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 South Dakota 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 South Dakota. For example:

- Reporting blood lead levels is not required in South Dakota. In 2013, only 1,118 blood lead tests were reported and 68 (6.1%) of those children had elevated levels (5 µg/dL or more).
- In 2017, there were 299 hospital discharges for asthma in South Dakota; average charges totaled $15,201.
- In 2018, unintentional falls were responsible for 130 deaths among South Dakotans over the age of 65.
- 48 of South Dakota’s 66 counties have predicted average indoor radon levels above the EPA action level.

In South Dakota, 20% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 16% of children live in poverty.

54% of South Dakota housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint; 16% was built prior to 1940.

About 8% of adults (2018) and 6% of children (2017) have current asthma in South Dakota.