

# 2020-2021 Annual Report

*Transforming lives by transforming housing.*

National Center for  
**HEALTHY HOUSING**



IN 1992, THE ALLIANCE TO END CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING AND THE ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION FOUNDED THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTHY HOUSING (FORMERLY THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR LEAD-SAFE HOUSING), WITH FUNDING FROM FANNIE MAE. TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS LATER, NCHH CONTINUES TO BE A LEADER IN SECURING HEALTHY HOMES FOR ALL AND IS A PASSIONATE ADVOCATE FOR THE IDEA THAT BETTER HOUSING CAN BE A POWERFUL PLATFORM FOR BETTER HEALTH.

NCHH remains committed to the elimination of childhood lead poisoning; but [over the past 29 years](#), our mission has also expanded to tackle a range of residential hazards and housing-related illnesses and injury.

When NCHH began strategic planning in 2019, we had no idea that we would be releasing a new [strategic plan](#) amidst a global pandemic, facing radical shifts in the way we live and work, or against the backdrop of a renewed movement (and long overdue national reckoning) for racial justice. Strategic plans—meant to clarify, align, and inspire—can be vital tools in times of uncertainty. Yet although we were transitioning between strategic plans during this uncertain time, we've learned that the process of strategic planning can also be an essential tool, providing a space for not only conversation but also commitment and action. these and other national events have reinforced the importance

and relevance of NCHH's work in recent years, but these events have also challenged us to expand our thinking about the role of housing in solving a wider range of public health problems (such as the role of housing in responding to global pandemics, climate change, and the fight for racial justice).

As our 30th anniversary approaches, we remain inspired by what we have achieved together and the opportunities that lie in front of us.

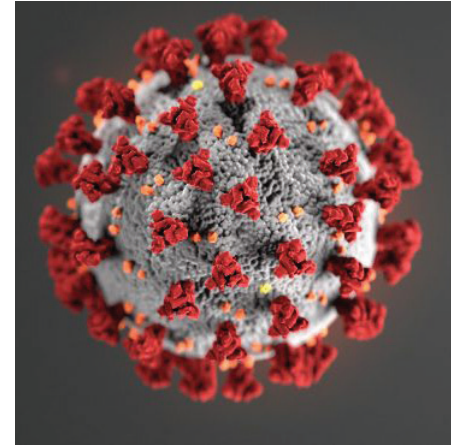


*Amanda L. Reddy*  
Amanda L. Reddy  
Executive Director

# A HEALTHY HOUSING RESPONSE TO COVID-19

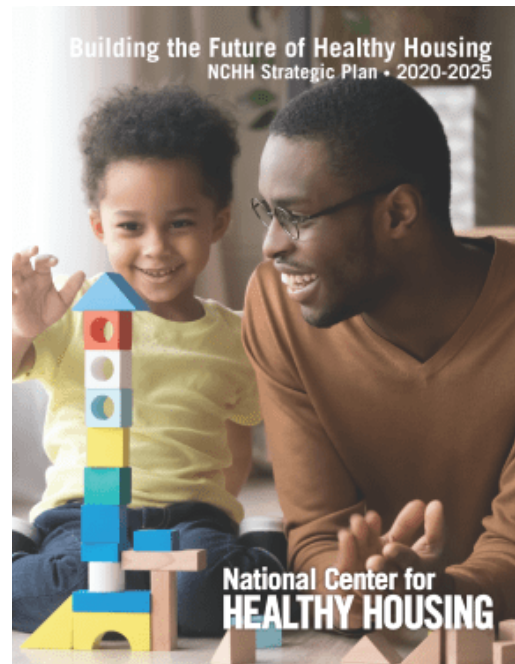
NCHH mobilized rapidly at the start of the pandemic to provide a [platform for sharing information and resources specifically focused on the challenges facing the healthy housing community](#). This included information about the role of the built environment in controlling the spread of COVID-19, information about safe cleaning and disinfection, and. actions for specific audiences like property managers and municipal leaders. NCHH also helped communities to connect with each other to share strategies for continuing healthy homes activities while social distancing, including publishing a [series of case studies](#) on innovative strategies from the front lines.

With funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and a contract with the National Environmental Health Association, NCHH joined with other prominent organizations of Children's Environmental Health Network, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, and National Association of County and City Health Officials to form a COVID-19 Early Care and Education (ECE) Collaborative. Within this collaborative, NCHH represented the only exclusively healthy housing organization and developed resources and materials to address COVID-19 mitigation in home based childcare settings. The resources developed include our Healthy Homes Guide to Cleaning and Disinfection with six companion resources including Spanish and plain language versions, a webinar, an infographic, and two short informational videos. NCHH also presented our work within the ECE Collaborative and these resources at the American Public Health Association's 2021 Annual Meeting.



