



The
Alameda County
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Third Quarter Report 2008-2009

ALAMEDA COUNTY LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM
Third Quarter Report
FY 2008-2009

Table of Contents

Quarterly Highlights

Lead Poisoning Prevention

- Public Education and Outreach
- Compliance with Lead Safe Work Practices
- Lead Safe Work Practices Training

Lead Poisoned Children

- Promotion of Lead Screening
- Comprehensive Health Services
- Environmental Case Response

Lead Hazard Control

- HUD Round 13 and Round 16 Grants

Healthy Homes

- Healthy Homes Demonstration Project
- Healthy Housing Training

Program-wide Administrative Objectives

- New Regulations
- Language Assistance
- Data Analysis and Use

Appendix A

- Activities by CSA City

The Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (ACLPPP) presents its third quarter progress report on the goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. This report reflects progress on the objectives approved annually by the Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors of the Alameda County Lead Abatement District, which incorporate deliverables determined by the various granting agencies, as well as those designed by the Program to provide quality services to Alameda County's children and County Service Area (CSA) property owners.

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

Special Recognition Award from HUD

Jon L. Gant, Director of HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, and Karen Griego-West, HUD Region 9 representative, presented the ACLPPP with a Special Recognition Award at the Western Region Grantees meeting in Los Angeles on March 5th.

Ms. Griego-West said Alameda County has "gained tremendous benefits" from the work of the ACLPPP, and "HUD has also profited from the agency's extraordinary work through their unique multi-disciplinary approach to prevent childhood lead poisoning and other health related environmental problems. The organization is most famous for its outstanding capacity-building achievements." The Award reads:

*"In grateful recognition of your dedication and significant contribution in
Promoting Healthy Homes and advancing the
Presidential Goal of Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning.
Your efforts have improved the lives of many children."*

Presentation to City of Alameda Building Department, March 26, 2009

As a result of several recent unsafe renovation and unsafe condition complaints involving properties in the City of Alameda, city departments came together to clarify how the City responds to lead safety complaints.

Greg McFann, the Building Official, and Miriam Delagrange of the Development Services Department coordinated a presentation by the ACLPPP to building and code inspectors, permit center staff, Development Services staff, and others, on the impacts of lead poisoning, lead hazards and lead-safe renovation methods, and ACLPPP services. City representatives agreed to refer complainants to the ACLPPP for owner and contractor follow-up, possible site visits, and information about trainings and other program services. If these educational and voluntary compliance efforts fail, City representatives said they will pursue mandatory enforcement actions.

Twenty-one city staff attended the presentation which included the video "Leads Revenge" a PowerPoint presentation on the health effects of lead exposure, slides showing unsafe and safe work sites and worker protection, and a review of State Housing Law requirements and the upcoming Federal Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule. ACLPPP resources were reviewed and a "Tool Box for Agencies" provided, which includes a CD of sample documents, educational materials, and ACLPPP contact information. Ms. Delagrange alerted staff to refer property owners needing assistance with repainting to her for possible lead hazard control funds provided under the City's contract with the ACLPPP.

Audience feedback was positive and the "Lead's Revenge" video was described by one participant as "the best industrial training video I have ever seen."

Healthy Homes Demonstration Project/Training

With the completion of the initial visits and interventions performed this quarter, the Healthy Homes Demonstration Project has surpassed the HUD Benchmarks for the grant. The Project proposal anticipated

completing interventions in 225 units and has completed interventions in 253 units. This number of completed units represents a 13% increase over the intervention benchmark. Despite funds are no longer available for direct intervention such as Healthy Home Maintenance Kits (provided to the client), allergen reduction treatments, fan installation (ventilation improvements), plumbing leak repair (moisture control), the Project continues to accept referrals and staff do make home visits, perform a visual inspection of the unit, provide education to the caregivers, and refer clients to agencies and programs specific to the client's need, such as Alameda County Vector Control, local jurisdiction home repair programs, and weatherization services. Follow up visits with clients not receiving direct intervention occur at three months. Project staff feels that education to clients is a key service in overall housing improvement due to behavior change by the occupants. The Project will continue accepting referrals for these modified services through September 30, 2009. Clients who receive educational home visits after June 30, 2009 will not receive follow up visits.

Forum on Lead and Developmental Disabilities

On February 13th, the Program sponsored a special presentation by Vicki Sudhalter, PhD, and Richard Belser, PhD, of the New York State Institute for Basic Research in Developmental Disabilities on new studies on the neuropsychological effects of lead poisoning on brain damage, and developmental disabilities, including autism. The presentation included new findings on the dangerous impact of lead exposure on specific developmental disabilities. The presentation was attended by a variety of medical and environmental professionals from through-out the Bay Area and was well received.

