

Keep Oregonians Housed and Healthy

Healthy Homes lower the cost of living and increase comfort

Solving Oregon's **housing crisis** is about more than building new housing, it's also about keeping low-income families from losing their homes. When everyone in our community has a healthy home with affordable utility bills, it will contribute to **greater housing security for our most vulnerable Oregonians**.

Healthy Homes is an innovative Oregon grant program that goes directly to household-serving organizations that do essential home repairs and improvements across the state. Its goal is to **keep low-income families healthy, reduce medical costs and energy bills**.

Fully fund the Healthy Homes Grant Program

The Healthy Homes program pays for repairs and replacements with high efficiency equipment, health, and resilience improvements to make people comfortable and lower their cost of living. A legislative investment of **\$15 million in 2024** is needed to support this critical program.



Healthy Homes will help Oregonians:

- Spend less money on heating and cooling
- Have refuge from bad outdoor air such as wildfire smoke
- Experience fewer sick days and emergency room visits (for example, due to lead or mold exposure)
- Live in more disaster-resilient homes
- Create good, local jobs in home retrofitting

Keep seniors, low-income, and frontline families in their homes

About 49% of homes and apartments Oregonians live in were built before 1980. Much of this housing is energy inefficient and in need of repairs. Frontline communities, including Black, Indigenous, and people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, and people in rural areas are at the highest risk.

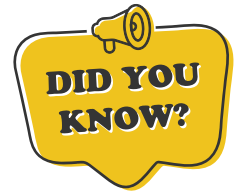
**Questions? Contact Ana Molina (ana@ojta.org)
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Healthy Homes fills in the funding gaps

An uninsulated home or a broken window lets frigid air or extreme summer heat inside. An expensive, polluting oil furnace won't keep someone warm if they can't afford to turn it on. While initial funding for the program was a good down payment, **it will run out** before the next budget cycle because there is so much need across the state.

Federal, state, and utility **assistance pay for some but not all of these repairs**. For example, without funds for mold mitigation, a federally-funded heat pump alone would not make a home with a mold problem safer. A contractor or community-based organization may not be able to take on the project. Grant funds from the Healthy Homes program **fill in the gap**.



Mold abatement and lead removal are NOT covered by other grant programs.



Healthy Homes funds vital repairs:

- Increased energy efficiency for lower utility bills and better comfort
- Radon, lead, allergens, and mold abatement
- Wildfire and air pollution filtration & air purification systems
- Structural improvements and repairs for accessibility
- Hardening against wildfire
- Earthquake resistance

Sustaining the Healthy Homes program is a top priority in 2024

- Included in **Fair Shot for All's** People's Budget.
- An **Oregon Just Transition Alliance** priority.
- An **Oregon Conservation Network (OCN)** priority.

The Healthy Homes program was set up by **bipartisan** HB 2842 in 2021.