



**National Center for
Healthy Housing**

Creating healthy and safe homes for children through practical and proven steps.

National Committee on Housing and Health Initial Meeting

October 10, 2012 1:00 - 2:30 PM



Meeting Objectives and Agenda

- Introduce and acquaint members
- Review and discuss the purpose of and process for developing the standard

1:05 Welcome

Dr. Tom Vernon and Dr. Georges Benjamin

1:10 Introductions

1:20 Background, Role of Committee, Process *Rebecca Morley and Jane Malone, National Center for Healthy Housing*

1:40 Discussion and Decisions

2:00 Next Steps



Introductions - Committee Members

- Meri-K Appy
- Dr. Georges Benjamin
- Dr. Gail Christopher
- Henry Cisneros
- Dr. Carlos Dora
- Dr. Ruth Etzel
- David Fukuzawa
- Dr. Lynn Goldman
- Moises Loza
- Nic Retsinas
- Dr. Megan Sandel
- Steve Thomas
- Dr. Tom Vernon
(Chair)



**National Center for
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Background and Need



The Link between Housing and Health



“The connection between health and the dwelling of the population is one of the most important that exists”. [1]

Florence Nightingale

Cited in Lowry, S. BMJ, 1991, 303, 838-840



Health in the Late 19th Century



- Tuberculosis, Typhoid, Cholera
- Light, Fresh Air, Reduce Crowding, Improved Sanitation.
- Disease Rates Declined

The miasma that was thought to cause cholera was linked to the squalor of the poor.



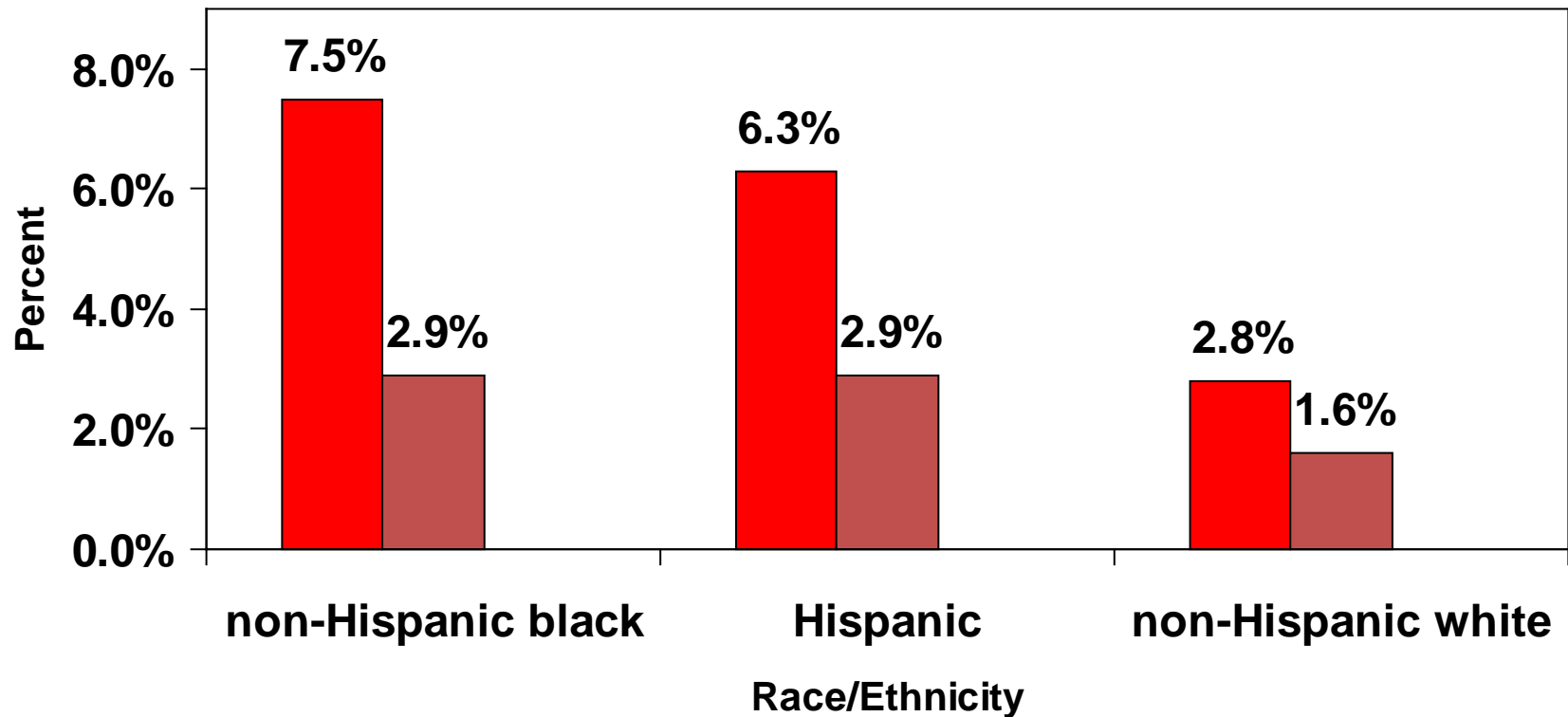
Health Consequences of Inadequate Housing are Substantial

