

## Director's Corner Article

Hello,

On behalf of our entire team here at OLHCHH, I want to wish everyone a very Happy 2022! The year is shaping up to be very exciting. In the new year, we are re-launching our quarterly newsletter to share information and as an opportunity to connect with you.

2021 wrapped with the challenges of Covid-19 lingering. We know that you have had to navigate the challenges of a global pandemic while continuing to serve your communities. While, the virus continues affecting the country and our daily lives, we have heard from many about the struggles you are facing but know that my staff and I appreciate your commitment and dedication to reducing lead-based paint and other hazards in peoples homes. You are heroes to your community, and we are grateful.

I am excited to say that this year marks our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Many grantees and partners have had a significant impact during the first 30 years, and we are looking to celebrate and recognize some of the early grant recipients and partners throughout the year. Many of you have had a great impact on your communities, built sustainable partnerships and coalitions, and developed new policies and programs. You should be proud...we are!

When we were established back in 1997, we were lead focused. We became a founder member of the President's Task force on Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks to Children, which remains a significant federal government collaboration to this day. Lead poisoning awareness and prevention remains our primary focus at OLHCHH. This is exemplified in our most recent NOFA, when \$400 million became available for lead based paint hazard reduction.

In 2013, we joined our federal partners in launching the [Advancing Healthy Homes A Strategy for Action](#). Since that landmark, we have engaged state, tribal, and local stakeholders and continue to foster partnerships with public, private, and philanthropic entities to sustain a cadre of trained experts that deliver healthy homes practices. Please see our additional newsletter article about this effort.

While we take a moment to celebrate not only 2021 but the last 30 years, we also eagerly look forward to what lies ahead in 2022 and look forward to working with each of you. Thank you for your support!