

Partnership for a Healthy Durham
Health and Housing (H&H) Committee Meeting Zoom
September 20, 2022



Objectives:

- See how we can help assist Healthy Homes and Reinvestment Partners
- Engage more community partners

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Present: Charlene Reiss, Bria Miller (Partnership for a Healthy Durham), Brian Goings, Manuel Hyman (Alliance), Annette Rogers (PEACH), Ashley Bass-Mitchell (Alliance), Catrina Lloyd (PEACH), Debbie Royster (Duke), Kearston Ingraham (Duke), Gene Moon (Duke/NCCares360), Lenin Martinez-Gallo (City of Durham Human Relations Division), Natacha Rubio, Neasha Graves (UNC Institute for the Environment), L'Tanya Gilchrist (Durham County), Xiomara Boyce

Topic	Major Discussion	Recommendations and Action Steps
Welcome/ Introductions/ Icebreaker <i>Brian Goings 8:30-8:35</i>	What is your favorite couch cuddling/family fall movie?	
Review August Minutes <i>All 8:35-8:39</i>	The meeting minutes were approved.	
Guest Speaker <i>Neasha Graves</i>	<p>Healthy Homes is housed in the Center for Public Engagement with Science. They translate environmental science and health research for the public and collaborate with public health professionals on environmental health issues. Healthy Homes helps public health professionals work with families on environment health issues affecting them in their homes.</p> <p>Healthy Homes' audience includes families, Kindergarten-12 teachers and students, and underrepresented populations among college students. The team primarily works on lead in Rural Eastern North Carolina. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has historically given funding to big urban centers; NC has made the case for focusing on rural communities.</p> <p>The website https://nchealthyhomes.com/ includes fact sheets and videos. Their team will facilitate meetings and trainings,</p> <p>The group Co-convenes NC Lead & Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force which is a large meeting of state and local governments, and community-based agencies that advocate around healthy homes and lead. The next meeting is Tuesday,</p>	

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November 15 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Everyone is welcome to join the virtual meeting. Contact Nasha_graves@unc.edu or Megan Lane megan.lane@unc.edu.

The eight principles of healthy homes are grouped into five key issues: lead poisoning, moisture and mold, indoor air quality, pests and pesticides, and maintenance and monitoring.

Lead poisoning

- Lead-based paint is still the primary cause of lead exposure in houses built before 1978.
- Lead is also found in drinking water
- An emerging issue is lead found in spices used in certain cultures

Moisture and Mold

- Caused by humid, wet conditions
- Houses impacted by a hurricane four years ago are still dealing with mold
- Affects homes in Durham

Indoor air quality

- Smoking, vaping, air fresheners, and items made with volatile organic compounds negatively impact indoor air quality

Pests and pesticides

- Includes rodents, cockroaches, bed bugs, and dust mites
- Can be hazardous to people with asthma and allergies
- Can use integrated pest management (IPM) to prevent and control pests without toxic chemicals
- A researcher at NC State studies in Raleigh apartment buildings using IPM

Maintenance & Monitoring

- Looking at the home as a system
- Includes items like air filters and Carbon Monoxide monitoring devices

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- Radon
- Need to maintain appliances and machines to minimize toxicity

NChhealthyhomes.com has resources for families and individuals. The fact sheets are available in English, Spanish, and other languages.

Obtain an air quality test for apartments by contacting building inspectors for the City of Durham. Residents are entitled to a free home inspection whether they are an owner or tenant. Residents should write everything down and save text messages and screen shots. Legal Aid is very involved in these issues on behalf of residents.

Questions & Answers

Q: Who needs training? What type of training? Can it be virtual?

A: Healthy Homes provides training on asthma. More people are doing home visits and assessments related to asthma than pre-COVID.

Q: Have there been any recent studies examining emergency room visit data in relation to environmental health triggers such as asthma, pulmonary fibrosis, allergies, etc.?

A: A researcher at Duke is pulling data from emergency rooms in the area. UNC Chapel Hill is looking at emergency room data and hospitalizations. Black/brown children are two to three times more likely to be impacted by unhealthy homes, leading to hospitalization or death.

Remediation of the environmental triggers can help families save up to \$1,900/year in medication and treatment

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<p>Member Updates</p> <p><i>All 9:26-9:30</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PEACH is hosting a lead prevention event October 29• September is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month• October 28 – Medication take-back and resource fair. If interested in participating as a vendor, email Ashley Bass-Mitchell.• October 4 – Youth engagement conference for young people aged 14-18 on NCCU’s campus; looking for youth and volunteers• Hispanic Heritage Month – City of Durham has activities and Hispanic celebrations• Community Health Assessment – kicks off tomorrow, 9/21; 630 surveys to complete by going door-to-door; need volunteers to participate in going out to the community	
<p>Next Meeting: October 18, 2022, 8:30-9:30 am</p>		