# NEW STRATEGIC PLAN, RENEWED COMMITMENT

NCHH released a new [strategic plan in 2020](#) amidst a global pandemic, facing radical shifts in the way we live and work, or against the backdrop of a renewed movement (and long overdue national reckoning) for racial justice. These and other national events have reinforced the importance and relevance of NCHH's work in recent years, but these events also challenged us to expand our thinking about the role of housing in solving a wider range of public health problems (such as the role of housing in responding to global pandemics, climate change, and the fight for racial justice). As NCHH embarks on a new decade of healthy housing work, we are mindful that we cannot solve these problems alone and that if we are serious about taking the field of healthy housing to the next level, one where we imagine eradicating hazards and disparities instead of just improving them, we must also be serious about partnership, collaboration, and community capacity building. We also understand that in order to make progress, we can't just acknowledge the historic and ongoing racial and economic disparities that make this work necessary, we must address them head on. To mark this expanded understanding of our unique role, we unveiled an updated statement of our mission and vision. Moving from “securing healthy





homes for all” to “transforming lives by transforming housing” more accurately captures the potential for safe, healthy, and affordable housing (internationally recognized as a human right) to be transformative for an individual, a family, or a community. Similarly, we have modified our vision statement to focus on NCHH’s strengths in leveraging effective partnerships, practical research, community capacity and awareness building, and data-driven advocacy to create both immediate impact and long-lasting systems change.

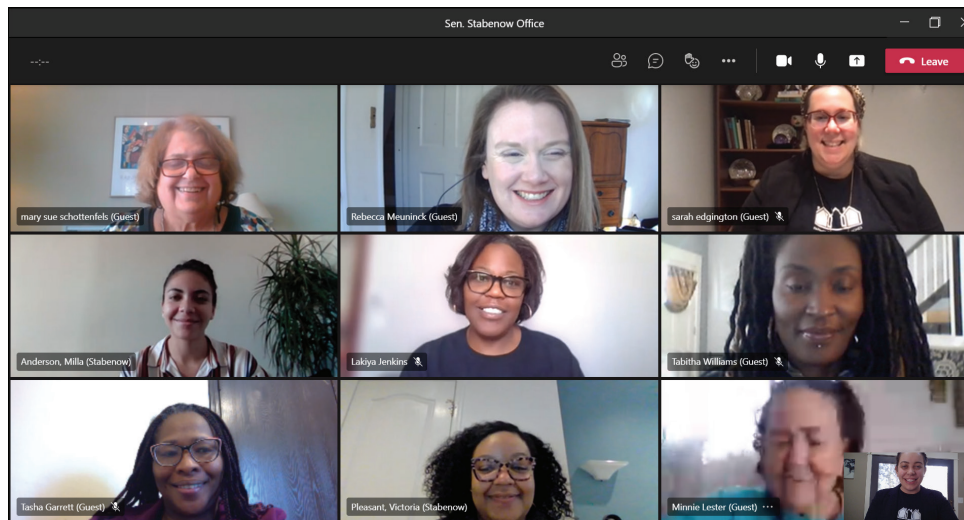
We know from our past successes that this combination of bold vision with practical steps is the perfect stepping stone for meaningful and lasting impact. We are also resolute in our belief that housing is among the most powerful platforms for improving and transforming the health and lives of all Americans; as such, we are ready and excited to put this plan into action in service to that end.



*The NCHH team with its board of directors at the strategic planning retreat, October 25, 2019. Photo by Tracy Washington Enger.*

# NEW ADVANCES IN FEDERAL HEALTHY HOMES ADVOCACY

NCHH continues to serve as the backbone agency for the [National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition](#) (NSHHC). NCHH and other partners have spearheaded the NSHHC's focus on federal advocacy, including an all-virtual two-day Hill Day in March 2021. 62 participants and 11 team leads from 19 states participated in 62 meetings with Members of Congress and their staff, with participation metrics meeting or exceeding numbers from the previous in-person Hill Day event in 2019.



*Advocates meet with staff from Senator Debbie Stabenow's office. Top row: Mary Sue Schottenfels, Rebecca Meuninck, Sarah Edgington; Middle row: Milla Anderson, Lakiya Jenkins, Tabitha Williams; Bottom row: Tasha Garret, Victoria Pleasant, Minnie Lester.*

In December 2020, NCHH partnered with the Day One Project to release a draft [Executive Order](#), Ensuring Healthy Homes: Eliminating Lead and Other Housing Hazards. NCHH also [led an effort](#) to advocate for the inclusion of lead paint funding in the Build Back Better Proposals.

Due in part to the advocacy by NCHH, the NSHHC, and other partners, federal appropriations have continued to increase for lead and healthy homes programs at CDC and HUD, enabling those offices to offer new and increased funding to states and localities on topics including blood lead surveillance and primary prevention, aging in place, healthy homes repairs, and weatherization. The American Rescue Plan, passed in March 2021, presented [another opportunity for communities](#) to use federal funding to address housing quality.

