



HUD NEWS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Shaun Donovan, Secretary
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UNHEALTHY HOMES POSE REAL DANGER TO MILLIONS OF FAMILIES

National Healthy Homes Conference to address serious health and safety concerns in housing

WASHINGTON – Millions of U.S. families face health and safety hazards like mold, lead, pest infestation and the physical deterioration of their homes. These problems are particularly common among some of the nation's most vulnerable populations: children, seniors, the disabled and low-income families.

To address these widespread issues, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Agriculture will host more than 3,000 national health and safety experts in Denver from June 20 - 23 at the National Healthy Homes Conference (NHHC). Under the theme, *Leading the Nation to Healthy Homes, Families and Communities*, this is the most comprehensive forum ever held on the issue.

“It’s time that we move from talk to action,” said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. “Our goal is to ensure that every home is designed, built, rehabbed and maintained in a manner that protects the health and safety of American families. This conference encourages the exchange of critical information and presents innovative approaches and solutions to reduce home-related hazards.”

The Conference will feature more than 150 educational sessions and workshops, allowing officials from the public health, housing, safety and environmental communities to collaborate and share ideas. Presentations will be made by representatives of more than 200 organizations, such as Habitat for Humanity, American Lung Association, National Center for Healthy Housing, AARP, National Association of Homebuilders and the Harvard School of Public Health.

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“Building a Healthy Neighborhood” Volunteer Event Kicks-Off Conference Activities June 18-19

One of the highlights of NHHHC takes place prior to the official start, when HUD and Rebuilding Together rehabilitate 25 homes in a Denver neighborhood on June 18 and 19. The event, called *Building a Healthy Neighborhood*, will bring together more than 300 volunteers to make the homes of local families safer and healthier. Volunteers may register at www.healthyhomesconference.org.

About the 2011 National Healthy Homes Conference

NHHHC is the housing industry’s most comprehensive, progressive and educational forum on the issue of healthy, safe and sustainable homes. The conference is a federally-sponsored event, bringing together a wide range of health, housing and environmental professionals to work toward making housing healthy, safe and environmentally sustainable. For more information about NHHHC, including plenary speakers, session topics and presenters, please contact Niki Mitchell (703) 683-7743.

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HUD’s mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes: utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.