- Indoor dampness/mold
- Home injury
- Crowding
- Indoor cold
- Traffic noise
- Second-hand smoke
- Radon
- Lead
- CO
- Formaldehyde
- Indoor smoke from solid fuel
- Housing quality





Race/ethnicity of people living in homes with severe and moderate physical problems



Source: American Housing Survey, 2005

■ moderate ■ severe



Fragmented Housing Policies

- Federally-Owned and Assisted Housing
 - HUD Housing Quality Standards (rental)
 - HUD Minimum Property standards (mortgage insurance)
- Privately-Owned Housing
 - Property Maintenance Code – International Code Council
 - State laws (e.g. health code) and local ordinances
 - Some jurisdictions have no housing maintenance requirements or sanitary code





Standards Outdated

- Recommended Health and Housing Standards
 - Last updated 1986
- HUD Housing Quality Standards
 - Last update:
- International Codes
 - Health and safety changes often voted down
 - E.g. lead-based paint, carbon monoxide, radon





National Center for
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Surgeon General's Call to Action


"We must continue to work together across communities and the nation to ensure our homes are sited, designed, built, renovated, and maintained in ways that support the health of residents."

Ron Sims, Former HUD Deputy Secretary



<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/healthyhomes/index.html>

State of the Nation's Healthy Housing

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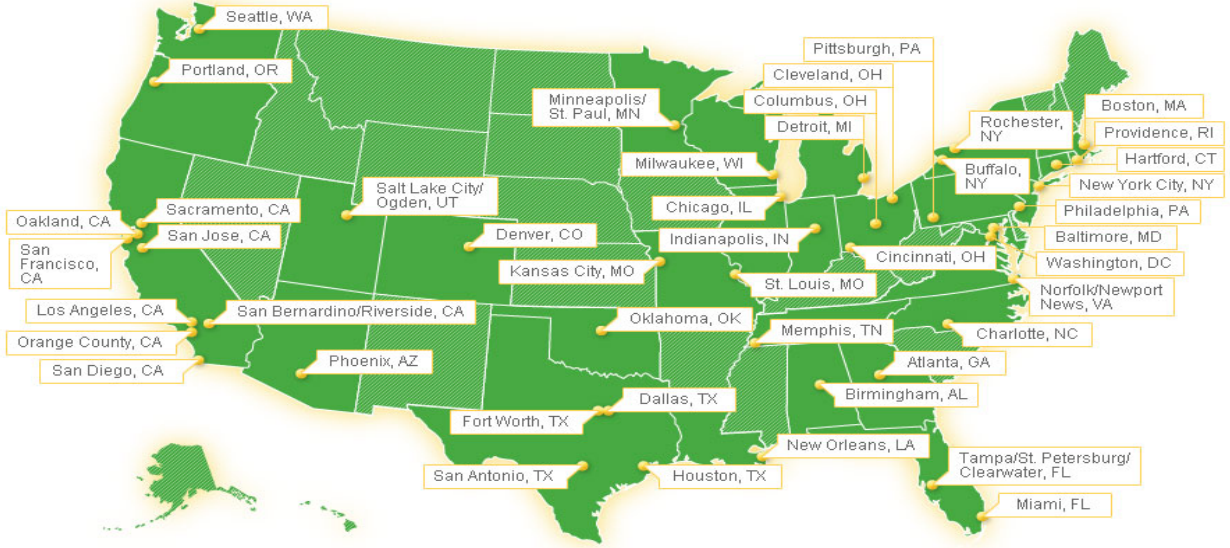
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State of the Nation's Healthy Housing

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Inside State of the Nation's Healthy Housing

[Study Design](#)



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www.nchh.org/Policy/State-of-Healthy-Housing.aspx



Purpose and Objectives of Standard

- Purpose
 - To improve the quality of existing U.S. homes and reduce housing-related health disparities
- Objectives
 - Develop an *attainable, enforceable, and practicable* healthy housing standard
 - Create an implementation plan to aid adoption



National Center for
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Role of Committee & Process



