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 Minnesota 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 families and residents of Minnesota, including:

In Minnesota, 22% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 12% of children live in poverty.

In 2017, 765 Minnesota children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 202 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more.

56% of Minnesota housing was built prior to 1978 (16% before 1940) and is likely to contain lead-based paint.

On average, 28 Minnesotans die annually from carbon monoxide exposure (2012-2016).

Approximately 7% of adults and 7% of children in Minnesota (2016) have current asthma.

In 2014, asthma cost Minnesotans an estimated $669.3 million including direct medical expenses and lost work days. In 2017, there were 55 deaths due to asthma in Minnesota.

Unintentional falls were responsible for 1,080 deaths of Minnesotans over the age of 65 in 2017.

Two in five homes tested in Minnesota have elevated levels of radon in their indoor air.