The Challenge

Nearly 9 million families across the nation live in unhealthy, energy inefficient homes that are directly diminishing their quality of life and undermining their ability to meet their full potential. Homes that do not meet basic health and safety standards cost taxpayers billions of dollars annually in preventable housing-related healthcare costs for asthma, lead poisoning and injury, and in turn, lost productivity in the labor force and missed school days for children.

What is the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative?

The Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) is dedicated to breaking the link between unhealthy housing and unhealthy families. Formerly the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, GHHI replaces stand-alone housing intervention programs with an integrated, whole-house approach that produces sustainable green, healthy and safe homes. Through this model, we are improving health, economic and social outcomes for low income families across the country.

With support from U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Energy (DOE), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Council on Foundations and numerous philanthropic partners, GHHI serves as the national model for green and healthy homes interventions and has produced more than 5,000 GHHI housing units nationwide.

We are currently accepting applications to expand the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative to new cities, counties and states. Our innovative GHHI service model involves deep collaboration and partnership with communities and is based on best-practices from many years of lessons learned in the field with our sites’ communities.

To apply for GHHI designation or to receive more information, contact us at info@ghhi.org or 410.534.6447.

GHHI’s impact is growing nationwide with sites in:
Atlanta • Baltimore • Buffalo • Chicago • Cleveland • Denver • Detroit • Dubuque • Flint • Lansing • Lewiston Auburn • Jackson • New Haven • Philadelphia • Rhode Island • Salt Lake • San Antonio

Our goal is to eliminate childhood lead poisoning and ensure all families have access to healthy, safe and energy-efficient housing.

$82.4 billion is lost annually due to unhealthy and inefficient housing—3% of total U.S. healthcare costs.
$43.4 Billion
Lead Poisoning

$20 Billion
Asthma-Related Illness

$19 Billion
Senior Trip/Fall Injuries

Projected at $30 billion by 2020

14 Million Missed School Days

Asthma is the #1 medical reason for absenteeism vs. 3.5% for other households

Low-income households spend 14% of their income on energy

Asthma is the #1 medical reason for absenteeism

$82.4 billion is lost annually due to unhealthy and inefficient housing—3% of total U.S. healthcare costs.

$43.4 Billion
Lead Poisoning

$20 Billion
Asthma-Related Illness

$19 Billion
Senior Trip/Fall Injuries

Projected at $30 billion by 2020

14 Million Missed School Days

Asthma is the #1 medical reason for absenteeism vs. 3.5% for other households

Low-income households spend 14% of their income on energy

Asthma is the #1 medical reason for absenteeism
In Baltimore, Ms. Lekquan Young and her 8-year-old son DaWayne lived in a house that was moldy, poorly insulated and did not have a working furnace. Water had leaked into her kitchen floor. The carpet was full of allergens and pulling away from the floorboards. Despite Ms. Young's best efforts, rodents and pests always found a way back into her home.

Ms. Young's son suffered from asthma—a chronic disease exacerbated by her home's mold, pests and aging carpet. In a single year, Ms. Young had rushed her son to the hospital eight times to manage severe asthma attacks and DaWayne had spent the equivalent of three full weeks in the hospital. Having understood the link between her home and DaWayne's asthma, Ms. Young called GHHI Baltimore to apply for assistance. Just days later, GHHI conducted a comprehensive home assessment. That same month, GHHI installed a new hot water tank and furnace, added insulation, created better ventilation, removed the carpet and eliminated the pests for good. Within weeks of Ms. Young's initial contact to GHHI, she and her son came home to, as she puts it, "a whole new house" that was healthy, energy efficient and safe.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

In Baltimore, Ms. Lekquan Young and her 8-year-old son DaWayne lived in a house that was moldy, poorly insulated and did not have a working furnace. Water had leaked into her kitchen floor. The carpet was full of allergens and pulling away from the floorboards. Despite Ms. Young's best efforts, rodents and pests always found a way back into her home.

Ms. Young's son suffered from asthma—a chronic disease exacerbated by her home's mold, pests and aging carpet. In a single year, Ms. Young had rushed her son to the hospital eight times to manage severe asthma attacks and DaWayne had spent the equivalent of three full weeks in the hospital. Having understood the link between her home and DaWayne's asthma, Ms. Young called GHHI Baltimore to apply for assistance. Just days later, GHHI conducted a comprehensive home assessment. That same month, GHHI installed a new hot water tank and furnace, added insulation, created better ventilation, removed the carpet and eliminated the pests for good. Within weeks of Ms. Young's initial contact to GHHI, she and her son came home to, as she puts it, "a whole new house" that was healthy, energy efficient and safe.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.

Solution: Holistic, Single Stream Delivery Model

GHHI provides a one-stop-shop for families seeking housing intervention programs and related funding, so that clients, like Ms. Young, living in low- to moderate-income households can access expedient and highly effective home repairs. Funding may come from HUD programs, Department of Energy (DOE) programs, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), foundation support and/or utility companies.

These comprehensive interventions not only stabilize individual homes, but strengthen communities by allowing residents to remain in properties that they would otherwise have to vacate due to hazards in the home and escalating energy consumption costs.