



A Message from the President



As a long-time board member and the new President, I am proud of the accomplishments of the Healthy Homes Coalition. One of Healthy Homes' defining characteristics is collaboration, and it's this ability to make connections with government, other non-profits, community leaders, and parents that has been the key to our success.

My fellow board members and the staff at Healthy Homes recognize the value of making connections. Drawing from our roots in the successful *Get the Lead Out!* campaign, we will be building upon those experiences in the coming year with the exciting partnerships featured in this report.

The support of generous individual donors and committed philanthropists is one especially important connection. We're thankful for the support provided this past year from the Heart of West Michigan United Way, Altacor, Spectrum Health, the Sebastian Foundation, the PNC Foundation, the CDV5 Foundation, and the Non-Profit Technical Assistance Center. And we especially cherish the gifts of the 241 individual and corporate donors who supported Healthy Homes financially in the past fiscal year.

The most important connections, however, are the connections we all can make with parents and their children. We continue to be truly inspired by the courageous and hard-working parents we meet every week who partner with us to ensure good health and bright futures for their children. By working together, all of us can do our part help the children of Grand Rapids succeed.

Barbara Meconis, RN
Board President

Our Impact

Healthy Homes for Healthy Kids

- **87 Assessments** for lead hazards, asthma triggers, accidental injury, and radon.
- **69 Family-Centered Action Plans** created to map out steps to be taken to address hazards in homes. These plans also identify resources to support improvements.
- **40 Families Received Pest Management Assistance.** Pests like cockroaches and mice contribute to asthma and allergy-related breathing problems.
- **96% of Families Increased Their Awareness** of hazards in the home and how to better protect their child.

Alarms and Safety

- **364 carbon monoxide alarms installed.**
- **1,288 smoke alarms installed.**
- **368 families received alarms.**

Community Outreach & Education

- **21 community outreach events.**
- **12 classes** for professionals with **216 people attending.**
- **56 people assisted** with application to the *Get the Lead Out!* lead hazard control program.

Policy & Advocacy

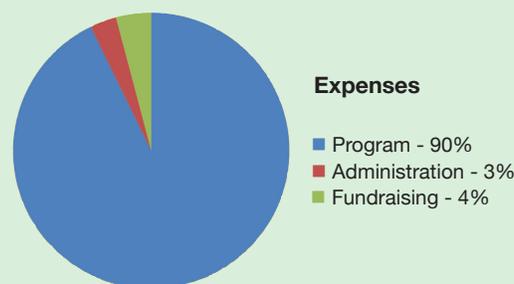
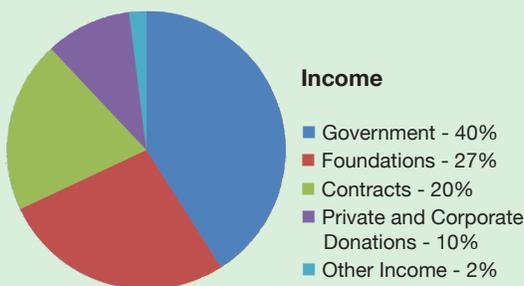
- The Healthy Homes Coalition continues to work with state and national partners to promote proactive rental property inspections and to protect funding that makes homes safer for children.

Financials

For the fiscal year July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, the Healthy Homes Coalition raised \$419,845 in revenue, an increase of 32% over the previous year. Expenses totaled \$398,613. Assets at the end of the year totaled \$59,559.

Government contracts constituted 41% of revenue, followed by foundation support at 27%, private contracts at 20%, private and corporate donations at 10%, and other income at 2%. Only 4% of the organization's budget was spent on fundraising.

The Healthy Homes Coalition has a broad base of support. Last year, 241 individuals and corporations made contributions to Healthy Homes, exclusive of grants.





One Family's Story



The Healthy Homes Coalition met Ysidra in November after canvassing her southeast-side rental home as a part of the project funded by the Fair Housing Center of West Michigan. Her 10-year-old daughter Jalila has asthma and was having trouble breathing at night. Jalila and her little sister were sharing a mattress without a bed frame and using furniture cushions as pillows. The dust mites held within the couch cushions, as well as the bed being so close to the floor, were triggering Jalila's asthma and keeping her from getting a full night's rest. In addition, Ysidra was having issues with cockroaches - which can worsen asthma symptoms.

Thanks to the generosity of the Fair Housing Center, Healthy Homes was able to provide green cleaning supplies, a hygrometer, and a vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter as well as a new mattress, bed frame, mattress cover, and new pillows with allergy covers for Jalila. Ysidra has used the strategies taught by Healthy Homes to reduce roaches in the home and Jalila's asthma has improved. Jalila went through her first cold season without a trip to the doctor for asthma. Now she's sleeping through the night.

Who We Serve

The Healthy Homes Coalition serves a representative cross-section of the greater Grand Rapids community with an emphasis upon low-income families. Here's a snapshot of our family partners:

Black or African American	31%
Hispanic or Latino	41%
White, non-Hispanic	16%
Multiracial	11%
All others	1%

- 14% are households where **Spanish** is the primary language spoke in the home.
- 41% are **homeowners**.
- 93% qualify for **state assistance** (Medicaid, WIC, or food assistance).
- The **median income** is \$17,301/year.
- Average **family size** is 5 people.

Red = Decrease from 2013-2014
Green = Increase from 2013-2014

Making Connections

True to our name and mission, the Healthy Homes Coalition is using a coalition approach to make children's homes safe. To do this, we are building upon successful programs like *Get the Lead Out!*, our former CLEARCorps program, and *Healthy Homes for Healthy Kids*.

Healthy Homes is connecting with both **Trinity Health** and **Spectrum Health** to offer targeted interventions for children with a history of emergency room usage or hospitalizations for asthma. Both programs will launch in October 2015 and will serve 125 families in twelve months.

Healthy Homes is also connecting with Health Net, the Asthma Network, Spectrum, and Priority Health in a feasibility study to explore "**Pay for Success**" as a sustainable way to finance our work. The current study focuses on remediating household asthma triggers to improve children's health, resulting in decreased health care utilization costs. Pay for Success will return those savings to pay for more intervention, leading to a sustainable funding model for making kid's home safe.

Grand Rapids is one of only five sites nationwide connecting with the Baltimore-based **Green and Healthy Homes Initiative** to demonstrate readiness for PFS.

This past summer, thanks to the **Dyer-Ives Foundation**, Healthy Homes also began connecting with dozens of preschool partners to partner better. The logic of the **Healthy Homes for Educational Success** program is that quality housing leads to better health and stronger families, which lead to better school readiness and attendance. The project is building partnerships with Great Start Readiness programs, the Early Learning Neighborhood Collaborative, Head Start, Baby Scholars, and others. A graduated launch is expected to begin with the 2016-2017 school year.



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