Sample Press Release

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**HUD DECLARES JUNE NATIONAL HEALTHY HOMES MONTH**

**Dateline/State** In the U.S. today, people spend close to 90% of their time indoors. The first ever *National Healthy Homes Month* 2016 (NHHM), created by HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH), is an outreach campaign designed to help people connect the dots between their health and their home. This year’s overarching theme "Everyone Deserves a Safe and Healthy Home", was chosen to create awareness of what it means to have a healthy home by educating families of potential health hazards in a home, and to empower people to make change in order to create the healthiest home possible for their family.

Currently, millions of U.S. homes have moderate to severe physical housing problems, including dilapidated structure; roofing problems; heating, plumbing, and electrical deficiencies; water leaks and intrusion; pests; damaged paint; and high radon gas levels. These conditions are associated with a wide range of health issues, including unintentional injuries, respiratory illnesses like asthma and radon-induced lung cancer, and lead poisoning. The health and economic burdens from preventable hazards associated within home are considerable, and cost billions of dollars.

*National Healthy Homes Month* (NHHM) was established to focus national attention on ways to keep people of all ages safe and healthy in their home. It is aimed at boosting awareness and understanding of what federal and local resources are available. The events planned throughout the month will serve as a public communications campaign to promote awareness and advocacy, encourage local events, and provide resources and support to drive families to take action.

For more information on National Healthy Homes Month 2016, please visit [www.hud.gov/healthyhomes](http://www.hud.gov/healthyhomes).