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 Kentucky’s 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 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

Full funding to federal programs such as these will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Kentucky, including:

- In Kentucky, 23% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 22% of children live in poverty.
- 51% of Kentucky housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Approximately 11% of adults (2017) and 8% of children (2016) have current asthma in Kentucky.
- In 2017, unintentional falls were responsible for 294 deaths among Kentuckians over the age of 65.
- In 2016, 80 Kentucky children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 23 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more. Only 3.2% of the population under 72 months old was tested.
- On average, 18 Kentuckians die annually from carbon monoxide exposure (2012-2016).
- 19,678 emergency department visits and 5,111 hospitalizations due to asthma resulted in total billed charges over $192 million in Kentucky in 2014.
- 30 counties in Kentucky have predicted average indoor radon levels above the EPA action level.

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