

The Rhode Island Foundation

Green and Healthy Homes Initiative Providence

Launched: January 2013

Public Partners: City of Providence, Rhode Island and Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources



**RHODE ISLAND
FOUNDATION**

The Rhode Island Foundation, established in 1916, is one of the oldest community foundations in the country, with assets estimated at \$700 million. As a direct result of the public-philanthropic partnership between the Foundation and the City of Providence, Providence was awarded designation as a Green & Healthy Homes Initiative™ (GHHI) site in early 2010. GHHI addresses substandard housing by braiding categorically separate but mission-related funding and programs, and by leveraging federal, state, local and philanthropic resources.



Contractor, Eddie Soto, is proud to be a part of GHHI's efforts and all that he has learned.



GHHI Homeowner Participant, Mike Brown, is thrilled about his healthier and more energy efficient home.

In January 2013, with leadership from the Foundation, the City of Providence, the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning (Coalition), and the GHHI Providence Steering Committee made up of more than 30 city and state organizations and agencies, the first phase of the GHHI Providence Neighborhood Innovation Pilot was completed. Concentrating in two low-income neighborhoods, the pilot resulted in:

- completion of health, safety, and weatherization retrofit interventions of 135 housing units;
- twelve minority contractors cross-trained to perform weatherization, healthy homes, and/or lead hazard control work;
- trained Resident Educators delivering more than 675 hours of health, safety, and energy efficiency related education to families; and
- An electronic data collection system made up of more than an accumulated 65,000 completed data fields which manages data for analysis on topics such as energy cost savings, pre and post health, safety and energy maintenance behavior, and reduction in hospital visits. A one year post program evaluation will be completed in 2013.

Building off a \$3.2 million Housing and Urban Development Lead Hazard Control grant and an initial Foundation grant of \$60,000, the City of Providence, the Coalition, and other partners have subsequently leveraged more than \$1.5 million in public and private funding for GHHI work in Providence. The success of the Providence GHHI pilot program has catalyzed efforts to expand its model state-wide.

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The Rhode Island Foundation is a proactive community and philanthropic leader dedicated to meeting the needs of the people of Rhode Island.

www.rifoundation.org