

# ReBuild NC Affordable Housing Programs

Everyone deserves to live in a safe, affordable home, regardless of income.



Stable housing also plays an important role in community health and can affect:

- **Education:** Children in unstable homes are more likely to fall behind in school and perform poorly on standardized tests.<sup>1</sup>
- **Health:** Seniors in stable, affordable housing have less depression, and children have fewer developmental and behavioral problems.<sup>2</sup>
- **Economic Development:** Many employers consider affordable housing when deciding where to locate a business.<sup>3</sup>

## HOW STORMS AFFECT THE AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Storms often cause damage that reduces the amount of safe housing and residents' ability to afford it. Two factors that affect affordable housing following a storm are:

- **Increased Demand:** There is a demand for undamaged homes, reconstruction materials and skilled labor. This means renters and homeowners pay more to repair their homes or find new housing.
- **Job Loss:** Many areas see a permanent loss of jobs, which makes it harder for residents to afford safe housing and causes some to miss housing payments.

## WHY NORTH CAROLINA NEEDS MORE AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Homeowners and renters who spend more than 30% of their household income on housing costs may face financial challenges. According to the North Carolina Housing Coalition, many households across the state face financial hardships, including over 25% of renters and 18%–29% of homeowners in Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Duplin, Edgecombe, Robeson and Wayne counties.

ReBuild NC offers housing recovery programs to help increase the amount of safe housing after a storm. Options are:

- Multi-Family Program
- Public Housing Restoration Program
- Single-Family Homeowner Repair Program
- Small Rental Repair Program

Through its Buyout Program, ReBuild NC also helps homeowners with limited financial means move out of flood-prone housing to safer areas.

**Questions?** Add your contact information to the sign-in sheet or learn more at <https://www.rebuild.nc.gov>.

<sup>1</sup> Cunningham and MacDonald, "Housing as a Platform for Improving Education Outcomes among Low-Income Children," May 2012, p. 8.

<sup>2</sup> Maqbool, et. al., "The Impacts of Affordable Housing on Health: A Research Summary," April 2015, p. 3.

<sup>3</sup> Wardip, et. al., "The Role of Affordable Housing in Creating Jobs and Stimulating Local Economic Development: A Review of the Literature," January 2011, p. 12.