

STL Lead Prevention Coalition Invited into New Americans' Homes

The St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition, in partnership with Mercy Care Plus (formerly Mercy Health Plan) and the International Institute has an exciting new project. Funded through Mercy by a Caritas grant, we are taking lead poisoning prevention information to the homes of New Americans to help them learn how to protect their families.



Liberian House Party

Guided by the expertise of the International Institute, we are using the "house party" model to bring this education to three groups of new arrivals - Liberians, Somali Bantu, and Russian Turks. A family agrees to host the event, and receives a stipend for refreshments. They invite their friends, mostly young parents, to learn about lead prevention. An interpreter from the Institute assists Coalition staff in sharing the information with the group. A Mercy representative assists with lead information and provides information/gift bags for all in attendance.



Russian Turk House Party



Somali Bantu House Party

Following the presentation, everyone enjoys delicious foods prepared by the host family and learns about the families and their journeys to St. Louis.

The Coalition has been overwhelmed by the hospitality and graciousness of the host families and have had an opportunity to educate over 160 people about lead hazards and ways to protect their children.