*“Just a short note to thank you for the opportunity to participate in the meetings this week.  
A lot of support and a lot of work ahead to protect our children around the country.”*

*“Thanks again for organizing a great couple of Hill days!”*

*“I think yesterday was a great success! I'm so glad we had Dave Jacobs on the call too, that was really nice.  
I am so very proud of us this week! Advocacy really is energizing!”*

# EQUIPPING THE FRONT LINE

Through a range of activities centered on flexible coaching/technical assistance and grant awards, NCHH remained focused on supporting local action, equipping communities and practitioners to overcome barriers, and improving local capacity to create healthier housing. Selected actions advancing these capacity-building efforts are described below.

- Continuing and concluding the Equipping Communities for Action initiative, funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with additional support from the New York Community Trust, to build local capacity and advance evidence-based lead poisoning prevention efforts through policy and systems change in nine localities. Funder flexibility and support to navigate the unique challenges posed to each community from the COVID-19 pandemic allowed for an additional 2 months of tailored coaching and support and an additional \$26,000 in local grant funding.

- Collaborating with the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), through cooperative agreements with CDC's National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH), to award three local governmental agencies a second year of grants (\$21,330) each and 10 months of flexible technical assistance from the collaborating national partners to support their agency's challenge to implement a "Health in All Policies" strategy as part of their lead prevention implementation program and activities.

**12**  
localities  
leveraged over  
**\$89,990**  
in grants and  
scholarships from  
NCHH to build both  
organizational and  
community capacity  
to create healthier  
housing in 2020  
and 2021



- Working for a fourteenth year in concert with the New York State Department of Health to provide innovative, reliable, and responsive technical assistance and program evaluation to both the state and their 15 local Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program grantees.
- Securing two new cooperative agreements through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency focused on improving indoor air quality. The first of the two projects is a brand-new flexible coaching and assistance initiative to support communities in taking systems-level action to comprehensively reduce indoor air risks, Building Systems to Improve Indoor Air Quality; the other is a continuation of a previous initiative focused environmental asthma triggers, Building Systems to Sustain Home-Based Asthma Services. Both initiatives are dedicated to celebrating, mapping, and spreading successful policies and systems; instigating new communities to take action; and encouraging communities to move up the ladder of engagement, taking actions that achieve cross-sector partnerships and put sustainable, systems-level policies and programs in place.
- Providing customized support on multiple local initiatives including conducting a gap analysis on local programs and policies to support healthy housing, advising on development of a pilot study to assess a combination of interventions to improve respiratory health, consulting on drafting and passage of a local lead ordinance, and facilitating stakeholder conversations to advance local opportunities to advance proactive rental inspection.

*"The main benefits of the flexible coaching have been the willingness to meet us where we are as a community and to help us adapt to drastically fluctuating local conditions...We move forward with the ability to ask and answer the question, how would NCHH handle this, and to continue to utilize that advice. This has been one of the most positive grant experiences we have had because of NCHH's focus on bottom-up approaches, while remaining a helpful resource every step of the way." – Healthy Androscoggin*

# HELPING COMMUNITIES PLAN AND RESPOND TO EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

As extreme weather events become more frequent, NCHH is working to equip communities in [planning for and responding to these disasters](#).

Through a contract with the National Environmental Health Association, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NCHH has begun developing resources on the connections between wildfires and healthy homes. In 2020, we stood up a resource library to provide guidance for what to do before, during, and after a wildfire to keep yourself, your family, and your home healthy.

In August 2021, we published a summary report with insights from 13 interviews on wildfires, wildfire smoke, housing, and health with experts from various background. The report identifies opportunities for future cross-sector collaboration and the role of healthy housing to ensure the health and safety of residents during wildfires and significant smoke events.

In 2022, we will be releasing more tools and resources for addressing wildfire smoke, as well as expanding this work into the areas of extreme cold, extreme heat, and high wind events.



# SAFE AND HEALTHY HOMES FOR OLDER ADULTS

NCHH is working with our for-profit small business subsidiary, Healthy Housing Solutions, on a multi-year project to evaluate the effectiveness of HUD's new Older Adult Home Modification Grant Program. HUD awarded grants to 32 private, public and governmental organizations, half of which are located in substantially rural US communities and half in urban locales. The evaluation will assess how diverse grantees are able to implement this brand new program and also track health and safety outcomes for older adults whose homes are modified. The evaluation will also determine the program's impact on improving senior recipients' independence and ability to remain in their home over time, to see how home modifications can keep them out of emergency rooms, hospitals, and skilled nursing facilities.



