



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2013 PROGRAM AND BUDGET INITIATIVES
UTILIZING HOUSING AS A PLATFORM TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES

In Fiscal Year 2013, HUD is requesting \$195 million to fund programs that will directly support the provision of housing and services to improve health outcomes for families nationwide.

The connection of the built environment to health is an important one, and HUD is uniquely poised to affect this relationship to improve health outcomes. Stable housing provides an ideal platform for delivering a wide variety of health and social services to improve economic, health, and broad-based societal outcomes. For some, such stable housing alone is sufficient to ensure healthy outcomes, while others require housing with supportive services to assist with activities of daily living or long-term self-sufficiency, as well as proximity to crucial services. In this regard, HUD remains solidly committed to providing the crucial housing and services required for our nation's most vulnerable families.

OFFICE OF HEALTHY HOMES AND LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

The Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control (OHHLHC) provides capital grants, contract support, and technical studies that improve the health and safety of individuals and families by making smart investments that will yield positive health outcomes and has the potential to drastically and permanently change the way housing, energy, and health concerns are addressed in communities across our nation. In particular, these programs strive to achieve the Federal goal of eliminating childhood lead poisoning.



In Fiscal Year 2013, HUD is requesting \$120 million for OHHLHC programs that will provide direct support in improving health and safety outcomes of families nationwide. This request includes:

- *\$91 million in Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Program* to communities for lead hazard reduction in low-income housing, research on improving and reducing the cost of methods for evaluating and controlling lead hazards in housing, and enforcing lead safety regulations which cover older housing
- *\$25 million in Healthy Homes grants and contract support* to fund local programs to correct housing-related hazards, as well as evaluate program effectiveness and build capacity
- *\$4 million in Lead Technical studies and programmatic support* to ensure that HUD's grantees make the most efficient and innovative use of funding

Widespread adoption of a comprehensive "healthy homes" approach, including physical interventions and education, with an infrastructure of trained housing evaluators and contractors, can help prevent housing-related injuries and illnesses, and yield reductions in associated healthcare and social services costs, and improvements in the quality of life. By targeting housing improvements at early intervention in communities most likely at risk, substantial returns may be realized.

OFFICE OF HEALTHCARE PROGRAMS

The Office of Healthcare Programs (OHP) administers the Section 232 Residential Care Facilities Program and Section 242 Hospitals Program, which provide mortgage insurance for loans supporting the construction, renovation, equipping, and/or refinancing of healthcare facilities through HUD's Federal Housing Administration (FHA). These facilities include nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and board and care facilities, and acute care hospitals ranging from large urban teaching institutions to small rural critical access hospitals. FHA's healthcare facilities serve an ever-growing needy population of Medicare, Medicaid, and uninsured patients. FHA mortgage insurance decreases healthcare costs by reducing the cost of capital for healthcare facilities and increases accessibility to care by enabling facilities to access financing for much-needed improvements or projects. Both healthcare programs maintain a negative credit subsidy rate and operate at no cost to the American taxpayer.



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Healthcare facilities are major economic engines in our nation's communities. Nationwide, healthcare facilities employ 7.9 million people and support \$2.7 trillion in economic activity. Both of FHA's healthcare programs are significant contributors to increasing economic stimulus and job creation in communities nationwide. Using the widely respected IMPLAN economic model, OHP calculated the economic benefits for all hospitals that received mortgage insurance commitments in 2010. For Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011 combined, total construction expenditures for all hospital commitments were \$1.7 billion, resulting in an **estimated 19,127 new jobs and \$4.7 billion of overall economic benefit**. Following construction, these projects will generate an **estimated annual new economic activity of \$1.5 billion and 8,823 new jobs**.

INTERAGENCY PARTNERSHIPS

HUD has also developed a close partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to target assistance to veterans across the country. Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers (HUD-VASH) provide tenant-based rental assistance, case management and clinical services tailored to veterans and their families. To date, approximately 38,000 HUD-VASH vouchers have been provided to over 300 public housing agencies nationwide, and another 10,000 vouchers will be awarded in fiscal year 2012. **In Fiscal Year 2013 HUD is requesting \$75 million in Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) vouchers**, which will support an estimated 10,000 additional veterans nationwide. With this funding, Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) awarded HUD-VASH vouchers develop critical partnerships with VA medical centers to help homeless veterans find permanent supportive housing.



Taken together, through partnerships at the federal, state, and local levels, HUD strives to utilize its housing platform to deliver a wide variety of services to improve the quality of life of its residents and the surrounding community. HUD aims to accomplish this by building formal and informal relationships with public and private healthcare providers and with health education organizations to provide access to healthcare information and services for recipients of HUD assistance. HUD will also encourage management practices that enhance the health of housing residents, and, where possible, HUD will partner with clinical service providers to provide physical space for healthcare service delivery on site at HUD-funded facilities.