

Resources for Healthy Housing

DATA & ADVOCACY:

[DataWorks NC](#): Democratizing Information...serving neighbors and neighborhoods, nonprofits, and local governments. Our mission is to democratize data to facilitate an empowered, productive, and equitable community.

[Human Impact Partners](#):

[Housing and Health for All: A Research and Communications Toolkit for COVID-19 and Beyond](#)

Developed with the expertise of housing organizers, this toolkit distills public health research into talking points and data access guidance that housing and health advocates can easily plug into their campaigns or communications.

[The Kresge Foundation](#)

[Advancing Health Equity Through Housing Initiative](#).

This initiative seeks to identify practices that hold the promise of improving health by connecting the housing and health sectors. Because of the centrality of housing in providing a platform for individuals and families to achieve well-being and economic stability, the initiative particularly aims at the demonstrated harmful physical and mental health impacts of housing instability.

[Berkeley Media Studies Group](#)

[Advancing health equity through housing](#)

To support this work, BMSG is conducting media research and analysis and providing strategic communication and narrative-change trainings and tools that will support grantees in advancing equity-focused solutions to improve housing affordability and quality and to improve health outcomes.

[National Center for Healthy Housing](#)

[Resource Library](#)

Our mission is to ensure that everyone has a safe and healthy home. With more than six million families living in substandard housing, we equip leaders across the public health, housing, and environmental sectors with the data, tools, policies, and best practices needed to improve housing quality in their communities. We channel the powerful energy and deep-rooted interests of the healthy housing movement into a force for change.

[The Center for Housing and Community Studies \(CHCS\)](#) is a community-engaged, applied research institution specializing in geospatial research and multi-modal data collection and

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mixed-method analysis, used to develop community-informed solutions to social problems around housing and neighborhoods for governments, nonprofits, foundations and institutions of higher education. We also incorporate grounded solutions to provide education and outreach promoting individual through systems-level change. Our mission is to support, collaborate with, and empower community and institutional partners by providing data, information, evaluation, and assessment. Our vision is to eliminate barriers and disparities in safe, affordable, fair, and healthy housing and communities.

[HUD's Healthy Homes Program](#) - Grant program

The Healthy Homes Program addresses multiple childhood diseases and injuries in the home. The Initiative takes a comprehensive approach to these activities by focusing on housing-related hazards in a coordinated fashion, rather than addressing a single hazard at a time. The HHI builds upon HUD's successful Lead Hazard Control programs to expand its efforts to address a variety of environmental health and safety concerns including: [mold](#), [lead](#), [allergens](#), [asthma](#), [carbon monoxide](#), [home safety](#), [pesticides](#), and [radon](#). HUD's [Healthy Homes Strategic Plan](#) includes data and strategies.

Children's Defense Fund

[Why policymakers must consider housing needs in addressing children's health disparities](#)

National Alliance to End Homelessness

[Homelessness and Racial Disparities](#)

Harvard University Center on the Developing Child: [Place Matters: The Environment We Create Shapes the Foundations of Healthy Development](#)

[Reimagining Interim Housing: Stages and Action Areas for Transforming Approaches to Sheltering People Experiencing Homelessness](#): intended to advance priorities identified in the Framework, which calls upon communities to: sustain and expand interim housing opportunities during the pandemic; and to strive to transform their approaches to sheltering people to focus on non-congregate environments and other models, in order to better respond to public health crises, provide healthier environments, and to create more welcoming and efficient systems.

[Reimagining Interim Housing Supplement: Tools for Strengthening Current Interim Housing Programs and Services](#): existing documents, guidance, and tools that people and organizations can use, right now, in support of such improvements.

HEALTH, SAFETY, & ENERGY EFFICIENCY:

[Centers for Disease Control & Prevention \(CDC\)
Healthy Housing Reference Manual](#)

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Housing quality is key to the public's health. Translating that simple axiom into action is the topic of this book. In the 30 years since the first edition was published, the nation's understanding of how specific housing conditions are related to disease and injury has matured and deepened. This new edition will enable public health and housing professionals to grasp our shared responsibility to ensure that our housing stock is safe, decent, affordable, and healthy for our citizens, especially those who are particularly vulnerable and who spend more time in the home, such as children and the elderly.

[PEACH \(Partnership Effort for the Advancement of Children's Health\)](#): Our mission is to improve community health and economics by creating a sustainable workforce to reduce environmental hazards in the community.

- Training for contractors about renovating older homes, dealing with lead
- Trip and fall hazard assessments

[City of Durham: Neighborhood Improvement Services, Code Enforcement Division](#):

The Code Enforcement Division enforces quality of life ordinances and state statutes including the City's minimum housing code, nonresidential code, removal of trash and undergrowth ordinance, abandoned and junk vehicle ordinances, and the State of North Carolina's unsafe building statute. "SAFE HOUSING IS EVERYONE'S RIGHT!"

