

St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition Accomplishments 2008

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Lead Hazard Removal Services: In partnership with Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Services, the Coalition staff conducted specialized lead dust cleanings in the homes of pregnant women and families with young children to lower lead dust levels and provide a lead –safe environment. These services were conducted by staff with state lead licenses and followed all state and federal guidelines. A total of 201 housing units were completed during this period.. Services in this project were provided in St. Louis City. This project ended August 2008.

Lead Poisoning Prevention Education: The Coalition undertook a number of education endeavors :

Individualized Lead Education Sessions: Another component of our partnership with Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Services, these individual education sessions were provided to participants whose homes had received a specialized lead dust cleaning. These were provided in St. Louis City to 137 individuals. This companion project also ended August 2008.

PAWS for Lead Prevention: This program was presented in daycare centers. Featuring Chipper, the Coalition’s mascot, a short program was made to daycare classes in St. Louis City and County, focusing on simple techniques such as hand washing, wiping feet and staying away from peeling paint. Children received coloring books and their parents received bags of lead poisoning prevention materials. Ten daycares and 110 children received this service. Information bags were given to parents. This project began in September 2006 and was ongoing through this period.

Public Information and Referral: The Coalition handled a variety of calls for lead information, ranging from questions regarding lead testing of children to requests for assistance with home remediation. The majority, 98%, of calls were from St. Louis City and St. Louis County residents. Calls from other areas in the St. Louis metropolitan region and out-state Missouri made up the remaining 2%. Approximately 178 calls were handled.

Community Education Events: The St. Louis Lead Coalition staff and board manned information tables at a variety of community health fairs. As with many of our projects, these activities take place at various times during the year, so they are ongoing in nature. Based on attendance estimates from the various events, we provided lead prevention education information to 6800 people.

Lead Poisoning Prevention Literature Distribution: The Coalition provides a wide variety of materials free of charge to organizations and individuals upon request. The Coalition distributed over 8500 pieces of lead prevention literature ranging from fact sheets to remediation booklets to Lead and Pregnancy booklets. This literature was distributed in St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and Jefferson, Franklin and St. Charles Counties.

New Americans Lead Education Project: The Coalition worked with the International Institute and Southside Catholic Charities to conduct a series of educational “house parties” for newly arrived immigrants to educate them on the dangers of lead poisoning in their new community and how to protect their families. Somali Bantu, Liberian, Hispanic, Burmese and Kunama families were educated at small gatherings in their homes. Translators assisted Coalition staff in delivering the educational information. Lead Awareness mornings were also held at the International Institute on a caseworker visit day. This program is ongoing and over 296 New Americans were served during this period.

Lead Safe Work Practices Training Program:

The Lead Safe Work Practices program provided training to a variety of individuals ranging from community volunteers to apartment maintenance workers. Individuals were recruited from partner agencies, landlords, volunteer projects such as Rebuilding Together and a number of community organizations. A special effort was made to recruit Hispanic workers, and a training was held in Spanish in April 2008 where 22 individuals were trained. A total of 142 individuals were trained during this period.

Lead Safe Families Program:

The Lead Safe Families program provided two hour training sessions to parents and caregivers of young children on how to make their homes lead safe. The training, conducted by licensed lead professionals, provided participants with information on how to perform simple remodeling in a lead safe manner as well as lead dust cleaning techniques. Those attending also learned about lead poisoning and its effect on children and the community. Each St. Louis City family in attendance received a Lead Safety Kit consisting of a variety of materials to be used in lead dust cleaning. Community partner agencies provided the training sites and in many cases, also provided transportation and childcare. A total of 19 workshops, 228 kits and 240 individuals were trained during this period.

Lead Worker Training Program:

The Lead Worker Training program provided state approved lead worker and lead supervisor training for St. Louis City residents. This training enables the individual to apply for state licensure. 21 individuals received this training.

Toy Testing Events:

The Coalition held two toy testing events to test toys for lead hazards in partnership with ATC Associates, Inc., ThermoFisher Scientific, St. Louis Community College and the Missouri Attorney General's office during January 2008. ATC and ThermoFisher provided trained personnel and the XRF equipment free and the college provided the facilities free. The Attorney General's staff was on hand to help consumers file paperwork for toys that tested above federal guidelines. Over three hundred toys were tested.