Nursing Case Management

This quarter staff identified a new source of lead exposure. The child first became known to the Program in September 2008 with a blood lead level of 43 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$). It was reduced to $23\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$, but has persisted at around $15\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ for a number of months. The Public Health Nurse (PHN) and the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) visited the child and family at three different residences, conducting the appropriate physical testing of the properties and conducting multiple family interviews. A few lead hazards were identified, but nothing significant.

The Program's Case Review Working Group monitored the case and concluded there must be another source contributing to the child's lead burden. The CRWG's persistence paid off at the final residence, when the REHS discovered a "lead mat" being used by the father for traditional Mexican paper cutting art. The father explained lead is used because it is hard, but also malleable, so it does not ruin his chisels and knives. The child had access to the work table, and the father also brought leaded dust into the house on his clothing and body after working on the mat. The PHN is working with the family to educate them on strategies to reduce the take home exposure of the father's activity (e.g. by denying table access to the child, changing into separate work clothes, hand washing, etc.), and the REHS is working with the family to find an alternative type of mat for this special paper cutting art. The Program has alerted the State Department of Public Health to this new lead source.

Below is an excerpt and photos from an article about the Mexican folk art of paper cutting. The complete article can be seen at: <http://www.internationalfolkart.org/eventsedu/education/muertos/papelpicado.html>



“The traditional process of making papel picado banners begins by drawing a design which becomes the patron or pattern. The pattern is then placed over multiple layers of tissue paper which rest on a thick layer of lead. The artisan then cuts through multiple layers of paper using a mallet to pound finely sharpened chisels of varying sizes and shapes through the paper and into the sheet of lead. The negative spaces must be removed from the design in a manner which allows the image to hang together after cutting. The process of transforming sheets of tissue from a design to a completed paper cut can take 30 or more hours. Like much of the traditional folk arts of Mexico, papel picado is dying out as village artisans abandon the labor-intensive process to find better paying factory jobs in urban centers.”(Margaret Sosa, Self-Help Graphics).

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

Public Education and Outreach

The Program’s public education and outreach activities are designed to increase awareness of the dangers of lead exposure and other housing related health hazards, and provide residents with information on how to prevent exposure. These activities are funded by the local County Service Area (CSA) fee, the California Department of Public Health (DPH), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Objective

Increase Awareness

By June 30, 2009 there will be a 20% increase (to 43,000) in the number of people in Alameda County who, through contact with the Program, increase their awareness of lead poisoning and ACLPPP services.

There has been an overall increase of 26% to date this year in the number of people contacting the Program through the website and information line this past quarter, compared to the first three quarters of last year. Website visits increased by 28% but there was a decrease in information line calls due to the Program’s stricter criteria for determining what constitutes an information line phone consultation. The large majority of contacts have been through the website (31,440) compared with the information line (466).

Increase Knowledge

By June 30, 2009, 1,200 people will demonstrate an increase in their knowledge of the risks, sources and ways to prevent lead poisoning.

A total of 661 people have increased their knowledge about lead poisoning prevention as a result of Program activities, which have included 47 presentations, classes and trainings to date this year. This past quarter the Program provided a lead safe painting and remodeling class; five one-day lead safe work practice trainings for property owners, maintenance personnel, contractors, re-entry individuals and Laney College carpentry students. It conducted presentations for parents, homeowners, Head Start service providers, and landlords. Eighteen people have completed the lead-safe work practice quiz on the Program’s website.

Increase Action

By June 30, 2009, 40% of people who have contacted the Program’s information line or website will have taken at least one action to prevent lead poisoning.

- 1) The Program received 36 calls this past quarter from repeat callers or people who had previously used the Program’s services. Of these calls, all 36 (100%) indicated that they had taken an action to prevent lead poisoning as a result of their previous contact with ACLPPP.

- 2) A total of 172 test kits have been provided this year. Data on the number of kits analyzed by the laboratory is not yet available. Previous data indicated that 33% of the kits provided to property owners had been utilized.
- 3) A total of 29 people have completed an online survey to provide feedback about the Program's website. Of these, 65% reported they were motivated by the site to take an action to prevent lead poisoning.
- 4) The feedback form for those receiving an In-Home Consultation and/or kit was revised to include a question about whether any preventative actions were taken as a result of this service. To date a total of 10 feedback forms with the action question have been received by the Program. Of these seven (70%) stated they had taken action as a result of utilizing the In-Home Consultation service.

Expand Collaboration

By June 30, 2009, five (5) additional agencies, community-based organizations and institutions will take action to increase public lead awareness by incorporating lead messages into their operations.

