

Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Green & Health Homes Initiative (GHHI)?

Green & Healthy Homes Initiative: Marin County is a partnership of local nonprofits, government agencies, utility providers, and funders that delivers services and education to create healthy, safe, and energy efficient homes.

2. What is the purpose of GHHI in Marin? What are we trying to do?

GHHI-Marin is guided by a “theory of change” that is new and somewhat unique. We believe that if low to moderate income Marin residents can seamlessly access the information, incentives, and services necessary for integrated energy, health, and home safety improvements, then more residents will utilize related programs and services, which will reduce energy/water consumption, waste generation, and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as enable more Marin residents to experience improved health and safety within their homes.

3. What is the history of GHHI—nationally and here in Marin?

GHHI was originally established in 2008 with support from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 30 philanthropic foundations and 12 pilot cities to advance the work of lead poisoning prevention and Healthy Homes in a more comprehensive, sustainable and cost-effective manner. In 2014 the Marin Community Foundation (MCF) began to explore the possibility of bringing the GHHI model to Marin County.

By Summer 2015, MCF launched an exploratory taskforce representing a broad spectrum of the local Marin County energy/health/safety ecosystem. The taskforce determined that there is indeed compelling local need for a “sustainable and healthy homes” program within Marin County and recommended the launch of a GHHI pilot project in Marin. A formal Advisory Committee has guided the design of the pilot in conjunction with MCF and the GHHI national office. That pilot will launch in September 2016, with the potential to transition into a permanent local program pending demand and service delivery outcomes.

4. What impact does GHHI-Marín plan to achieve?

The GHHI-Marín program has been designed to improve the lives of Marin residents and our local environment in the following ways:

- ✓ Improved health outcomes (e.g., asthma)
- ✓ Increased safety within the home
- ✓ Sustained independence within the home, including “aging in place”
- ✓ Reduced use of natural resources (e.g., energy and water)
- ✓ Decreased waste generation
- ✓ Reduced emissions of greenhouse gasses
- ✓ Increase in local workers trained in green and healthy home practices

5. Who is involved in GHHI-Marín?

During the pilot phase, the following organizations will be actively involved in service delivery and community education. The network of involved organizations will likely expand as the project expands its reach throughout Marin County.

- ✓ Age Friendly Sausalito
- ✓ Community Action Marin
- ✓ County of Marin, Community Development Agency
- ✓ Strategic Energy Innovations
- ✓ County of Marin Community Development Agency
- ✓ Marin Clean Energy
- ✓ Marin Center for Independent Living
- ✓ Marin City Community Development Corporation
- ✓ Marin County Department of Health and Human Services
- ✓ Marin Housing Authority

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- ✓ Marin Community Foundation (convener and funder)
 - ✓ Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (national office; technical assistance provider)

6. What types of services will be provided through GHHI-Marín?

A sample of the home improvements and repairs that are provided through GHHI-Marín include: roof, door, window, and foundation repair; pest remediation; installation of grab bars and ramps; installation of energy conservation measures and heating/cooling systems; and waste reduction strategies.

7. Who is eligible to receive services in the GHHI-Marín program?

While anyone can apply for services through the GHHI-Marín program, free or subsidized services are available only to those individuals and families meeting specific eligibility criteria. Sample criteria may include income level and a household member living with a disability. It is highly recommended that any interested person completes the simple intake form to learn more about available services. (Please see below.)

8. How do interested individuals access GHHI-Marín services?

Anyone interested in learning more about the GHHI-Marín program should complete the basic intake form. The intake form is available by:

- ✓ Contacting any of the partner agencies
- ✓ Emailing or calling the GHHI-Marín Project Coordinator
- ✓ Downloading from a website (as of October, 2016, this option is not yet current)

If the interested individual or family meets the eligibility criteria, a comprehensive home assessment will be conducted and work plan recommended.

9. Does GHHI-Marín work with landlords and the owners of multi-unit buildings?

Yes, GHHI-Marín welcomes inquiries from landlords, property managers, and the owners of multi-unit buildings. Please contact Michelle Nochisaki (see below) for more information.

10. Whom should I contact if I am interested in becoming a service or outreach provider?

Contact Michelle Nochisaki, GHHI Marin Outcome Broker: mnochisaki@ghhi.org or (415) 464-6657.

11. Whom should I contact if I am interested in financially supporting the GHHI-Marín initiative?

Contact Patti D'Angelo Juachon at the Marin Community Foundation: pjuachon@marincf.org or 415-464-2547.