

## Providing a foundation for Healthier Indoor Environments

## American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest Health House® Program

- A program that provides a foundation for healthier indoor environments.
- Expects participating builders to follow a strict set of guidelines, exceeding other published indoor air quality standards.
- Aids the builder and resident(s) in making informed choices when building a healthy home.
- Seeks to improve air quality by using building materials that are less toxic, providing greater durability and increasing energy efficiency.
- The Radon Excellence program is a sub-set of the overarching Health House® Builder Program.

## Radon Excellence - A Health House® Program

- A Health House Program focusing on Radon Resistant Construction techniques and activating mitigation systems in newly constructed homes.
- Partnership between the builder, the licensed mitigation professional, American Lung Association in Illinois, Illinois Emergency Management Agency and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Exceeds requirements of the Illinois state law.
- Active mitigation systems lower radon levels as much as reasonably possible, reducing the resident's risk of obtaining radon induced lung cancer.
- Adds greater value to the home and reduces cost of installation at home resale.
- Participation is not mandatory, but simply a marketing program to give credit to contractors reducing the risk of radon-induced lung cancer.
- Participating builders are considered Health House® approved for Radon Excellence, and ALAUM will advertise as such through press release or print media (i.e. newspaper advertisements).

## **Program Participation**

- The program requires little work from the builder, other than to allow the ALAUM to acknowledge their
  participation in a press release and allow mitigator to place yard sign at sites where active mitigation
  systems are being installed.
- The mitigator will be responsible for coordinating sign installation and pick-up at each site per the request of the builder.
- ALAUM will work with local media to distribute press release or find other marketing strategies as
  appropriate; and can provide home builders with a fact sheet about active radon resistant construction
  and the program to distribute during showings.
- Contact Abby Brokaw, Environmental Programs Director for the American Lung Association in Illinois, at Abby.Brokaw@Lung.org or 217-787-5864.

