Healthy Homes Grant Program: Promoting Health Equity Through Home Repairs

Sam Henstell, MPH, MURP Indoor Air Quality Workshop Environmental Law Institute October 6th, 2023





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About Me



Oregon Health Authority

Oregon Health Authority

Public Health Division

Environmental Health Section

Healthy Homes and Schools Unit



Public Health Modernization Funding



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Healthy Homes Grant Program

HHGP provides "grants to eligible entities that provide financial assistance to persons in low-income households to repair and rehabilitate their residences and to landlords to repair and rehabilitate dwelling units inhabited by low-income households."

- (Oregon HB 2842, 2021; additions made with SB 1536, 2022)



HHGP Overview



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HHGP Implementation Steps

Spring 2022

• Hire Initial staff

Winter/Spring 2023

 Conduct Rules Advisory Committee

Winter 2024

 Accept applications and award funding





- Conduct Task Force
- Consult with Nine Federally Recognized Tribes of Oregon



 Draft and post Request for Grant Applications



HHGP Mission

"...to improve housing conditions and health outcomes for low-income Oregonians, including:

- Communities of color;
- Immigrant and refugee communities;
- LGBTQ community;
- Communities experiencing health inequities;
- Tribal communities;
- Rural communities;
- Remote communities;
- Coastal communities;
- Communities with limited infrastructure; and
- Other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth, and persons with disabilities."

Focus on Health Equity

OHA goal

HHGP mission

Focus on low-income households and environmental justice communities

Tribal set asides

Intentional outreach

Application scoring criteria

Focused future funding tracks

Health-equity data

Working with academic institutions



Data Tracking and Assessment



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Thank You

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