

ELKHART COUNTY LEAD ELIMINATION PLAN

ACTIVITIES

1. Sufficient resources available

Improve coordination between the Elkhart County Health Department, the Elkhart County Lead Task Force and community entities that currently receive Federal and State funding for child oriented services to target the at risk population for childhood lead poisoning, focusing on the medically underserved.

Identify local, state or national entities that will fund lead check swabs at low or no cost to the local Lead Task Force.

Explore and attempt to secure funds from various grant opportunities where possible.

2. Incentive mechanism for property owners

Explore cost sharing programs with responsible property owners to reduce lead hazards in rental/housing stock.

3. Centralized database for units tested and remediated

Ensure that the lead database used for quarterly and annual reports reliably tracks all pertinent lead poisoning data and risk assessment/inspection data.

Prepare a database along with GIS maps of sites with known or suspected lead hazards to guide the selection of HITS (High Intensity Targeted Screening) projects.

Form an alliance with City and County Building Departments and the Elkhart County Builders Association to compile a data base on remodelers and building contractors and those that have completed Lead Safe Work Practices Training.

4. Parents of at-risk children aware

Develop an informational brochure on Lead Poisoning that is unique to Elkhart County for distribution to parents of young children, targeted populations and the general public.

Coordinate efforts with the Education and Outreach Committee of the Lead Task Force to present information to the target population.

Distribute brochures to the households identified to have children <7 years of age.

Utilize brochures that target non-English speaking populations in at risk areas.

5. Property owners/brokers/real estate agents aware of lead hazards

Develop informational brochures for distribution to tenants, landlords and homeowners that list lead hazard controls and include resources for remediation for Elkhart County area.

Offer educational programs and forums to share information on lead poisoning and lead hazard controls.

6. Contractors and paint retailers aware of lead hazards

Develop informational brochures for distribution to renovation contractors and their employees that list lead hazard control requirements and recommendations.

Remodeling contractors will be made aware of lead hazards and legal requirements.

Paint retailers will receive lead poisoning elimination information and brochures for distribution.

7. Increase the number of State policy makers aware

Continue and maintain the Elkhart County Lead Task Force quarterly meetings with the internal Case Management, Education/Outreach, Environmental/Housing and Fiscal subcommittee meetings and electronic communiqués as necessary.

8. Hoosier Healthwise providers routinely screening and following up

Maintain continuing dialogue with the pediatricians and family practitioners offices in Elkhart County on Lead Poisoning issues and requirements

9. Increase testing rate of at-risk children

Maintain and improve upon the current infrastructure for screening children less than seven years of age, as it exists in Elkhart County.

Utilize the GIS maps to target High Intensity Targeted Screening areas for screening children less than seven years of age.

13. Increase the number of units inspected and made lead safe

Pursue efforts to locate suitable temporary housing of families displaced during remediation of their dwelling.

Maintain and improve upon the current infrastructure for conducting lead risk assessments on dwellings in Elkhart County.

Section VIII child occupied rental units will have a "lead safe" status.

Dwellings that have been identified by health and housing agencies as lead hazards will be remediated to a "lead safe" Status utilizing Lead Safe Work Practices.

Licensed childcare facilities, including Head Start Centers, built before 1978 will receive lead poisoning elimination awareness education.

14. Develop Healthy Homes/Lead Ordinance

Form subcommittee to develop Healthy Homes and Lead Ordinance proposal for Elkhart County.

Provide draft for Health Officer and Elkhart County Board of Health to review.

Health Officer and Board of Health Chair will present proposal for Elkhart County Commissioners for their review.

Elkhart County Commissioners will enact Healthy Homes/Lead Ordinance for Elkhart County.