[North Carolina Radon Program](#)

The North Carolina Radon Program is a program of the NC Radiation Protection Section that works to reduce the incidence of radon-induced lung cancer statewide through education.

The purpose of the North Carolina Radon Program is to:

- Increase awareness of the source and health impacts of radon exposure
- Provide resources that assist North Carolinians with testing indoor radon levels
- Empower North Carolinians with information on how to lower radon levels

[NC Healthy Homes](#)

This site provides general information to the public on healthy homes issues and is designed to provide health, housing, and community organization professionals access to resources for their work in educating North Carolina residents about maintaining a healthy home and in improving health outcomes.

[NC Cooperative Extension Healthy Homes](#)

[City of Durham Healthy Homes and Green Jobs](#)

[Resources for Seniors](#)

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Serving older adults and adults with disabilities by providing home and community-based services and information so that they can maximize their choices for independence, comfort, safety, security and well-being. We provide information and support for decision-making, and direct services such as home care, adult day care, senior centers, home repair, and more. The [Weatherization Assistance Program \(WAP\)](#) uses federal funds to provide energy-saving improvements on homes of low-income Wake County and Durham residents (no age limit). [Home Improvement](#): If you need assistance receiving health and safety-related repairs at your home, Resources for Seniors can help. We connect you to the right programs to make your home a safer, more energy efficient place at a more affordable cost.

[Rebuilding Together of the Triangle](#)

Vision: Safe homes and communities for everyone. The only local nonprofit organization focused on comprehensive home repair services, ensuring vulnerable homeowners — including seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and families with children — live in safe, healthy homes.

Triangle J Council [Aging Well](#)

"Aging Well" is about being happy, healthy, having meaning and purpose, and fulfilling relationships in one's life. At the community level, acknowledging the desires of individuals to age well leads to targeted efforts to better support individuals in their aging journey. Individuals looking to stay active, healthy, and engaged in life may benefit from these programs and services.

- Multipurpose Senior Centers *
- Transportation and Mobility Assistance*
- Dining Programs*
- Evidence-Based Health Promotion Classes*
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Employment Programs
- Network of Age-Friendly Communities
- Dementia-Inclusive Communities

**financial assistance may be available for those age 60 and older*

FOCUSING ON CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING

[Healthy Parents Healthy Babies](#) Recommendations developed by people with lived experience of homelessness and extreme housing instability when pregnant focusing on how to improve birth, health, housing, and other outcomes for pregnant people, parents, and their children.

Harvard University Center on the Developing Child: Place Matters: The Environment We Create Shapes the Foundations of Healthy Development

<https://developingchild.harvard.edu/place-matters-the-environment-we-create-shapes-the-foundations-of-healthy-development/>

[Immediate and Flexible Crisis Options for Children and Families](#) Aligned with that guidance, this brief focuses on the need for immediate and flexible crisis options paired with strong housing exits that can be replicated, adapted, and scaled up or down as needs and/or scale of resources change in each community, with the goal that “no child sleeps outside.”

DESIGNING FOR HEALTH & WELL-BEING:

[SystemVision](#) at Advanced Energy

SystemVision™ is the nation’s only affordable housing guarantee program. It provides training and technical support that lead to improved health, safety, durability, comfort and energy efficiency of affordable homes in North Carolina. It is based on finding practical solutions to aid affordable housing organizations in designing, constructing and certifying energy-efficient homes. Once completed, each home receives two guarantees, one for energy use and the other for comfort. SystemVision is made possible by the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency.

[Building Performance Institute](#)

BPI offers certifications, standards, and programs (BPI GoldStar Contractor, Rater, and Product Listing). BPI helps you develop your professional proficiencies and shape, or nurture, your career. For business owners, BPI enhances your offerings to meet the real needs of homeowners. BPI is the source for certified contractors working on home energy efficiency, comfort, durability, health, and safety.

[The Kaleidoscope Project](#)

[Best Practices for places and spaces to support children’s mental health and well-being](#)

Describes the following five areas that are key to success. When we pay attention to these things, we can create spaces where children thrive — and help them build the foundation for future success in whatever they choose to do. Each of these 5 areas listed below includes many strategies for policy, practice, physical space, and people.

- Build Positive Relationships
- Use Nature to Nurture
- Create Diverse Spaces and Activities
- Foster Safety and Support
- Enhance Accessibility and Inclusion

[Healthy Places by Design](#) advances community-led action and proven, place-based strategies to ensure health and wellbeing for all. We envision a nation of healthy, equitable communities where everyone reaches their full potential.

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO HOUSING:

[City of Durham: Neighborhood Improvement Services, Human Relations Division:](#)

The objective of the Human Relations Division is to end unlawful discrimination in **housing**, employment and places of public accommodation by enforcing the City's Non-Discrimination Ordinance (NDO), the federal Fair Housing Act and other relevant civil rights laws. Civil Rights: It's not an option, it's the law.