During the first two quarters, the ACLPPP worked with the Center for Environmental Health, Centro Legal de la Raza, St. Rose Hospital, California Poison Control, Association for Environmental Contractors along with CBS/CW TV, and the Emeryville Chamber of Commerce. This past quarter the program expanded collaboration activities to the following:

- 1) Working with the Get the Lead Out Coalition, CBS/CW TV enlisted the support of the Radiation Monitoring Devices, a company that sells XRF lead detection equipment, to sponsor a series of TV ads on CBS and CW TV stations. A total of 132 spots ran from February through March on prime time TV. The ads warned people of the dangers of lead-based paint and lead in consumer products and encouraged viewers to test their homes and have their children tested for lead. Viewers were directed to the Coalition's website at www.stoppinglead.org for more information.
- 2) The Program's outreach staff worked this past quarter with Oakland Community Organizations (OCO), Coliseum Prep Family Resource Center and the Alameda County Food Bank in a focused education and outreach campaign in East Oakland. See the Neighborhood Outreach Pilot Projects section below for more information.

Increase Use of CSA Services

By June 30, 2009 there will be a 10% increase in the number of CSA property owners who utilize CSA services.

There was a 32% increase in the access of CSA services during the last quarter.

Cumulative Measure	Thru Q3 2007-08		Thru Q3 2008-09		Difference	
	# provided	# of people	# provided	# of people	# change	% change
Lead Safe Painting (2 hour classes)	13	44	6	75	+ 31	+ 71%
Lead Safe Work Practices (1-day training)	9	73	14	154	+ 81	+ 111%
In-Home Consultations	175	175	124	124	- 51	- 29%
Kits given out	244	244	172	172	- 72	- 30%
HEPA vacuums	131	131	152	152	+ 21	+ 16%
Web page visitors: Services for CSA Property owners	n/a	981	1	1,161	+ 180	+ 18%
Web page visitors: Classes for CSA homeowners	n/a	1073	1	1,641	+ 568	+ 53%
TOTAL		2,721		3,479	+758	+28%

Activities:

- **Provide 60 educational opportunities to local community, neighborhood, property owner and parent groups as well as medical and childcare providers.**

A total of 27 educational presentations have been provided to date for parents, landlords, medical providers and the general public. This past quarter presentations were conducted for the San Pablo/Golden Gate Neighborhood group in Emeryville, at a Unity Council Parent meeting, at Washington Elementary School, Oakland Head Start Community Advisory Meeting, and for health care providers.

- **Provide five CSA classes on lead-safe painting and remodeling.**

The Program provided a class in lead-safe painting and remodeling at Oakland's Tassafaronga Recreation Center. Through these classes, a total of 75 people have increased their knowledge of the sources of lead hazards in the home and ways to safely conduct painting and remodeling projects to date this year.

- **Conduct neighborhood outreach pilot projects in two (2) high risk CSA neighborhoods. Program staff will identify two high risk neighborhoods, assess each neighborhoods needs and assets, and develop a plan for a coordinated outreach and education campaign.**

Program staff initiated the second neighborhood outreach project this quarter. The semi-industrial East Oakland area in zip code 94621 was selected based on a review of the demographic and blood lead screening data, which indicated that this is a high risk area with a disproportionately high level of children with elevated blood lead levels.

The outreach team conducted an assessment of the neighborhood including what community-based organizations are active in the area. Meetings were held with Oakland Community Organizations (OCO), Citizens for a Better Environment (which has issued a report on environmental impacts in East Oakland), Allen Temple Baptist Church, Coliseum Preparatory School, Lockwood Elementary and the Alameda County Food Bank to collaborate on activities to increase lead awareness and blood lead screening in the area. A Letter of Agreement was signed with Coliseum Prep and to make their Family Resource Center a model center for lead poisoning prevention education.

Program staff is also working with local churches that have food banks to reach low-income families, and to distribute flyers about lead in Mexican candies and the need for nutritious snacks. Activities in the East Oakland neighborhood will extend into the next quarter. Activities will include continued collaborative work with OCO, local churches and schools, a children's poster contest at the Grace Baptist Church food bank, outreach at the Coliseum Flea Market, and participation in the Grand Opening of the Family Resource Center and the Citizens for a Better Environment Toxic Tour and Workshop.

- **Provide the appropriate level of phone consultation, including referrals, to 1,440 callers to the Program's Information Line.**

The Program has provided a total of 466 phone consultations to the public this year.

