



## Eliminating Lead Poisoning in New Jersey: Collaborating to Implement Strategic Innovations



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# National Lead Campaign

## Activities to date

- National Lead Summit of Key Stakeholders (December 2016 in Washington, DC) – **Call to Action**
- GHHI 2016 Strategic Plan to End Childhood Lead Poisoning – A Five Year Blueprint For Action
- Inaugural Lead Poisoning Prevention Catalytic Awards

## Other Lead Strategic Plans

- **Pew/RWJ**: 10 Policies to Prevent and Respond to Childhood Lead Exposure
- **Find It Fund It Fix It**: A Lead Elimination Action Drive
- **Earthjustice**: Plan of Action to Prevent Childhood Lead Exposure
- **American Academy of Pediatrics**: Prevention of Childhood Lead Toxicity
- **Environmental Defense Fund**: Lead Exposure from Multiple Sources - Interventions and Risk Communication



Strategic Plan to  
End Childhood Lead Poisoning

A Blueprint for Action





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## Policy Achievements

- ✓ Increase the budgets for HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes and CDC's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
  - Congress increased HUD OLHCHH from \$120M to \$230M
  - Congress increased CDC Lead Program from \$17M to \$35M
  
- ✓ Amend the Lead Safe Housing Rule
  - Amended blood lead action level to conform to the CDC blood lead reference level in federally assisted housing
  - Now requires enhanced lead risk assessment response protocol when an EBL child is identified including preventive testing of other units where children under 6 reside in a complex





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## Policy Achievements

- ✓ States and local governments should adopt the CDC lead reference level for lead poisoning prevention actions
  - States adopting 5 µg/dl action level for environmental investigation and medical case management: Illinois, Maine, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio and Oregon
- ✓ States and local jurisdictions should establish annual registration and regular lead treatment and inspection standards for pre-1978 rental properties that have not been tested and determined to be lead free
  - Example: Law passed in Toledo
- ✓ Allow HUD OLHCHH lead grantees and other HUD programs to use funds to replace lead fixtures and leaded service lines
  - HUD adopted policy allowing OLHCHH lead grantees to test for lead in water and use Healthy Homes Supplemental Funds to remediate lead in water hazards that are identified





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## Policy Achievements

- ✓ Medicaid should include lead hazard control interventions as a covered service under Medicaid/CHIP in the homes of EBL children
  - States allowing: Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, and Rhode Island
- ✓ Improve lead safe demolition standards
  - Example: Law adopted in Lewiston, ME and Baltimore, MD
- ✓ Enact universal blood lead testing
  - Example: State of Maryland
- ✓ Increase state and local lead in water remediation resources
  - Examples: Pennsylvania, Virginia, Cities of Flint and Memphis



## Best Practices from Around the Country

City/State	Policy
State of Maryland	➤ First state to mandate lead remediation and inspection of older rental properties before occupancy (1994)
St. Louis, MO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Comprehensive Lead Poisoning Prevention Action Plan</i> (2003)</li> <li>➤ 23% of kids poisoned in 2003</li> <li>➤ 1.7% of kids poisoned in 2014</li> </ul>
Rochester, NY	➤ Ordinance requiring lead remediation and certification of rental properties (2005)
Philadelphia, PA	➤ Established dedicated Lead Court Dockets
State of Maine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Landmark legislation passed mandating environmental investigation at 5 µg/dL (2015)</li> <li>➤ Funding provided for 6 new sanitarians (2015)</li> </ul>
State of New Jersey	➤ Investment in lead environmental investigation, case management and lead remediation (2017)



# A Blueprint for Action: Ending Lead Poisoning in 5 Years

## Advancing Five Other Key National Recommendations:

1. Increase federal lead hazard reduction budget to \$2.5 billion annually
2. End the sale of federally owned or insured properties containing lead hazards
3. Adopt a Lead Safe Income Tax Credit
4. Require all HUD or CDC government grantees to adopt the CDC threshold level for environmental investigation and medical case management in order to receive funding
5. Allow DOE WAP and HHS LIHEAP Programs to replace leaded windows with lead free Energy Star windows by revising the SIR to include health benefits in the calculation of the SIR



