

Announcing the **Health@Home Series:** Building Healthy Housing into Your Rehab Program



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Energy and Environment
Office of Community Planning and Development



Healthy housing has always been important but is especially important today, as communities across the United States struggle to respond to the Coronavirus epidemic. In the United States, buildable land is declining, and our existing housing is aging. The average age of our housing is 36 years old and more than 20 percent of the stock was built in the 1950s and 1960s. Older homes can have greater indoor environmental risks from lead paint, moisture and pest issues, as well as older/outdated building systems.

Removing lead and other health hazards from housing is one of HUD's five Strategic Goals and is an Agency Priority Goal. The Health@Home series consists of four webcasts aimed at providing affordable housing rehab specialists and program managers with information on integrating healthy housing techniques in their rehabilitation projects – along with best practices from practitioners who have successfully implemented these techniques.

HUD has developed the Health@Home guidelines to track the eight widely used Healthy Housing Principles plus an emerging ninth principle – Active Design. The guidelines translate these principles into property standards for local housing rehabilitation programs. While many of the techniques presented are relevant to substantial or gut rehabilitation projects, these

protocols are specifically aimed at moderate rehabilitation or home repair projects that are not covered by one or more green building standards for new construction or substantial rehabilitation. These green building programs (LEED, Enterprise Green Communities, National Green Building Standard, etc.) already incorporate healthy measures.

Participants are encouraged to register for all four webinars in order to receive a Health@Home certificate of completion. A small number of participants who complete the training will be eligible to receive on-call Technical Assistance (TA) in updating local rehab standards or applying these practices to a specific rehabilitation project. HUD will select up to three participants who complete this program as Pilot Recipients of this TA.

The Health@Home initiative supports HUD's Strategic Plan. Space is limited. To ensure your virtual seat, please register no later than one week before the webinar date. For questions, please email: communitycompasstraining@aecom.com.

For more information on this program or to review the *Health@Home Guidebook*, please visit: <https://www.hudexchange.info/healthathome> (website forthcoming).

SESSION

1

Ventilation, Ventilation, Ventilation

June 18, 2020, 3:00–4:00 PM EDT

Ensuring adequate ventilation is a central element of a healthy home, where indoor pollutants can be 2-5 times higher than outdoors. Increasing the supply of fresh air can help reduce exposure to indoor asthma triggers, allergens, and other contaminants. The session focuses on helping residents reduce exposure to contaminants, allergens, and pests by making sure homes are easily cleaned (Healthy Housing Principles 4 and 5).

Presenters: Jill Breysse, National Center for Healthy Housing; Nate Price, Indoor Climate Research & Training Group, University of Illinois-Champaign; Ellen Tohn, Tohn Environmental Systems

SESSION

2

Freedom from Contaminants and Pests

July 23, 2020, 3:00–4:00 PM EDT

This session addresses measures needed to address one or more of the contaminants that you may encounter during your rehab project, including radon, lead, formaldehyde, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in paints and adhesives, asbestos, garage air pollutants, carbon monoxide (Principle II), as well as pre-emptive pest control measures that can be undertaken during the rehab process (Healthy Housing Principles 2 and 3).

Presenters: Ellen Tohn, Tohn Environmental Systems; Teri Provost, SEDA-Council of Governments; Susannah Reese, Stop Pests

SESSION

3

Mold and Moisture: Keeping a Home Dry and Safe

September 10, 2020, 3:00–4:00 PM EDT

Moisture intrusion in buildings can increase respiratory risks like asthma and other health problems. Excess moisture also leads to structural deficiencies (wood rot, drywall failures, etc.), as well as the development of mold and other conditions that threaten our families. This session will help rehabilitation specialists control and address moisture in homes. We will also address and discuss ways to set up the home to improve home safety and minimize falls, especially for elderly occupants (Healthy Housing Principles 1 and 6).

Presenters: Armand Magnelli and Jayne Windham, Livable Housing, Inc.; Jonathan Wilson, National Center for Healthy Housing

SESSION

4

Bringing it Home: The Energy Plus Health Equation, Maintenance, and Active Design

October 8, 2020, 3:00–4:00 PM EDT

This session focuses on (1) the steps that practitioners can take to educate homeowners or residents on maintaining a healthy home after rehab is complete, including the development of homeowner/resident maintenance checklists and procedures; (2) ensuring efficient and reliable heating and cooling, through well-designed and well-maintained mechanical systems and a sound thermal envelope; and (3) opportunities to integrate Active Design features in your rehab project (Healthy Housing Principles 7, 8, and 9).

Presenters: Ellen Tohn, Tohn Environmental Strategies; Paul Francisco, University of Illinois Champaign Urbana; Krista Egger, Enterprise Community Partners