

IN THE NEWS

On December 13, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control (OLHCHH) celebrated our 30th Anniversary with a wide range of distinguished Congressional, State of Maryland, Baltimore, and HUD officials, in marking the significant progress in childhood lead reduction in Baltimore City.

OLHCHH Director Matt Ammon joined Mayor Brandon Scott outside a resident's home that had received HUD funds under the Lead Hazard Control Program, creating a lead safe unit for the family.

The press event recognized the City of Baltimore and the State of Maryland as among of OLHCHH's earliest grantees. To date, Baltimore has seen a 99% reduction in local children's lead poisoning, mainly in privately-owned, low-income housing. Mayor Scott said that "This work is critical to make sure that Baltimore City is the best version of itself in the future."

A cross section of stakeholders are collaborating with OLHCHH not only to identify and address lead-based paint hazards, but with the ongoing aim of developing innovative policies, practices, and programs. The experience in Baltimore offers insights for similar efforts in disadvantaged communities elsewhere.

One of the stakeholders at the event included the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, founded in 1986, in Baltimore, as Parents Against Lead. The GHHI has long been a 'driver' in the fight against lead poisoning in the area. Attendees also included representatives from The John Hopkins University, the Annie Casey Foundation, the HUD Field Office, and many others.