- **Serve 42,000 unique visitors to the Program's website, while providing more interactive and user-friendly ways to access both information and program services.**

The Program has had a total of 31,440 visitors to its website (www.aclppp.org) to date. Interactive functions on the website include a lead-safe work practices quiz, on-line sign-up for in-home consultations, and a website feedback survey.

- **Conduct 200 In-Home Consultations for CSA property owners, which include a professional on-site consultation with a visual survey, and customized written recommendations for reducing lead hazards in the home. Property owners will also be offered a lead testing kit.**

A total of 124 In-Home Consultations and 172 testing kits have been provided this year.

Compliance with Lead Safe Work Practices

The ACLPPP works with neighborhood residents, building and code enforcement agencies, among others, to promote compliance with regulations requiring lead safe work practices when renovating pre-1978 structures. The Program provides guidance, educational materials, technical assistance and appropriate referrals to Alameda County residents concerned with potentially unsafe renovation activities.

In the cities of Alameda, Emeryville, and Oakland, staff also responds with a site visit if the risk of exposure warrants it. Unsafe renovation calls are tracked separately and follow-up calls made to determine the outcome. Staff will also provide technical support to City of Berkeley Public Health Department staff responding to Berkeley unsafe renovation complaints.

Objective

Increase compliance with lead safe work practices.

Activities:

- **Respond to 60 unsafe renovation complaints with telephone or on-site consultations. Provide information on clean-up, safe work practices, and evaluate complaints for possible referrals to appropriate enforcement agencies.**

The Program responded to eight unsafe renovation or unsafe condition complaints during the quarter for a year to date total of 30. Of the total to date, 25 were unsafe renovation complaints and five were unsafe condition complaints. Six have been in Alameda, nine in Berkeley, where the ACLPPP assists the Berkeley Public Health Department, two have been in Emeryville, eight in Oakland, and five were in other cities in the County.

Program staff provided information on regulations and lead-safe work practices, and some owners availed themselves to ACLPPP services such as HEPA vacuum loaner program, home lead sampling kits and on-site consultations. Site visits were performed at four properties. This quarter, the following agencies were involved in one or more of these complaints: building and fire departments of Alameda and Oakland; the Berkeley Public Health Department; the State Department of Public Health; the Bay Area Air Quality Management District; and the Environmental Services Department of the City of San Leandro.

The owner of a property identified in the last quarter with severely deteriorated paint was compelled by the City of Alameda to correct the deteriorated paint using safe methods this quarter. A separate incident involving unsafe renovation resulted in an article in the Alameda Journal, which included interviews with both Greg McFann, Building Official of the City of Alameda, and Julie Twichell of the ACLPPP.

In response to a recent series of peeling paint complaints in North Oakland, the ACLPPP has been in contact with Oakland Building Department staff to discuss how best to promote lead safety and ACLPPP services to affected property owners.

- **Develop two educational tools as part of Permit Office Materials.**

The ACLPPP has posted a lead-safe work practices quiz on the Program's website and has designed a "Lead Alert" sticker suitable for placing on building plans during the permit process and is encouraging their use by building departments in Alameda County.

- **Work with the City of Oakland Building Services Department to ensure correction of lead hazards at least one high risk property or properties where more than one child has shown evidence of lead exposure.**

To date, the ACLPPP has completed lead hazard control on a 61 unit property in Oakland with a past history of lead exposed children where inspections and compliance activities were carried out in conjunction with the Oakland Building Department and the Neighborhood Law Corps. The ACLPPP also supported Oakland Code Enforcement at a multi-family dwelling by providing information and training in lead-safe work practices to the property owner and his maintenance crew.

The ACLPPP conducts a quarterly review of properties where more than one child has shown evidence of lead exposure. This quarter, the City of Oakland Building Department provided information on code enforcement activities for several properties under the same ownership with multiple evidences of exposure.

- **Host an interagency collaborative of health, housing and community-based organizations to develop integrated approaches to lead elimination in communities.**

This activity will be addressed in a future quarter in collaboration with the Get the Lead Out Coalition.

- **Host a Bay Area Housing Forum on lead and housing specific issues and solutions.**

The ACLPPP hosted a Compliance Training Forum entitled, “New Lead Challenges in Alameda County” during the second quarter. Electronic versions of conference information and compliance tools are being distributed to attendees and invitees for their use in promoting awareness and compliance.

Lead Safe Work Practices Training

The ACLPPP offers lead-safe work practices training to promote practices that ensure children, occupants, neighbors, and workers are not exposed to lead during renovation of pre-1978 buildings.

The basic training course for lead-safe work practices is the HUD-EPA-approved, 1-day Lead Safety for Remodeling, Repair, and Painting. The Program also has a special collaborative relationship with the Laney Community College in Oakland to provide four one-day trainings to students in its Construction Program. The ACLPPP is also a state-accredited training provider and offers the three-day Worker and two-day Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor courses that are pre-requisites for certification in those disciplines.

