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 New Hampshire 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 New Hampshire. For example:

- **In New Hampshire, 27% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 11% of children live in poverty.

- **In 1978**, 54% of New Hampshire housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint; 20% was built before 1940.

- **In 2017**, **652 New Hampshire children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more)**; **106 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.

- **An estimated 33% of school-age children in New Hampshire have had elevated blood lead levels** at some point in their lives; 30% of new refugee children tested had elevated levels compared to 4.6% statewide.

- **Approximately 12% of adults and 8.5% of children have current asthma** in New Hampshire (2018).

- **Unintentional falls were responsible for 251 deaths among New Hamshirites over the age of 65** in 2018.

- **In 2015, asthma was responsible for over 4,200 emergency department visits** in New Hampshire.

- **30% of homes tested** in New Hampshire have test results above the EPA action level for radon in their indoor air. New Hampshire’s average radon exposure potential is 44% higher than the national average.

February 2021. 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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