

## Recipients of the HUD Secretary's Awards for Healthy Homes 2022

### 1. Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes Grantees

- **Baltimore City, Maryland**

**Summary of first work with the OLHCHH:** As the recipient of Lead Hazard Control Grants between 1999 and 2015, the city developed a comprehensive and successful approach to addressing childhood lead poisoning that resulted in a 97% decrease in children who tested positive for elevated blood levels in Baltimore City.

**Summary of most recent work with the OLHCHH:** Currently, Baltimore City is the recipient of a 2018 Lead Hazard Control Grant and a 2019 High Impact Neighborhood Lead Hazard Control Grant. Through the combined efforts of both grants, the city plans to conduct lead-based paint inspection/risk assessments in 950 units and reduce lead-based paint hazards in 750 units.

**Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992:** \$39,433,868

**Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992:** 1,751

**New initiatives developed since the inception of the Office:** In 2021, Baltimore City was awarded two newly developed grant programs from the OLHCHH. The Older Adult Home Modification Program award of \$1,000,000 will provide aging in place resources to 130 senior households, and the \$1,000,000 in Healthy Homes Weatherization Cooperative Demonstration funds will integrate lead hazard controls, healthy homes, and weatherization strategies in 115 low-income homes.

**New policies developed since inception of the Office:** Baltimore City has developed a comprehensive strategy by forming strong community partnerships; providing primary prevention services, including blood lead testing for children under age 6; administering on-site point of care testing; providing home visits and case management; engaging in advocacy efforts in the state of Maryland; and issuing legally binding violation notices to property owners.



OFFICE OF  
LEAD HAZARD CONTROL  
AND HEALTHY HOMES

Healthy  
Children

Healthy  
Families

Healthy  
Communities

- **City of Phoenix, Arizona, Neighborhood Services Department**

**Summary of first work with the OLHCHH:** The City of Phoenix is the longest running Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (LHCHH) partner in Arizona. The City of Phoenix leadership has been committed to supporting efforts to reduce and eliminate childhood lead poisoning and other housing-based health hazards, such as chronic pulmonary disease triggers, slips/trips/fall hazards, faulty HVAC, and other housing system failures. LHCHH program management has been strong, enough so to successfully encourage, through mentorship, more Arizona communities to apply for and successfully execute their own LHCHH grants.

Phoenix continues to provide economic mobility to rehabilitation contractors and a variety of non-profit organization staffers who are instrumental in educating target community members, recruiting property owners to obtain LHCHH grant services, and providing personalized, tailored services to families whose homes will be treated to eliminate health and safety hazards. The Garfield Neighborhood is particularly challenged socio-economically and continues to be a prime target area for grant services; much has improved for this community because of the LHCHH work.

**Summary of current or most recent work with the OLHCHH:** The City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department's Lead Hazard Demonstration (LHRD) will identify, remediate, and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible housing units with children under six years of age and will build capacity to serve community needs relating to lead-safe housing through education and training. The city will complete a total of 180 lead safe units and of them 140 will receive healthy homes interventions.

**Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992:** \$32,906,919

**Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992:**  
1,437

To date, the City of Phoenix Neighborhood Services Department has received over 13 grants and has completed a total of 1,559-unit assessments and made 1,437 units safe and healthy.

**New initiatives and policies developed since the inception of the Office in 1992:** The City of Phoenix's Neighborhood Service Department is in the process of starting mobile testing in the community that will provide lead testing services on the spot. The department is also setting up an online application system to accept applications for the program during COVID-19 to make it easier for families to apply for the program to improve and help their communities.

- **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy Homes Section**

**Summary of first work with the OLHCHH:** Since the first lead grant in FY 2000, the mission of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Healthy Homes Section has been to improve the health and wellbeing of Michigan citizens by promoting safe and healthy home environments through comprehensive home-based lead and healthy homes intervention programs, lead certification and regulations, public education and outreach, and statewide partnerships.

**Summary of current or most recent work with the OLHCHH:** The State of Michigan received a Lead Based Paint Hazard Control (LBPHC) 2018 grant that will address lead hazards in 265 housing units. The State will be working with the Governor's Child Lead Exposure Elimination Commission, the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, local Public Housing Authorities, the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, Medicaid, Genesee Health System, and CLEAR Corps Detroit.

**Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992:**  
\$29,130,180

**Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992:** 2,817

**New initiatives developed since the inception of the Office in 1992:** The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services approved a Michigan State Plan Amendment that uses federal and state funding to expand lead abatement activities in the impacted areas of Flint and other areas in Michigan. This targeted and time-limited effort will complement other federal, state, and local efforts to abate lead hazards from the homes and improve the health of Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) eligible residents.

**New policies developed since inception of the Office in 1992:** The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has issued a Request for Proposals for up to six community organizations to provide residential lead hazard control services to Medicaid Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) enrolled residents.