*“The vast majority of seniors would understandably prefer to remain in the comfort, security, and privacy of their own homes as they age. In addition to allowing seniors to live independently and safely near friends, family, and loved ones, home modifications that increase accessibility are also highly cost effective.”*

*— Senator Susan Collins*

# PROTECTING KIDS FROM LEAD IN HOME-BASED CHILD CARE

NCHH worked with the Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN), Eco-Healthy Child Care®, the National Association of Family Child Care (NAFCC), and an expert advisory committee to create the *Lead-Safe Toolkit for Home-Based Child Care*, a new resource on NCHH's state-of-the-art website. The toolkit has reached hundreds of providers and the families they serve, increasing awareness of lead exposure hazards in child care settings and providing crucial tools to find and mitigate those hazards. The toolkit has policies and resources to address lead in paint, drinking water, soil, and consumer products.



# GETTING THE WORD OUT

In 2020 and 2021, NCHH published 24 [blogs](#), maintained the [Healthyhomesnet](#) and [Leadnet](#) listservs with a combined 1,400 subscribers, and increased our social media presence. Compared to the previous two-year period, we increased our impressions on Twitter by 45.7% and our engagement by 83.2%. Across all platforms, we increase impressions by 37.2% and engagement by 25%. The Center also [authored or contributed to](#) nine peer-reviewed articles, reports, white papers, and book chapters during this time.





# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS\*

\*National Center for Healthy Housing,  
Inc. and Subsidiary, *Consolidated  
Statements of Activities for the Fiscal  
Years Ending September 30, 2020 and  
2019*

## 2020

### Support and Revenue

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Unrestricted	Total
Grants and contracts	\$1,665,790	\$0	\$1,665,790
Contributions	249,088	900,000	1,149,088
Interest income	736	0	736
Other revenue	551	0	551
	1,916,165	900,000	2,816,165
Net assets released from restriction	732,153	(732,153)	0
<b>Total Support and Revenue Expenses</b>	<b>2,648,318</b>	<b>167,847</b>	<b>2,816,165</b>
Program	2,557,610	0	2,557,610
General and administrative	362,569	0	362,569
Fundraising	51,954	0	51,954
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,972,133</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,972,133</b>
Change in net assets before provision for recovery of income taxes	(323,815)	167,847	(155,968)
Recovery of income taxes	(146,821)	0	(146,821)
Change in net assets	(176,994)	(167,847)	(9,147)
<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	<b>380,647</b>	<b>783,508</b>	<b>1,164,155</b>
<b>Net Assets - End of Year</b>	<b>\$203,653</b>	<b>\$951,355</b>	<b>\$1,155,008</b>

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS\*

\*National Center for Healthy Housing, Inc. and Subsidiary,  
*Consolidated Statements of Activities for the Fiscal Years Ending September 30, 2021 and 2020*

## 2021

### Support and Revenue

Grants and contracts	\$1,631,523	\$0	\$1,631,523
Contributions	117,610	139,000	256,610
Interest income	1,879	0	1,879
Other revenue	589	0	589
	<hr/> 1,751,581	<hr/> 139,000	<hr/> 1,890,581

Net assets released from restriction  
**Total Support and Revenue Expenses**

	497,433	(497,433)	0
	<hr/> <b>2,249,014</b>	<hr/> <b>(358,433)</b>	<hr/> <b>1,890,581</b>
Program	2,161,435	0	2,161,435
General and administrative	263,415	0	263,415
Fundraising	58,236	0	58,236
	<hr/> <b>2,483,086</b>		<hr/> <b>2,483,086</b>

**Total Expenses**  
**Change in net assets before other income (expenses)**

### Other Income (expenses)

	(234,072)	(358,433)	(592,505)
Government grant (PPP loan)	200,000	0	200,000
Loss on disposals	(4,626)	0	(4,626)
	<hr/> 195,374	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 195,374

**Change in net assets after other income before recovery of income taxes**

	(38,698)	(358,433)	(397,131)
Recovery of income taxes	(37,533)	0	(37,533)
Change in net assets	(1,165)	(358,433)	(359,598)

<b>Net Assets - Beginning of Year</b>	<hr/> <b>203,653</b>	<hr/> <b>951,355</b>	<hr/> <b>1,155,008</b>
<b>Net Assets - End of Year</b>	<hr/> <b>\$202,488</b>	<hr/> <b>\$592,922</b>	<hr/> <b>\$795,410</b>

# NCHH BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We thank our [board](#) for its volunteerism, financial support, and commitment to our mission.

## **Dr. C. Patrick Chaulk\***

Assistant Commissioner, HIV/STD Services, Bureau of Communicable Disease, Baltimore City Health Department

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# NCHH STAFF

NCHH's [staff](#) includes housing, health, and environmental professionals with expertise in biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental health, public health, housing policy, industrial hygiene, and healthcare financing.

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Policy Intern

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Communications and Marketing  
Officer

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Project Manager

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