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 Kansas 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 Kansas. For example:

- 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 State Indoor Radon 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

In Kansas, 22% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 15% of children live in poverty.

In 2012, 538 Kansan children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 138 of them were 10 μg/dL or higher. Average blood lead testing activity fell by 43% in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.


78 of Kansas’ 105 counties have predicted average indoor radon levels above the EPA action level.

Over 46,000 of 112,000 (41%) indoor radon measurements in Kansas had results above the EPA action level of 4 pCi/L; the statewide average was 4.9 pCi/L.

For 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