

Healthy Homes Grantees in Region IV, Southeast Caribbean

Name of Grantee: Mahoning County Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant Program

Name of Project: Board of Commissioners-Mahoning County

Amount Awarded: \$ 900,000

Year of Grant: 2003

Contact Info:

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Project Partners: Youngstown Community Development Agency; YMHA's Homeownership Program, Beatitude House and the Children Services Board;

Summary of Project Activities:

The Goals and Objectives of the Mahoning County Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant Program:

1) The elimination and/or the control of environmental hazards in two-hundred and thirty-one (231) housing units involving low to very-low income families with children; 2) conduct the recruitment and training of minority and low-income contractors and workers; 3) conduct outreach programs, including one involving the United Methodist Community Center (case management involving 600 home visits); 4) implement programs which will effectively increase the number of children screened for lead poisoning such as sending phlebotomist to the targeted census tracts; 5) make available Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers to families who have children with asthma or other respiratory problems; 6) create a public relations campaign to promote Healthy Homes issues; 7) design, develop, and the "pilot delivery" of a Healthy Homes-Awareness Training Program for contractors, workers, inspectors, public and private housing managers including their staff, and other related private and non-for-profit housing entities; 8) expand asthma education programs to the medically under-served children diagnosed with asthma (involving 300 home visits); 9) assist the District Board of Health, Mahoning County Laboratory Services in obtaining AIHA Environmental Microbiological Accreditation (EMLAP); 10) provide Healthy Homes training not only in Mahoning County, but on a regional basis involving Lead Safe Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Number of Units in which Healthy Homes Activities will be conducted:

Environmental hazards will be eliminated and/or controlled in two-hundred and thirty-one (231) units. An average of \$2,800.00 of Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant Funds is projected to be expended per unit.

The Mahoning County Healthy Homes Strategy Utilizing Assessment Tools:

1) A site-specific lead inspection/risk assessment conducted by the Mahoning County Childhood Lead Prevention Program; 2) a visual assessment form to evaluate the potential for in-door mold exposure and other environmental problems; 3) home assessment form used by Home Energy Services Program to determine in-door air quality needs; 4) pre- and post-program questionnaires utilized by the two asthma clinics; 5) HQS inspections performed by Section 8 personnel; 6) sampling for mold, dust mite

allergens, cockroach allergens, and pet and rodent allergens; 7) pre and post-case management questionnaires utilized by the United Methodist Community Center.

Selection of Units:

a) presence of children identified with asthma or respiratory problems referred by the asthma clinics; b) presence of children in unit identified with mold and other environmental -hazards referred by the District Board of Health; c) units selected by families who -are holders of the twenty-five (25) Section 8 Choice Vouchers which have a local preference; d) units earmarked for existing rehab programs such as the working partnership with the Youngstown Community Development Agency; e) units ear-marked for home ownership for low-income families such as YMHA's Homeownership Program; f) units ear-marked for Healthy Homes intervention with working partners such as Beatitude House and the Children Services Board; g) units that are located in the Identified targeted census tracts; h) condition of the structure and value of the unit; ii) degree of environmental hazards.

Prior Activities:

The Mahoning County Lead-Based Hazard Control Program has successfully implemented and completed in a timely and cost-effective manner, the goals and objectives of both the Round 4 and Round 7 Lead Hazard Control Grants.

The local community has come together

As evidenced by the participation of thirty-two (32) working partners and \$6,183,028.00 in matching funds. Educational programs/training sessions will be presented over the thirty-six (36) month period of this Healthy Homes Grant. The first step in making a difference is to increase the knowledge and importance of Healthy Homes issues not only in the Community-at-large, but also in the targeted census tracts. "The Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant, if awarded, will continue the momentum that has begun to mushroom. The impact would be significant in the targeted neighborhoods.

Product Outcomes/Outputs:

1) The elimination and/or the control of environmental hazards in two-hundred and thirty-one (231) housing units involving low to very-low income families with children; 2) conduct the recruitment and training of minority and low-income contractors and workers; 3) conduct outreach programs, including one involving the United Methodist Community Center (case management involving 600 home visits); 4) implement programs which will effectively increase the number of children screened for lead poisoning such as sending phlebotomist to the targeted census tracts; 5) make available Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers to families who have children with asthma or other respiratory problems; 6) create a public relations campaign to promote Healthy Homes issues; 7) design, develop, and the "pilot delivery" of a Healthy Homes-Awareness Training Program for contractors, workers, inspectors, public and private housing managers including their staff, and other related private and non-for-profit housing entities; 8) expand asthma education programs to the medically under-served children diagnosed with asthma (involving 300 home visits); 9) assist the District Board of Health, Mahoning County Laboratory Services in obtaining AIHA

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