Objective

Provide Lead Safe Work Practices Training to 130 individuals.

Activities:

- **Conduct 12 one-day HUD/EPA approved classes. Eight classes will be promoted for contractors, landlords, and homeowners; four classes will be conducted in collaboration with Laney Community College.**

Five LSWP classes were held during this quarter: one class in January, one class in February, and three classes in March. Total attendance for these classes was 56 participants. Of these classes, one class was held specifically for East Oakland’s Allen Temple Baptist Church, as part of its Department of Justice Reentry grant program, and two classes were provided for Laney College construction students. Of the persons attending classes this quarter, 27 were low-income persons, nine were CSA property owners, and 20 were contractors.

Fiscal year to date, 154 persons have attended this class.

- **Provide two state-accredited Lead-In-Construction trainings; one Worker and one Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor class.**

No state-accredited training was provided during this quarter.

LEAD POISONED CHILDREN

California Department of Public Health-Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (DPH-CLPPB) funds comprehensive services to ensure that children at risk for lead poisoning receive blood lead testing, and those identified with lead poisoning receive the necessary services to address the health and housing issues responsible for lead exposure.

Promotion of Lead Screening

One of the Program's primary functions is the early identification of children exposed to lead through lead screening or testing. Program staff conducts outreach to families and medical providers to encourage blood lead screening as called for under California Department of Public Health guidelines. The ACLPPP also collaborates with other government, community, and/or health care agencies and programs to increase lead screening of children at risk in Alameda County.

Objective

Increase Screening

Increase the number of children screened for lead to 10,000 by June 30, 2009.

Due to availability of data from DPH, the progress toward this objective will be reported twice a year (October quarterly report for January-June date, and April quarterly report for July-December data).

This quarter an inconsistency between the State Department of Public Health's screening data and that of the ACLPPP prompted the Program to defer reporting on the number of children screened until the fourth quarterly report. The Program has developed and implemented a quality assurance plan to conduct a six month retrospective review of screening data. The review will compare data received from DPH with the Program's internal data to determine the nature of the discrepancy and the subsequent plan of action that may be required.

Activities:

- **Conduct one capillary blood lead testing event to Medi-Cal eligible children in Alameda County.**
This activity was completed in a previous quarter.
- **Provide lead education to an estimated 50 Alameda County medical providers who serve children eligible for publicly-funded programs.**
This quarter, staff conducted lead education training to Alameda County Public Health Nursing Department reaching 34 staff. Topics included updates on recent recalls for lead in candies, toys and ceramics, as well as research on the consequences of lead levels below the current CDC level of concern of 10 µg/dl). Lead education has been presented to 61 providers to date.
- **Distribute annual 'Lead Poisoning Update' newsletter to an estimated 100 medical providers serving the high risk Medi-Cal population in Alameda County**
This quarter, staff met with City of Berkeley Lead Program to collaborate on a newsletter for the medical providers throughout Alameda County. Articles are being developed for the upcoming provider newsletter edition, with a projected distribution of June 2009.

- **Partner with two agencies serving children with populations to promote blood lead screening.** Staff participated in the quarterly meeting of the Afghan Health Consortium this quarter. Ongoing participation is vital to gaining the trust of this community and raising public awareness about their cultural practices that may cause lead poisoning in this population.
- **Conduct a special project with the Women, Infant, and Children Program (WIC).** Staff is currently developing educational materials/tools to provide and train WIC and other agency staff in order to assist them in institutionalizing ongoing lead health education with their parent groups. Staff is also working on the implementation plan to train-the-trainers with these newly developed tools; implementation is slated for next fiscal year.
- **Conduct a special project with one commercial childcare center to promote blood lead screening.** Staff met with the Alameda County Child Care Planning Council this quarter to discuss future collaborations. A number of potential actions were identified to collaborate and promote screening and educate about prevention strategies. First, staff conducted Lead & Healthy Housing training at a workshop sponsored by the Child Care Links organization, reaching providers at 12 commercial child care centers in Alameda County. Second, a California EPA grant opportunity was reviewed by both agencies to determine feasibility of a joint application. While this grant was not determined to be feasible at this particular time, it opened the door to future joint grant opportunities with the Child Care Planning Council. Third, staff has been invited to participate on the Council's future planning meetings.
- **Host and coordinate four meetings of the Regional Bay Area Lead Programs.** The third meeting of the fiscal year was held on January 23, 2009. It was attended by health, environmental and housing representatives from local Bay Area lead programs. Representatives from the State Department of Public Health Lead Branch provided local programs with an update on state issues.