## Medicaid Funding Pathways for Lead and Healthy Homes

Pathway	Requirements	States
CHIP Health Service Initiative – State Plan Amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be within CHIP admin share</li> <li>States provide portion of funding</li> </ul>	Michigan (lead)-\$119M, Maryland (lead and asthma)-\$14.4M, Indiana (lead)-\$3M, Ohio (lead)-\$5M
Medicaid State Plan Amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifiable existing service codes and credentialed professionals to conduct services</li> <li>Must be eligible services</li> </ul>	Missouri (asthma)
1115 Waiver for lead services including window replacement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget neutral</li> <li>Available statewide</li> </ul>	Rhode Island (lead)
1115 Waiver (Delivery Service Reform Incentive Payment Program)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Budget neutral</li> <li>Available statewide</li> </ul>	New York (asthma)
1115 Waiver (health-related services / flexible services e.g. air conditioners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Managed Care pathway</li> <li>Services included in Medical-loss ratio but not in the plan's rates</li> </ul>	Oregon (asthma)



## Innovative Funding Support for Integrated Health, Energy, & Housing Interventions



- Attorney General Funds - \$2.3 million – Buffalo, \$1 million – Syracuse, \$1 million – Rochester, \$697,000 – Rhode Island
- Public Service Commission following utility merger:
  - \$19.6 million to MD State Housing Department; and
  - \$19 million to Baltimore City Housing Department
- Austin Settlement Funds \$1.2 Million (bond)
- New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA) Healthy Homes Project with NY Department of Health, NY Medicaid and NY HCR
- Connecticut Green & Healthy Homes Initiative Project (7 state agencies)
- Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA) - \$100M in federal funds to support initiatives that have a social impact.

## NEW JERSEY LEAD POISONING PREVENTION ACTION PLAN



## Key Findings: Lead Poisoning in New Jersey

### Housing

80% of NJ's housing was built before 1978

### Soil

New Jersey does not currently regulate demolition activities for lead safety

### Services to Children with EBL

Medicaid/CHIP is not currently covering the cost of lead case management or other services

### Blood Lead Levels

4,800 children under the age of six were found to have blood lead levels at or above 5µg/dL in 2016 (3.1%)

### Drinking Water

The Passaic Valley Water Corporation was in violation of the EPA's Lead & Copper Rule in 2016, with 25 samples exceeding lead standards

### Schools

15 of the state's largest 28 school districts reported at least 1 elevated level of lead in drinking water

### Primary Prevention

NJ has the opportunity to move to a risk-based primary prevention strategy in order to eliminate lead poisoning

### Data

Key indicators of risk and geographic data are not publicly available



## Key Recommendations: Lead Poisoning in New Jersey

### Housing

- Require lead testing at time of unit turnover or point of sale.
- Develop partnerships to enforce housing codes effectively.

### Soil

- Incorporate stronger standards for lead in soil.

### Services to Children with EBL

- Allocate sufficient resources using data-driven approaches to respond to the lowered blood lead reference level.

### Blood Lead Levels

- Increase Medicaid funding to support services to low-income families and children to reduce lead exposure risk and address the causes of lead poisoning.

### Drinking Water

- Update testing regimens and drinking water infrastructure to mitigate risks of exposure from lead in water.
- Include funding to replace water fixtures in state lead remediation pilot.

### Schools

- Equip educators with greater information in order to provide adequate services to children with EBLs in an effort to better mitigate the effects of lead poisoning.

### Primary Prevention

- Risk-based primary prevention program with a tiered approach to services at the time of pregnancy or birth.

### Data

- Make more health and housing data available to providers, advocates, and the public.





A young child with dark skin and short hair is lying on their stomach on a light-colored wooden floor. They are wearing a blue and white striped polo shirt and dark shorts. The child is focused on drawing on a large white sheet of paper spread out before them. They are using a red crayon to draw. The drawing includes a simple house with a blue roof and two small figures inside, one green and one pink. To the right of the house, there is a yellow sun-like figure with a face. The child's left hand is resting on the paper. In the background, the legs of a black chair are visible. The text "Our Opportunity: Our Charge" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Our Opportunity: Our Charge



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