- **Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation**

**Summary of first work with the OLHCHH:** Rhode Island Housing received its first of eleven grant awards in 1993 and created the Rhode Island (RI) Housing Lead Safe Homes Program which assisted over 2,150 families. The state of Rhode Island passed the Lead Hazard Mitigation Act in 2002 and implemented regulations in 2004. The act helps to support the efforts of local Lead Hazard Mitigation Programs that work to prevent lead hazards and lead poisoning in Rhode Island properties.

**Summary of current or most recent work with the OLHCHH:** The 2016 RI Lead program coordinated with the RI Department of Health to leverage their robust Medicaid

reimbursement program to provide lead education to all families with children with blood lead levels over five micrograms per deciliter. Currently, the State has a High Impact Neighborhood grant projected to assist 340 families.

**Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992:**  
\$39,895,303

**Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992:** 2,165

**New initiatives developed since the inception of the Office in 1992:** Rhode Island Housing established the Lead Mitigation program which includes the Rhode Island lead hazard technical assistance service program providing technical assistance to property owners to achieve compliance with the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act and RI Lead laws.

**New policies developed since inception of the Office in 1992:** Lead hazards in Rhode Island are primarily addressed by two laws: (1) the Lead Poisoning Prevention Act of 1991, which provides regulatory authority to the Department of Health to establish and enforce requirements for the reduction of lead hazards in properties where children have been lead poisoned, and (2) the Lead Hazard Mitigation Act of 2002, which establishes the Housing Resources Commission (HRC) as the lead state agency for lead hazard mitigation, planning, technical assistance, and coordination of state projects and financial assistance to property owners for lead hazard mitigation.

- **City of Rochester, New York**

**Summary of first work with the OLHCHH:** Rochester received its first funding for lead hazard control work in 2009. The program worked to combine other funding sources to maximize the work they were able to do. The program worked with the City's Focus Investment Strategy (FIS) for exterior repairs which was a significant cost of the lead hazard control work. FIS was a 5-year program where the city invested 20% of its annual Community Development Block Grant funding in housing located in specific neighborhoods.

**Summary of current or most recent work with the OLHCHH:** The City has continued its partnership with the University of Rochester to undertake a dust study in owner-occupied properties that are enrolled in the program. The purpose of the study is to analyze dust samples taken at three different intervals to determine if any environmental health hazards are present in the property. The outcome of the study is to provide future development and policy. The study's goal is to enroll 100 properties; to date, 48 units have been enrolled.

- **Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992:**  
\$29,106,277

- **Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992: 2,043**

**New initiatives developed since the inception of the Office in 1992:** The program continues to make policy that will work to decrease the rate of elevated blood lead levels in the City of Rochester.

**New policies developed since inception of the Office in 1992:** The Rochester, NY, lead-based paint poisoning prevention ordinance (commonly referred to as the “lead law”) mandates lead inspection of all rental properties as part of the city’s existing Certificate of Occupancy inspection program. Passed in 2005 in response to years-long community efforts to address elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs) found among the city’s low-income children, the “lead law” appears to have played an important role in reducing the prevalence rate of EBLLs in Monroe County, which includes the city of Rochester, faster than the overall state decline. Between 2000 and 2016, the rate of EBLLs among children in Monroe County decreased by 85 percent.

- **St. Louis City, Missouri**

**Summary of current or most recent work with the OLHCHH:** St. Louis City has made great strides in addressing the problem of lead-based paint hazards over the past 23 years, including the passage of legislation requiring the testing of all children under the age of 6 for elevated blood lead levels, which has resulted in an increase of more than 100% since testing began. The results have been predictable: additional testing continues to reveal additional elevated blood lead level cases. Specific interventions under the Healthy Homes component will include asbestos remediation, eliminating sources of moisture, pest control, elimination of trip hazards, and radon testing and mitigation. Green cleaning products will be provided to homeowners as an introduction to environmentally friendly alternative cleaning materials.

- **Total amount of funding received since the inception of the Office in 1992: \$21,499,191**
- **Number of units made lead safe and healthy since the inception of the Office in 1992: 2,827**

**New initiatives developed since the inception of the Office in 1992:** A mass media-lead awareness campaign will be undertaken throughout all areas of St. Louis County, including those with a large number of homes built prior to 1978, targeted locations such as schools, health clinics, and pediatricians’ offices, and events such as health fairs and screenings. Literature will include information about the dangers and warning signs of lead poisoning, as well as hazard control methods and information about training.

**New policies developed since inception of the Office in 1992:** There are currently no new policies or initiatives.

## 2. Coalitions/Partnerships

- **Alameda County, California, Healthy Homes Department**

The Alameda County Healthy Homes Department (ACHHD) was awarded Lead Hazard Control grant funds in the initial round of funding and has been administering it and other equally successful hazard reduction grants continuously for 30 years. The Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes grant programs have focused primarily on the cities of Alameda, Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland, where many children with elevated blood lead levels reside. ACHHD is unique in that the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), operates together with the hazard control arm of its operations.