Comprehensive Services to Lead Exposed Children

The ACLPPP strives to intervene early when a child has been identified as lead exposed. The Program offers an array of services to children identified with lead in their blood and their families. The type of service provided is determined by the levels of lead found in the blood.

Public Health Nursing Case Management is provided to families of children with blood lead levels greater than 15 micrograms per deciliter. The Program's case management of lead poisoned children is coordinated with the primary care provider, and encompasses comprehensive health assessments, the development and implementation of individualized care plans, and ongoing evaluation to determine effectiveness of the interventions. Particular attention is paid to the developmental status of the lead poisoned child by conducting developmental screenings and ongoing monitoring.

Case managers facilitate linkages to educational, community, health, and social resources, as needed. In addition, the nurse case manager coordinates the referral to the environmental professional for an environmental investigation to identify lead sources in a child's environment.

If the environmental investigation identified property-related lead hazards, the Program's housing professionals provide technical assistance to the occupants and property owners to ensure lead hazards are remediated in a lead-safe and timely manner.

The nurse case manager convenes a semi-monthly Case Review Working Group with environmental and housing professionals, evaluating all cases to ensure progress towards eliminating housing-based lead hazards. This collaboration between the health, environmental and housing professionals is imperative to ensure a reduction in children's elevated blood lead levels.

Lead Poisoning Consultations are provided to families of children with blood lead levels 10-14 micrograms per deciliter. They consist of in-home, one-on-one education; a visual survey of the home, along with health and housing education materials, and an environmental lead testing kit for those who are CSA property owners.

Telephone consultations are conducted when families decline an in-home consultation, which consist of education, technical assistance, and the mailing of the educational materials. Follow-up blood lead levels will be tracked and monitored to evaluate the need for further case management services.

Lead Poisoning Outreach & Education is provided to families of children with blood lead levels 5-10 micrograms per deciliter. This includes direct mailings of health and housing education materials on lead poisoning to the families. The child's blood lead levels are tracked and monitored to evaluate the need for further intervention and case management services.

Objective

Decrease Blood Lead Levels

By June 30, 2009, 80% of children with blood lead levels above 15 µg/dl will demonstrate decreased blood lead levels.

This quarter, staff completed the 57 chart reviews required to evaluate blood lead level reduction in children receiving case management services in 2007. The evaluation tracks blood lead levels over a one year period as well as educational and environmental interventions during that same time period. A complete analysis of the information will be completed and reported in the fourth quarter, but preliminary results indicate that the majority of children's blood lead levels have decreased.

Activities:

- **Provide appropriate services to children with newly identified blood lead levels.**
This quarter, 14 children with elevated blood lead levels were newly identified and received one of three health promotion services ranging from comprehensive case management, to lead poisoning consultations, to lead poisoning outreach and education. The outreach and education service to children with lower levels of lead exposure has been delayed due to technical coordination issues with the State DPH database; staff has identified an alternative process and implementation is expected next quarter.
- **Track and evaluate blood lead levels quarterly.**
Staff tracks follow-up blood lead levels of children to evaluate their need for additional services. This quarter, no children were referred for additional services due to increased blood lead levels.
- **Develop an evaluation tool for quarterly analysis of blood lead level reduction in lead poisoned children.**
This activity was completed in the first quarter.
- **Conduct a quarterly review and analysis of blood lead level reduction in children with blood lead levels greater than 15 micrograms per deciliter.**
This quarter, staff completed all 57 chart reviews as the preliminary step to evaluate blood lead level reduction in children receiving case management services in 2007. Analysis of the information will be completed and reported in the fourth quarter.

Environmental Case Response

Environmental Case Response is designed to ensure the source of exposure for a lead poisoned child is eliminated in a safe and timely manner. California Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines call for the property owner to begin the lead hazard corrections within 30 days of notification that a child has been poisoned as a result of hazards found at the property. The complete correction of hazards is required within 90 days.

Under its contract with the California Department of Public Health, the Program is responsible for lead poisoning case response in Alameda County, with the exception of the City of Berkeley. The City of Berkeley's Public Health Department has its own contract with the DPH, and is responsible for case response in its jurisdiction.

The Program's Case Review Working Group (CRWG), comprised of health, environmental and housing professionals, meets semi-monthly to guarantee the elimination of the child's housing related hazards. It monitors the status of the lead poisoned child as well as the lead hazard control work.

The CRWG works closely with property owners and occupants, providing technical assistance and classes for lead hazard work, and referrals to other program services to ensure that housing-based hazards are addressed in a safe and timely manner. The CRWG refers noncompliant property owners to the Alameda County Environmental Health Services for further enforcement actions.

