In the District of Columbia, 35% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 23% of children live in poverty.

75% of District housing was built prior to 1978 (34% before 1940) and may contain lead-based paint. Due to the age of the housing stock, the District of Columbia requires a 100% screening rate for children at ages 1 and 2.

In the District, 157 tested children in under age 6 tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more) in 2018.

There are at least 21,600 public and/or private lead service lines in Washington, DC.

Over 10% of adults and 9% of children have current asthma in the District of Columbia (2020).

Unintentional falls were responsible for 48 deaths among Washingtonians over the age of 65 in 2020.

Almost 21% of District of Columbia households have severe housing problems, including overcrowding or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities.

CRITICAL FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HEALTHY HOUSING
A broad array of programs across the federal government support healthy housing activities and related efforts including increasing affordable housing, improving health outcomes, providing supportive services to families, improving energy efficiency, and identifying and addressing environmental hazards. Critical programs and services supporting crucial health and housing services in states and localities are outlined below; increasing appropriations allows new states to access funding and currently funded states to expand their programs.

Has DC received funding since 2020?

CDC’s:
✓ Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
✗ National Asthma Control Program
✗ Environmental Health Tracking Network

HUD’s:
✓ Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes

EPA’s:
✓ Lead Categorical Grants
✓ State Indoor Radon Grants
✓ Environmental Justice Grants

DOE’s:
✓ Weatherization Assistance Program

For more information on these programs and their impacts, as well as many others available to support healthy housing efforts, refer to NCHH’s Agency Fact Sheets.

December 2022. 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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