

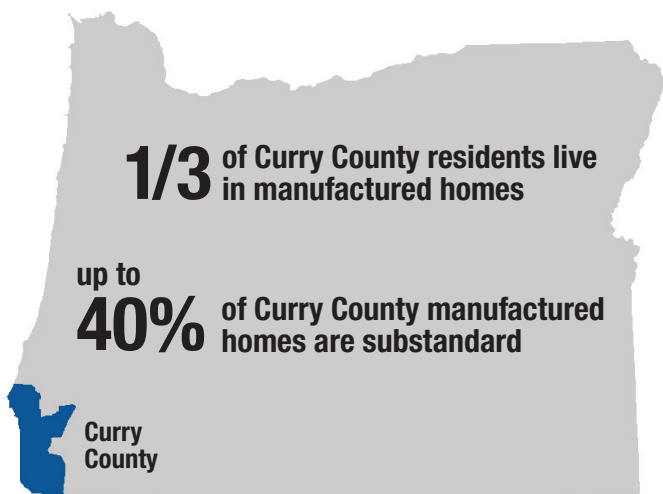
# Healthier Manufactured Housing in Curry County

## Curry County's health impact assessment helped incorporate health benefits into a housing upgrade program.

Americans spend about 60% of their time in the home, so it's no surprise that housing is important to health. Housing influences health in many ways, from indoor air quality to stress on family budgets. Manufactured homes can be an affordable housing option, but many manufactured homes in Curry County have outlived their intended life span. Housing advocates in Curry County proposed a pilot project to expand an existing state assistance program for home energy upgrades and repairs to manufactured homes. The Housing Stock Upgrade Initiative Health Impact Assessment (HSUI HIA) recommended ways of tailoring the pilot program to meet health needs.

HIA is a process for considering how a policy or plan might affect community health before the final decision is made.

## The HSUI HIA changed the way the state housing upgrade program is used in Curry County.



These changes may make 3,000 county residents eligible for assistance to recycle and replace their manufactured home. In November 2013, southern Oregon housing developer NeighborWorks Umpqua was awarded a \$450,000 grant from Meyer Memorial Trust to launch the pilot. On the strength of the HIA, Meyer Memorial Trust pledged an additional \$1 million in 2015. More than 60 families have applied for assistance, four homes have already been replaced and partners are gearing up to expand the program to the rest of the state.

## HIA recommendations

- Design new homes to address residents' needs as they age, such as 32 inch doorways and bathroom grab bars;
- Buy in quantity to get the best product at the lowest price;
- Boost the local economy by hiring local residents for building and repairing homes;
- Tell homeowners about the program and if there are financial risks; and
- Monitor applicant access and eligibility.

For more information or to view the full report, visit the Oregon HIA Program website [www.healthoregon.org/hia](http://www.healthoregon.org/hia)



Mike and Collette Bridgeford and granddaughter Sammie Faranda stand on their new home's foundation. They are the fourth Curry County family to get their manufactured home replaced through NeighborWorks Umpqua's reHome Oregon pilot project.