



# Rebuilding Together®

A safe and healthy home for every person.

Our homes and our health are closely connected. Everyone deserves a safe and healthy home. A healthy home is:



## CLEAN

Clean homes reduce pest infestation and exposure to contaminants.



## DRY

Damp homes provide an environment for molds, dust mites, roaches and rodents. All of these can cause or worsen asthma.

## PEST-FREE

Exposure to pests such as rodents or roaches can trigger asthma attacks.



## SAFE

Injuries such as falls, burns and poisonings occur most often in the home, especially for children and older adults.

## THERMALLY CONTROLLED

Prolonged exposure to excessive heat, cold or humidity may place your family at risk for various health problems.

## MAINTAINED

Poorly maintained homes are at risk for moisture, pest problems and injury hazards. Deteriorated lead-based paint in older housing is the primary cause of lead poisoning, which affects over a half-million children.

## VENTILATED

Access to a good, fresh air supply in your home is important for improving respiratory health and reducing exposure to indoor air pollutants.

## CONTAMINANT-FREE

Exposure to harmful chemicals such as lead, radon gas, asbestos particles, carbon monoxide and secondhand smoke are far higher indoors than outside.



Sources: U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development  
National Center for Healthy Housing

## Rebuilding Together's Health and Safety Priorities

These **25 HEALTH AND SAFETY PRIORITIES** focus attention on significant health and safety hazards, inform trade-offs, guide the design of repairs, and provide a means for Rebuilding Together affiliates to report the results of repairs and modifications consistently.

1. The homeowner has safe ingress and egress to the home.
2. The roof is watertight.
3. Rainwater is effectively directed away from the structure.
4. Exterior walls have no gaps, cracks or holes larger than 1/8 inch.
5. Windows and exterior doors open effectively, close and lock securely, and seal well.
6. The home is free of live infestation of pests, and sources of attraction are removed.
7. The numerals in the property's street address are clearly visible from the street.
8. A working smoke detector is on each floor and in or near each bedroom to meet code.
9. A working CO detector protects homes with combustion appliances or attached garage.
10. A currently dated Class ABC fire extinguisher is available in or near the kitchen.
11. Water heaters, furnaces and space heaters that produce CO exhaust outside.
12. No known electrical hazards are present, and kitchens and baths have GFCIs.
13. The homeowner has access to a working water heater, refrigerator and range.
14. The kitchen and bathrooms have an exhaust fan vented outside.
15. The homeowner has access to a working sink, toilet, and bathtub or shower.
16. Modifications to toilets and tubs assist those who need help using the toilet or bathing.
17. Grab bars are strategically placed for those at risk of falls.
18. Stairs and steps have secure handrails that meet occupants' needs.
19. Main rooms and stairs are free of tripping hazards.
20. Old, filthy wall-to-wall carpeting has been replaced, preferably with durable flooring.
21. The clothes dryer, if present, vents outside with metal duct and unobstructed airflow.
22. The homeowner can maintain the interior temperature in a comfortable range.
23. Main rooms and stairs have adequate lighting for occupants to move about safely.
24. Interior paint and wall covering is intact.
25. The home is free of active water leaks and serious moisture problems.