



Green & Healthy Homes Initiative®

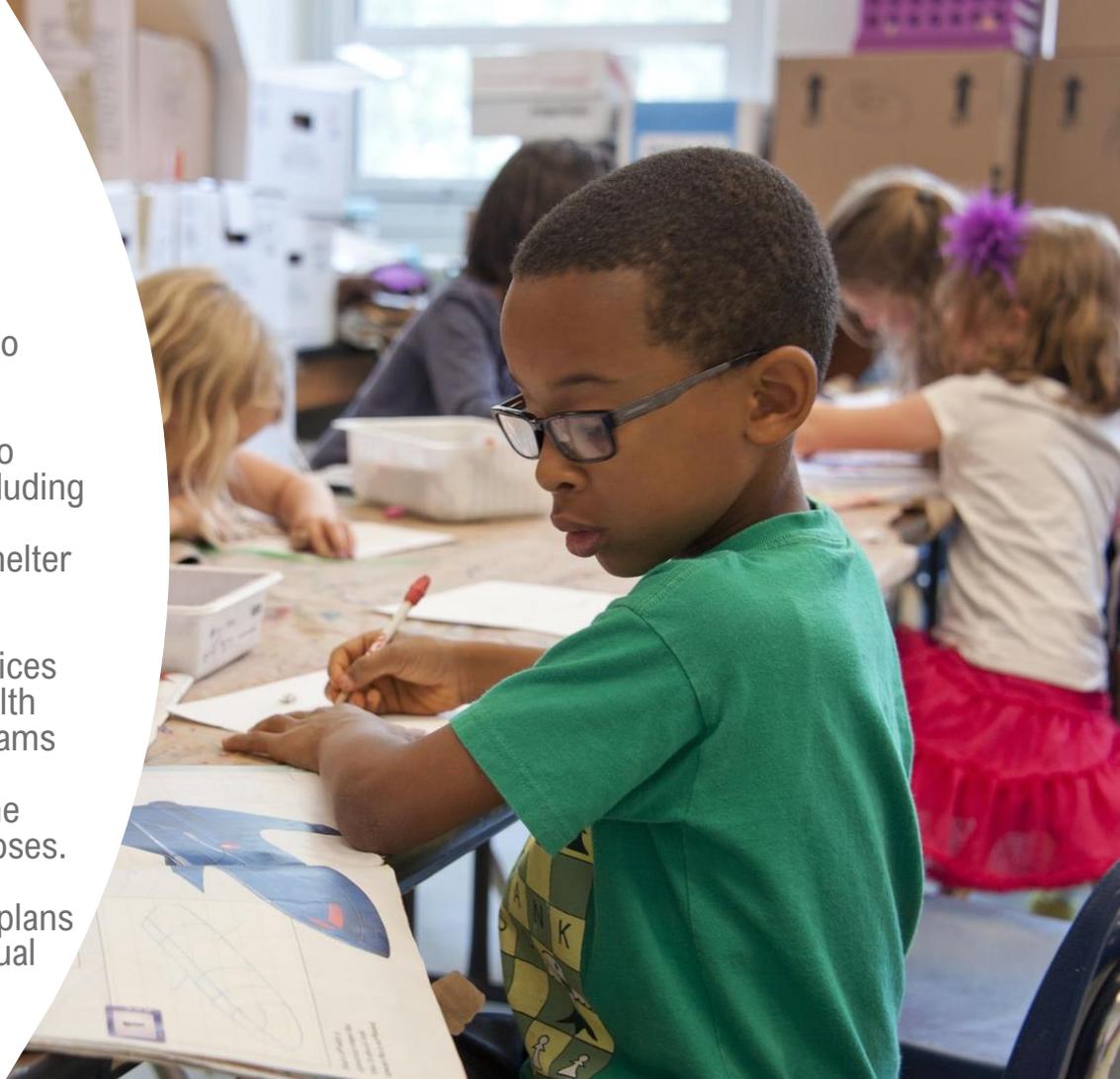
Federal Agency Policy Brief Recommendations

US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

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Priority Recommendations – Executive Actions (HHS)

- Establish a Lead and Healthy Homes Fund to scale public-private investment.
- Provide COVID-related federal investment to address housing-related health hazards including support for telehealth and virtual home inspections and assessments as families shelter in place.
- Medicaid should incentivize the use of services that address the social determinants of health through ensuring that state Medicaid programs and their MCO partners can include those payments as “medical” when it comes to the medical loss ratio and for rate setting purposes.
- CMS should direct all Medicare Advantage plans to cover home assessments as part of annual preventive care and cover fall prevention services for any at risk individuals.



Priority Recommendations – Executive Actions (HHS)

- Medicaid should incentivize Medicaid MCOs to shift toward value-based payments to providers that include services that address social determinants of health.
- Medicaid should promote outcomes-based financing for healthy housing efforts and other services that address the social determinants of health. (e.g. NY VBP Roadmap)
- Medicaid should create a billing code for value-based care, so that alternative payment models will be level with fee-for-service payments.
- Medicare should implement pilots where at-risk individuals receive fall prevention benefits.



Priority Recommendations – Executive Actions (HHS)

- CMS should prioritize its lead screening requirements for Medicaid/CHIP children.
- CMS should establish Medicaid lead poisoning prevention pilot projects.
- The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) should research the impact of climate change on housing conditions and the threat to the population from decreasing housing quality and displacement.



Priority Recommendations – Legislative Actions (HHS)

- For specific healthy homes services that are part of NIH and/or CDC guidelines, with an evidence base of impacting health outcomes and reducing costs, CMS should allow for direct funding of these services.
- Work with other relevant departments (HUD, EPA, DOE) to align income eligibility standards and requirements across social services and housing programs, and to streamline eligibility determination processes.
- Medicaid should include lead hazard control interventions as a covered service.
- Home environmental assessments should be a Medicaid covered service.
- Medicare should allow all home-based measures that reduce the risk of falls among older adults to be classified as DME that is eligible for reimbursement.