Key Players

- American Public Health Association (APHA)
- National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH)
- National Committee on Housing and Health
- Technical Review Work Group



Characteristics of the Standard

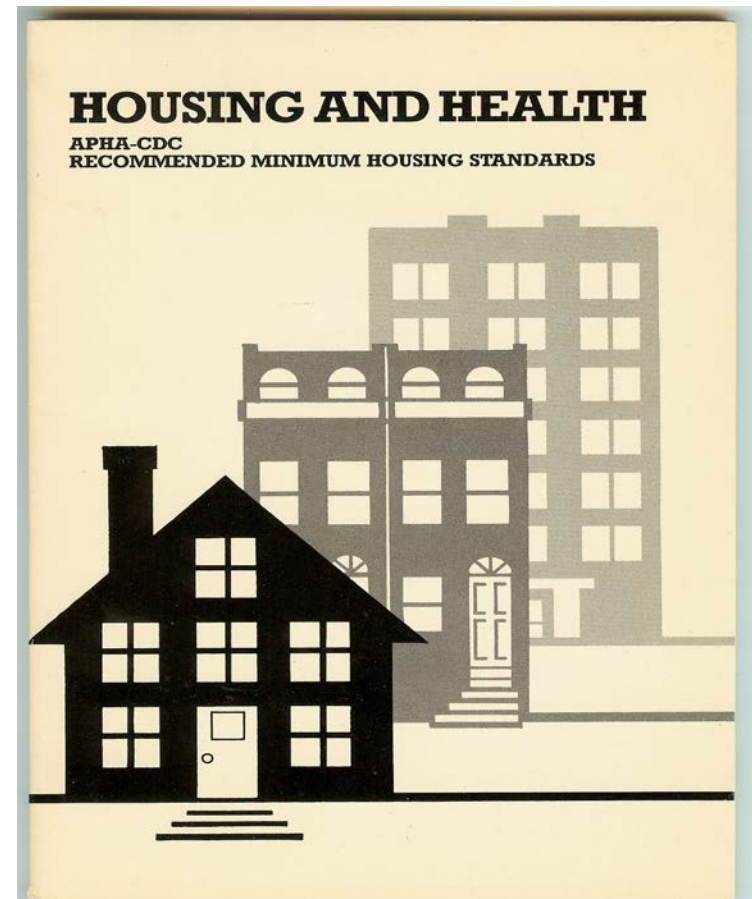
- Evidence-based: Supported by science
 - To prevent disease and injury
 - To improve health outcomes
- *Attainable, enforceable and practicable*
- Not a construction or rehab standard:
 - focus on condition of occupied dwellings



National Center for
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Foundational Document

- Health-Protective
- Model Ordinance
- Property Owner and Occupant Responsibilities
- Directed at Public Health Agencies





Building on a Historic US Dialogue

- League of Nations Housing Commission -1936
- Basic Principles of Healthful Housing -1939
- American Housing Act: decent home suitable living environment for every family - 1949
- Proposed Housing Ordinance - 1952
- Recommended Minimum Housing Standards (APHA-CDC 1986)



The Standard's Value Added

- Model for local adoption
- Model for federal adoption (e.g. HQS, ICC)
- Standard of care for any home



Timeline

Task	Activities	Deadline
Provide Input, Adopt Strategy	Convene Committee	October 10, 2012
Key Constituent Outreach	Meet with Housing Industry, Federal Agencies	November 2012
Review of Legal Provisions	Expert Consultation	November 2012
Develop Standard	Technical Review Work Group (TRWG) Meetings Committee Meeting	December 2012 January 31, 2013
Obtain Stakeholder Input	Public Comment Period and Presentations	February 2013
Develop Final Version	Address Comments	April 2013
Committee Endorsement	Committee Meeting	May 15, 2013
Publication and Adoption		



Key Process Points

- National Committee on Housing and Health
 - Convenes to Review Process and Plans (Oct)
- Technical Review Work Group
 - Conducts scientific review of staff draft (Nov/Dec)
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - Housing industry leaders/associations & Federal agencies (Oct & Ongoing)
- Public comment (February)
- Incorporate Comments (March/April)
- Dissemination - May



National Housing and Health Committee Role

- Feedback on Strategy and Process
 - Credibility and Optics
 - Dissemination
 - Key Stakeholders
- Involvement in Technical Work (as desired)
- Two More Meetings – 1/31/13 and 5/15/13



Contact Information

- Staff Lead: Jane Malone,
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- Chair: Dr. Thomas Vernon, vaxmd@
- Technical Work Group Chair: Jim Krieger



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DISCUSSION AND DECISIONS