

housing



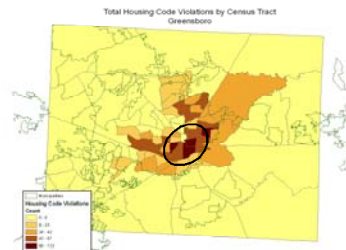
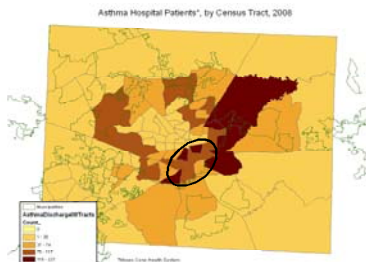
matters for health



*Systematic collaboration to
reduce health disparities.*

Health problems—and the housing conditions that contribute to them—are not evenly distributed but are concentrated in neighborhoods where people of color have limited resources and few choices for decent housing.

\$3,000,000/yr



By 2014, we will reduce the housing-related health problems in the target area, narrowing the gap between people of color in high-poverty neighborhoods and the citywide levels:

- Asthma hospitalizations and emergency department visits
 - Accidental injuries from unsafe housing (burns, falls)
 - Dangerous levels of lead in children's blood
- (This will also conserve energy and water!)

Diagnosis--identify risks

\$12,500/yr

Home visitors:

Senior Resources of Guilford
Thriving at Three
Healthy Beginnings
FaithAction International House
Other social workers and nurses

(houses may also be identified by City of Greensboro housing and fire inspectors, Guilford Co. Dept of Public Health, or Housing Hotline calls)

1. Ask about health risks that could be related to housing:

Is anyone having breathing problems or headaches in the home?

Has anyone gotten hurt by falling or being burned because of housing conditions?

Have the children under age 6 been tested for lead exposure?

2. Observe housing risks:

Do you see water leaks, space heaters, broken/missing rails?

Is there obvious evidence of roaches or rodents?

Is paint peeling or cracking on windows, porch, walls?

Are there other obvious dangers?

3. Make referral:

Ask if residents would like help to get the home repaired.

4. Enter visit in the Housing Matters for Health database; organization receives a stipend per home.

Prescribe--recommend solutions

\$71,700/yr

Healthy Homes Specialists:

Greensboro Housing Coalition, Guilford Co Dept of Public Health
EnPulse, Environmental Solutions Group, home inspectors

1. Get more detailed health information:

Severity of asthma, falls, or burns. Age of person with health problem.

2. Assess underlying reasons for housing problems:

Identify sources of moisture, sanitation issues, location of pests, lead and other toxins, ventilation problems, structural defects, neglected maintenance.

Review energy and water usage.

3. Make plans with residents for remediation:

Advise residents about health impact of housing conditions and how to use ventilation, cleaning, food storage to improve health; give cleaning supplies and storage containers.

Assist homeowners with repair program applications.

Counsel tenants about effective ways of requesting repairs; tell landlords about rental repair programs—call code enforcement and Legal Aid if necessary.

4. Enter data in the Housing Matters for Health database.

Treatment--repair housing

Healthy, green repair specialists:

Housing Greensboro

City of Greensboro Lead Safe Housing, housing rehab

Weatherization

EnPulse

Beloved Community Center

\$30,000/yr private

plus public funding

1. Prepare work plans for homes of eligible residents/owners:

Determine feasibility for own program; describe any repairs that others need to do first.

Consider how each repair can address multiple problems without creating new risks.

Complete repairs for own program, notify other programs that may come in after this work.

Call for inspection: lead clearance, blower-door, RUCO.

2. Enter data in the Housing Matters for Health database, including date of approval for program, description of repairs needed, which repairs each program will do, date repairs are completed, results of clearance testing.

Follow up--confirm health impact

Healthy Homes Specialists:

Greensboro Housing Coalition, Guilford Co Dept of Public Health

EnPulse, Environmental Solutions Group, home inspectors

\$23,500/yr

1. Ask about improvements in health problems of household residents:

Incidence of asthma, falls, or burns. Age of person with health problem.

2. Assess improvements in housing conditions:

Reassess to see if home is dry, clean, well-ventilated, pest-free, contaminant-free, safe, and maintained.

Review energy and water bills to see reduction in usage.

3. Make plans with residents for sustainability:

Encourage healthy habits for sanitation and conservation of water and energy.

Connect to additional community services if necessary for future health and safety.

Enter data in the Housing Matters for Health database.

Community education and training

\$55,400/yr

Community partners to design, distribute information:

Coalition on Infant Mortality
Senior Resources of Guilford
Thriving at Three
Greensboro Housing Coalition
Community Sustainability Council
Greensboro Neighborhood Congress
Beloved Community Center
FaithAction International House
Greensboro Landlord Association, TAA

1. Prepare handouts and provide partner training about health impact of housing conditions:

Connection between housing conditions and asthma, lead poisoning, falls, burns, other health risks.

Cost of health care for injuries and illnesses resulting from housing.

2. Teach about housing maintenance to reduce health risks:

Tips for owners to do routine inspection and maintenance.

Training in Lead Safe Work Practices, ventilation, Integrated Pest Management, and other healthy green repair practices.

3. Use maps from data in Housing Matters for Health database, media, and bus tours to show impact.

Systematic collaboration for impact

\$53,600/yr

Housing Matters for Health Leadership Team:

Greensboro Housing Coalition
Guilford County Dept. of Public Health
City of Greensboro
UNCG & NC A&T
Others?

1. Project management for sustained collaboration:

Recruit stakeholders and nurture relationships.

Focus whole group on common goals and vision.

Assure quality, identify gaps, design solutions.

Build community capacity and political will for healthy homes.

2. Document intervention model and outcomes:

Incentives for accurate data entry and analysis of data to show health and environmental savings.

Present this model at national and professional conferences.

Advise other communities requesting assistance in promoting healthy homes.

3. Plan events to celebrate the success of Housing Matters for Health!

Outcomes--reduced health disparities

priceless!



For this family:

- Fewer hospital visits
- Fewer school absences (and parents missing work)
- Lower water/heating bills
- More comfort and pride

For the community:

- Lower health care costs
- Reduced health disparities for housing-related illnesses
- More consistent school attendance
- Reduced energy bills, greater water conservation
- Improved housing stock
- Pride in Greensboro as the national model

