

# Community Action for Healthy Housing

There are a lot of things that a resident can do to make their home healthy. They can wipe down shower stalls, get rid of clutter, keep food in sealed containers, use exhaust fans, make sure that smoke alarms work, and have their children tested for lead poisoning.

But what if a landlord refuses to fix a leak or clean up mold? What if a homeowner can't afford to seal up a crack or repair a window themselves? Here are some tools for action that may help with these problems.

**If the resident is a renter**, the first thing they should do is **check their lease!** Usually, their lease will say that the landlord has to keep the property in good condition.



Not sure what good condition means? **Contact** your local department of housing, a building code official, or your local health department to **find out how a landlord in your community is required to maintain their property.**



**If the resident lives in Section 8 or other public housing**, HUD requires that the property meet certain standards called the Housing Quality Standards.



**Contact** your landlord and/or local public housing authority to **find out the requirements the landlord must follow to maintain a property for Section 8 or other public housing residents.**



**If you are working with a homeowner who needs money for repairs,** you may be able to get the money (as a grant or loan) from a weatherization or minor repair program.



Many weatherization or minor repair programs are run by a local **Community Action Agency**. Look in the phone book for one in your community. If you can't find one, **contact** your local Department of Housing. If your community has a local **healthy homes program** or **lead hazard control program**, they might be able to help also.

[ADD ADDITIONAL LOCAL RESOURCES  
HERE]

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RESOURCES HERE]