- In 2017, 382 Alabama children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 120 of them measured 10 μg/dL or higher. Average blood lead testing activity fell by 53% in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.


- Approximately 16.5% of adults (2018) and 13% of children (2014) in Alabama have current asthma.

- In Alabama, there are no laws regulating building mold standards, testing requirements, or accreditation/certification for contractors performing mold testing or remediation activities.

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

visit: http://bit.ly/StatePro contact: sgoodwin@nchh.org