

National Healthy Homes Month **June 2021**

WHEREAS, in 2016, Alameda County was the first jurisdiction in the nation to recognize the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's first ever National Healthy Homes Month; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Alameda County's Community Development Agency Lead Poisoning Prevention Department changed its name to the Healthy Homes Department to reflect its expanding work and.

WHEREAS, home health and safety hazards, including physical safety hazards, lead-based paint, radon, asbestos, mold, pests, and allergens, cause or contribute to a wide range of illnesses and diseases, including lead poisoning, asthma, cancer, and injuries; and

WHEREAS, over 300 children in Alameda County are lead poisoned each year; and

WHEREAS, over 256,000 people, including 1 in 4 children, living in Alameda County have been diagnosed with asthma which is often triggered by substandard conditions such as pets or mold; and

WHEREAS, in a two-year span there were over 287,491 emergency room related visits for unintentional injury occurring within the home among Alameda County residents; and

WHEREAS, more than one-third of adults over age 65 fall each year, and of these about 30 percent suffer injuries that decrease mobility and independence; and

WHEREAS, many Alameda County families and households are unaware that their homes can have serious health hazards, and education and awareness about the dangers of unhealthy or unsafe housing can save lives; and

WHEREAS, for over 26 years, the Alameda County Community Development Agency Healthy Homes Department has worked to develop effective individualized and strategic community solutions, applying technical expertise to resolve health-related housing conditions that plague our communities, compromise people's health, injure occupants such as the elderly and cause serious long-term harm to young children; and

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Community Development Agency Healthy Homes Department has assessed and provided technical assistance to over 10,000 homes with young children; remediated asthma triggers and lead hazards in 2,500 homes, made minor home repairs for over 1,000 eligible elders and disabled homeowners and trained more than 2,200 individuals in healthy homes principles and lead safe work practices.

NOW THEREFORE, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California proclaims **June 2021** as **National Healthy Homes Month** and encourages residents, public and private organizations to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities designed to enhance public awareness of home health and safety hazards and the ways we can protect our families from these hazards.

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