Objective

Promptly Correct Lead Hazards

Within 90 days of owner notification, ensure correction of lead hazards in 60% of the properties associated with a lead poisoned child.

Correction of lead hazards was achieved at three properties this quarter, all within the 90 day deadline. None of the owners of these properties took advantage of the Program's HUD Lead Hazard Control funds to address the lead hazards on their properties.

Activities:

- **Conduct an estimated 30 environmental investigations (EI) of properties to determine the likely source of lead exposure for children with elevated blood lead levels meeting state case management criteria.**
The Program conducted four environmental investigations this quarter, for a to-date total of 20. One of the properties tested was a public school. Housing related lead hazards were also found in a residence.
- **Provide technical assistance to occupants and rental property owners of an estimated 30 properties where an Environmental Investigation has identified lead hazards at the property.**
This quarter, technical assistance on the elimination of lead hazards was provided to the occupants of one property, for a to-date total of 20.
- **Ensure 30 housing units associated with a child meeting the state case management criteria are free of lead hazards through a lead evaluation or clearance test.**
This quarter, six properties achieved clearance of lead hazards, for a to-date total of 11. (Correction: last quarter five properties were evaluated and closed, rather than the four reported.)

LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

HUD Round 13 and Round 16 Grants

On October 31, 2008, the Program completed its 36-month \$3 million HUD Round 13 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Through this **Partnerships for Affordable Lead-Safe Housing Project**, the ACLPPP and its partners exceeded performance objectives of 300 risk assessment/paint inspections (365), lead hazard control in 200 housing units (264), education of 2,850 individuals (4,020), and lead-related skills trainings of 400 individuals (405).

On March 18, 2009, the HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control approved the HUD 13 final report.

HUD 16 Lead Hazard Control Grant

In October 2008, the ACLPPP was notified that it had been awarded a \$3 million HUD Round 16 grant from HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control; its seventh competitive Lead Hazard Control grant. The three-year Partnerships for Affordable Lead Safe Housing project will allow the ACLPPP to treat lead hazards in 200 privately-owned, low-income housing units, and provide property owner and community education and workforce lead-safety training. As in the past grant, the ACLPPP will work with housing authorities, city housing rehabilitation programs, and other partners to both address the highest risk properties, including those associated with a lead-poisoned child, and to maximize the availability of lead-safe rental housing. The grant will run from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011.

During the quarter, the ACLPPP completed major start-up activities, began active recruitment of property owners, and put in place key partner relationships, including the City of Alameda Development Services Department, the City of Oakland Housing and Community Development Department, and Centro Legal de la Raza. The Program also selected the environmental firms that will perform risk assessment/paint inspections and clearances, and the analytical laboratory that will provide the sample analysis.

HEALTHY HOMES

Healthy Homes Demonstration Project

In October of 2006, the Program was awarded a \$1 million grant to fund its second Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Alameda County Healthy Homes Project is in the second year of the three year period of performance.

The goal of the Healthy Homes Project is to demonstrate an improvement in the health status of 225 children and adolescents diagnosed with asthma and respiratory distress by combining education and low-cost housing intervention with the concurrent medical model.

Objective

Fifty percent (50%) of enrolled participants enrolled will demonstrate a reduction in asthma symptom severity, number of hospitalizations and/or emergency room visits.

Activities:

- **Perform 80 home visits to visually identify housing hazards, conduct allergen dust sampling, and develop intervention plan.**

During this quarter, three initial Healthy Homes' visits were provided to Project participants. During the visit a Healthy Homes Community Specialist assesses the home for housing-related issues including moisture leaks and intrusion, evidence of pest infestation, potential allergens, safety problems and ventilation. The primary caregiver is asked about their knowledge of asthma triggers and family behaviors as a baseline for future interviews.

The Community Specialist also provides the family with a Healthy Homes Maintenance Kit to assist in reducing asthma symptoms and improve safety in the home and the necessary environmental-housing interventions conducted by Project subcontractors. Where appropriate, referrals to other programs or resources are also made, such as smoking cessation or home rehabilitation programs.

To date, 37 initial Healthy Homes visits have been provided during this fiscal year.

- **Perform 85 housing-environmental interventions designed to reduce allergen levels, reduce mold and moisture problems, improve ventilation, and resolve minor structural problems.**

During this quarter, 42 housing-environmental interventions were completed. All interventions include the cleaning of floors, application of an anti-allergen spray, dust mite reduction treatment, and application of boric acid powder under stoves and refrigerators as a pest prevention strategy. Participants are also referred to appropriate agencies for additional interventions, such as weatherization or minor home repair.