[North Carolina Human Relations Commission:](#)

The North Carolina Human Relations Commission provides services and programs aimed at improving relationships among all citizens of the state, while seeking to ensure equal opportunities in the areas of employment, **housing**, public accommodations, recreation, education, justice and governmental services.

[The Framework for an Equitable Homelessness Response](#) is guided by an unprecedented partnership of national organizations and experts and was launched to address both the public health and economic crises created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the inequitable impacts on people experiencing homelessness, Black, Latinx, and Indigenous communities, and people with disabilities and/or underlying health conditions.

HISTORY OF HOUSING IN DURHAM:

[Bull City 150](#): The mission of Bull City 150 is to invite Durhamites to reckon with the racial and economic injustices of the past 150 years and commit to building a more equitable future. We believe that history is a powerful tool of meaning-making, and that the stories we tell each other impact the policies we create and the ways we come together to address the challenges in our community today.

Bull City 150 uses public history exhibitions to do extensive community engagement and to facilitate educational opportunities, deep dialogue, and a collective reckoning about how we got here and what is needed to ensure that we do not repeat the mistakes of the past. We encourage visitors to make a personal connection to the past, gain a deeper appreciation for the impact history has on the present, and question their own role as history-makers.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING & POLICY CHANGE

Potential Partners:

[Communities in Partnership](#): Communities in Partnership (CIP) formed in 2011 in Old East Durham, when a gathering of neighbors decided to take action following a neighborhood

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shooting involving two children. Frustrated by an inadequate and uninformed response from city officials and other local agencies we created CIP as a vehicle to give voice to local residents and hold officials and agencies accountable. Since then, CIP has been building trust and relationships amongst residents, developing local leaders, and changing the narrative about our community. Our work is now expanding to address the growing economic disparities among residents in light of local gentrification and the rising cost of living in our community and in Durham at large.

[Durham for All](#): Durham For All is building a new majority 10,000 people strong—a multiracial, cross-class progressive movement led by people of color and working-class people. Through grassroots organizing, leadership development, and political education, we fight for a Durham where everyone can thrive politically, economically, and socially. We take action together at the ballot box and in the streets to win back our government and put it to work—for all of us.

[Durham CAN](#): Durham CAN is based in institutions: congregations, associations, schools (both private and public), nonprofits, community health centers, and neighborhood organizations that share a concern for families and a tradition of faith and democracy. We strengthen congregations and community institutions by developing the skills and capacity of their leaders to be change agents in the public process. Durham CAN creates a vehicle for ordinary families to have a powerful voice in community decisions that affect their lives, instead of leaving decision-making in the hands of a select few.

[People's Alliance](#): People's Alliance (PA) is a grassroots organization that has been advancing a progressive vision for Durham and our state for more than 40 years. We believe a community can be more than a place where people live - it can be a place where all people live well. We work to elect progressive people to office and hold them accountable 365 days a year.

[Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People](#): This organization has always been and still is an institution that serves as a representative of, and as a leadership body for, the Black community of the City and County of Durham.

[Housing/Eviction Defense Solidarity \(HEDS-Up!\)](#) - [Can't Pay Won't Pay](#) is a community network dedicated to supporting tenants facing eviction.

HOUSING LEGISLATION - OPPORTUNITIES & RESTRICTIONS

[N.C. Office of Recovery and Resiliency](#) seeks public feedback on proposed changes to disaster recovery and mitigation plans.* Please share out and even review to make changes*

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[Public FeedbackRebuild NC](#)

[North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association](#)

NC Sustainable Energy Association is a leading organization of individuals, businesses, government, and nonprofits interested in North Carolina's sustainable energy future. Our mission is to drive policy and market development to create clean energy jobs, economic opportunities, and affordable energy that benefits all of North Carolina. We envision a future where North Carolina's clean energy economy leads the nation and serves as a model for other states. Together with our membership, NCSEA is blazing the path toward this vision, where the possibilities and benefits for our state and local economies are bountiful, including:

Economic development opportunities

- More affordable consumer bills

- Job growth

- Market exports

- Local tax base expansion

- Improved quality of life and business climate

Our goal is to cultivate a robust clean energy ecosystem that unifies and benefits all of its stakeholders: consumers, businesses, the clean energy industry, and utility energy providers.

[Fair Housing Law - Reasonable Accommodations and Modification](#)

Fair Housing Law protects consumers from unfair practices related to the sale or rental of housing. Fair housing law makes it illegal to discriminate against people in the housing market due to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or handicapping condition.

In the News:

[New Senate bill to limit how many homes corporate landlords can own](#)

[Community partnerships power the City of Durham's successful energy efficiency and home repair program](#) (October 20, 2022)