Among the accomplishments and recognitions earned, the ACHHD has:

- Built a strong, capable hazard control contractor base, many of whom serve other Lead and Healthy Homes Grant programs in the Bay Area
- Maintained accreditation from the State of California Department of Public Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch to train individuals in lead abatement and testing disciplines
- Shared its knowledge and resources of all aspects of Lead and Healthy Homes grant program administration with fellow grantees nationwide.
- Partnered with member-City government agencies and non-profit organizations to recruit eligible property owners to receive hazard control services and educate the community about how to identify and reduce lead and other home health and safety hazards
- Been active members of and collaborators within the California Healthy Housing Coalition (CHHC) since 2010; the CHHC is a diverse, multi-sector coalition, committed to advancing policies and practices that improve unhealthy housing conditions and serving as a statewide advocate for healthy housing
- Partnered with the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers (CACEO) to train member code enforcement officers on EPA's Renovation Repair and Painting Rule, with an eye toward enforcement and increasing the training and certification of renovators who rehab or repair pre-1978 housing or child-occupied facilities
- Utilized CACEO and other Code Enforcement Associations to promote Proactive Rental Inspections and awareness of Healthy Housing Principles

- Become one of the 10 California counties and cities that were awarded a \$305 million settlement in a landmark lead paint (manufacturers) litigation case; the portion awarded to ACHHD will be used to address lead paint in pre-1978 housing throughout the county
- **Cleveland Coalition (including recognition to the City of Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, and Environmental Health Watch)**

The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition is an inclusive, public-private partnership founded to prevent childhood lead poisoning in the City of Cleveland, Ohio. The Coalition's approach protects Cleveland's children by merging adaptable public policies, knowledgeable agencies willing to collaborate, proven community programs and leaders, and public and private sector accountability. The coalition includes OLHCHH grantees and subrecipients, including the Cleveland Department of Health, Cuyahoga County Board of Health, and Environmental Health Watch.

With community voice embedded in all aspects of its work, the Coalition is working on 1) supporting the Lead Safe certification system, 2) developing a lead safe workforce, 3) a public awareness campaign, 4) advocating for lead safe policies, 5) securing investments into the Lead Safe Home Fund, and 6) launching the programs of the Lead Safe Home Fund, including a lead poisoning prevention one-stop-shop called the Lead Safe Resource Center and entirely new lead safe home loan and grant products for property owners. The Coalition has grown to over 500 members representing over 125 organizations. Website: [www.lead-safe-cle.org](http://www.lead-safe-cle.org).

The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition worked with the City of Cleveland on crafting and adopting the Lead Safe Certification ordinance in July 2019. Cleveland's lead safe ordinance is fundamentally changing the city's housing stock and owners' approach to handling lead poisoning. Cleveland's Lead Safe Certification law created, for the first time, a rental inspection policy to proactively certify residential rental units built before 1978 as lead safe. The ordinance is landmark policy, yet it is only one half of the solution to effectively creating lead safe homes. The Coalition's approach centers on *pairing the policy with resources*. It is a carrot-and-stick approach to ensure that families and property owners have the resources to comply with the Lead Safe Certification. The Coalition created the Lead Safe Home Fund to serve as the conceptual home for these resources and coordinates with existing funds and programs operated by the Cleveland Department of Building and Housing, the Cleveland Department of Public Health, and the Cleveland Department of Community Development

### 3. Research and Policy Development

- **The National Center for Healthy Housing, Columbia, Maryland**

The NCHH is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to creating safe and healthy

housing for American families. NCHH's research provides a scientific basis for federal, state, and local policies and programs. The NCHH initially worked with the OLHCHH to evaluate the first rounds of HUD's Lead Hazard Control (LHC) grants, awarded in 1993 and 1994. This critical study produced findings that were translated into best practices for residential lead hazard control, used to this day. The NCHH is currently implementing three competitively awarded OLHCHH-funded technical study grants to improve methods for controlling lead and improving indoor air quality. The NCHH also played a key role in implementing a recently completed study on radon testing in multifamily housing which provided important support for the HUD Multifamily Program's radon requirements.

The NCHH has received significant funding from the OLHCHH through technical studies for developing and improving cost effective methods for controlling lead and other residential hazards. Since 2004 it has received 15 awards totaling \$9.6 million, with more than \$15 million awarded since the Office's inception.

The NCHH's key policy contributions include developing data to support lower dust-lead action levels and improve lead hazard control methods; publishing National Healthy Homes Model Housing Codes; and advocating for national efforts to end childhood lead exposure and create health housing.

#### **4. Healthy Homes Advocacy**

- **The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, Baltimore, Maryland**

The Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) is a national nonprofit founded in 1986 dedicated to the elimination of childhood lead poisoning and the creation of healthy, safe, and energy efficient housing for America's children. It has worked on healthy housing ever since its founding as the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning, by designing national programs built on a framework of cross-sector collaboration to efficiently deliver green, healthy, and safe homes in communities.

GHHI is currently addressing the social determinants of health, opportunities of equity through the creation of healthy, safe, and energy efficient homes. By delivering a standard of excellence in its work, GHHI aims to eradicate the negative impact of unhealthy housing and unjust policies for children, seniors, and families to ensure better health, economic, and social outcomes in historically disinvested communities, with an emphasis on communities of color (SOURCE: GHHI website).