Safety hazards are addressed through the installation of fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, and anti-slip bathmats. Where necessary, units also receive ventilation improvements in the form of exhaust fans in kitchens and/or bathrooms or the repair of minor plumbing leaks. In some instances, services to clients have included repair of rotting sub floors, particularly in bathrooms caused by chronic leaks.

To date 75 Healthy Homes interventions have occurred this fiscal year.

- **Perform 125 six-month follow-up home visits to query the caregiver about behavioral change and increased knowledge of asthma, injuries, and lead screening.**

During this quarter, 13 follow-up visits were performed. At these six-month visits, the Healthy Homes Community Specialist interviews the primary caregiver again to determine any increase in knowledge of asthma triggers and safety, and whether any behaviors (such as smoking) have changed as a result of the education and referrals. Allergen Dust samples are also collected to determine the efficacy of the housing-environmental intervention. In situations where clients have declined the follow up visit or Project staff has been unable to contact the client via phone calls, follow up surveys for knowledge retention and behavior changes are mailed to the clients' address with a self-addressed stamped envelope included. To date, in excess of 45 surveys have been mailed and eight have been returned. This is a return rate of 18%.

Fiscal year to date, 71 six-month follow-up visits have been performed.

- **Complete a mid-Project evaluation by July 30, 2008.**

The mid-Project Quality Assurance report was completed and submitted to HUD on July 30, 2008

- **Apply for HUD Round 17 Healthy Homes Demonstration Project Grant in 2009.**

The Notice of Funding Availability is expected to be released between February and April of 2009. A grant proposal (application) will be completed following the release of the notice.

Healthy Housing Training

The ACLPPP provides training to promote safe and healthy housing. The ACLPPP provides the Essentials of Healthy Housing Practitioner's course to those who perform on-site residential visits, such as public health nurses, environmental health specialists, code enforcement personnel, social service providers, contractors, and public housing staff. Course attendees may also include individuals involved in advocating for safe, healthy, and affordable housing.

Objective

Train 20 Individuals to Identify Unhealthy Housing Conditions.

Activities:

- **Provide one Healthy Homes Practitioner's Course**

As a training partner with the National Center for Healthy Housing, Project staff provided one course during this quarter in February. The class was held at an Alameda County Social Services building in Hayward and was attended by 20 persons. Attendees came from a variety of agencies and groups including, but not limited to: the Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (two Public Health Nurses and two Community Development Specialists) to further incorporate healthy housing knowledge into the Program, six persons from Berkeley Zaps Asthma (a new program developed by the City of Berkeley with some similar components as the Alameda County Healthy Homes Project), Code Compliance inspectors from the City of Fremont, the San Francisco Public Health Department, Alameda County First Five program, Community Energy Services Corporation (a Project sub grantee), and the Alameda County Community Development Agency.

During this fiscal year, a total of 78 persons have been trained in this discipline.

PROGRAM-WIDE ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVES

Program-wide administrative objectives are designed to reflect efforts by the Program to enhance its mission through the expansion of collaborative relations with institutions and stakeholders at the national, state, and local levels. They also reflect efforts to improve the ACLPPP's service delivery, and strengthen its capacity and sustainability.

Objectives

- **Develop a comprehensive plan to increase compliance with and enforcement of new state and federal Lead Safe Work Practices regulations.**

The "New Lead Challenges in Alameda County," county-wide workshop in October was the first step in assessing the effectiveness of efforts to engage more housing and building officials in the identification and intervention in unsafe renovations of pre-1978 residential and other structures. The recently awarded HUD Lead Hazard Control and the Kresge Foundation grants both include funds to promote understanding, training, and compliance with the new state and federal regulations. Meetings are scheduled to begin incorporating this major new element of the Compliance Plan.

- **Expand the Program's Language Assistance Plan; utilizing increased coordination and collaboration to provide meaningful access for all people, including those with limited English proficiency.**

The Program is continuing to utilize existing partners and vehicles such as the language line to provide services to non-English speaking clients and populations. It is also developing a working relationship with

Centro Legal de la Raza and the Volunteers of America to develop strategies to reach non-English speaking monolingual populations, such as day laborers.

- **Develop a plan for the effective utilization of the Program's health, housing, and environmental data for quality control, targeted outreach, enforcement, and funding.**

During the third quarter, progress continued in the implementation of Phase I of the new database. The In-Home Consultation and Sampling Kit modules were completed and were put into use in February. A prototype layout for the Information and Referral module has been reviewed by staff and is expected to be beta-tested and put into use during the fourth quarter.