

## HEALTHY HOMES TECHNICAL STUDIES GRANT AWARDS

### ILLINOIS

Project Title: Health and Environmental Aspects Linked to Housing Ventilation (HEALTH-V Study)

**The University of Illinois – Chicago** will be awarded \$896,967 in 2010 Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to evaluate two widely used ventilation standards developed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE 62-1989 and ASHRAE 62.2), that are used to guide residential construction and rehab, including energy retrofit activities. This study will assess the potential for differences in indoor air quality resulting from application of the two standards in the course of weatherization work performed in low-income housing, as well as possible implications for resident health. The University of Illinois at Chicago will partner with the Building Research Council at The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the National Center for Healthy Housing. The participants will be recruited from low-income weatherization programs in Ohio, Indiana, and Chicago, Illinois.

### LOUISIANA

Project Title: Improving Asthma Outcomes through Cockroach Control - The NOROACH Project (New Orleans Roach and Asthma in Children Project)

**Tulane University** will be awarded \$942,465 in 2010 Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to evaluate the North Carolina Cockroach Reduction Program (NCRP), a modified and cost-efficient Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program, for New Orleans inner-city asthmatic children. Tulane will partner with North Carolina State University for this study. The study will determine the reduction of cockroach counts and cockroach allergen in the homes receiving the interventions, and assess the impact that the IPM interventions have on children's asthma control, including health care utilization.

### MASSACHUSETTS

Project Title: Reducing Ethnic/Racial Asthma Disparities in Youth 2 (READY 2) Study: A Cost Analysis Study

**The Massachusetts Department of Public Health** will be awarded \$949,071 in 2010 Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to study the effectiveness of low-cost home interventions combined with environmental and asthma education for 160 low-income asthmatic children in Boston and Springfield. They will partner with the Boston Medical Center and the Baystate Medical Center. This READY2 study will build on the pilot READY study that already includes 100 families. The study will evaluate and determine the direct and indirect costs for the interventions, with a particular emphasis on Medicaid enrolled children, and measure the reduction of environmental triggers, urgent care use, number of symptom days, use of rescue medication and number of attacks requiring oral steroids.

Project Title: Benchmarking the Benefits of Green Public Housing: Health, Comfort and Environmental Performance

**Harvard University** will be awarded \$942,788 in 2010 Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to evaluate the benefits of green public housing as measured by changes in reported health problems, comfort and environmental exposures. Harvard will partner with the Boston Housing Authority and the Committee for Boston Public Housing. They will involve 25 residents each in newly constructed

green housing and in housing that received green renovation. The project will develop survey and inspection tools to identify and prevent health problems in public housing, and measure the effect of 'green' projects on resident health, comfort and satisfaction.

## **OHIO**

Project Title: Synergistic Effect of Home Exposure to Aeroallergens and Traffic-Related Air Pollution in the Development of Children's Asthma

**The University of Cincinnati** will be awarded \$268,709 in 2010 Healthy Homes Technical Studies funds to study the combined effects of exposure to allergens and traffic-related air pollution (TRAP, particulates) on asthma, allergic asthma, and allergen sensitization. The study will build on the existing cohort of the Cincinnati Childhood Allergy and Air Pollution Study (CCAAPS) that already includes 762 children. The U.S. EPA will continue to be a partner in assisting with the determination of mold exposure in the study cohort.

## **LEAD TECHNICAL STUDY GRANT AWARDS**

### **ILLINOIS**

Title: "CLEAR WIN: An Evaluation of Lead Education and Window Replacement in Illinois"

**The University of Illinois – Chicago** will be awarded \$499,999 in 2010 Lead Technical Studies funds to evaluate an innovative \$5M state-funded window replacement program that will begin in 2011. CLEAR WIN will be piloted in an urban area (Chicago) and a rural area (Peoria), both of which have high rates of childhood lead poisoning; 50 units will be enrolled in each location for a total of 100 units in the study. Partners include the National Center for Healthy Housing, the Illinois Lead Safe Housing Task Force, and New York University. The study will determine if window replacement, combined with education of residents on lead hazards, results in greater reductions in dust lead loadings than those observed in a recently completed study of units that had window repair only, and whether there will be other health improvements.

### **NEW JERSEY**

Title: "A Novel Phytoremediation Method using Vetiver Grass to Cleanup Lead-Based Paint Contaminated Soils: Phase II – Field Study"

**SIROM Scientific Solutions LLC** will be awarded \$499,694 in 2010 Lead Technical Studies funds to further evaluate the use of vetiver grass to reduce the amount of lead from contaminated soil. The "phytoremediation" model will be tested using lead contaminated soil from 3 sites each in the cities of San Antonio and Baltimore under field conditions. Vetiver grass will be grown in the soils. Soil erosion and dust generation will also be studied, and safe disposal of grass clippings as non-hazardous waste will be explored. SIROM will partner with Montclair State University (NJ), Michigan Technological University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, the San Antonio Department of Planning and Community Development, and the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning (Baltimore).

### **RHODE ISLAND**

Title: “Lead Hazard Mitigation in Rhode Island: A Technical Study of Public Policy Approaches”

**The Providence Plan** and their partner the Rhode Island Department of Health will be awarded \$298,000 in 2010 Lead Technical Studies funds to study the effect that the State’s recently amended Lead Hazard Mitigation Law has had on the incidence of lead poisoning among children. The study will examine differences in children living in homes (multi-family housing) with or without a Certificate of Conformance, in an owner occupied or non-owner occupied unit, or in units with or without a foreclosure in the past 18 months.

## **TEXAS**

Title: “Contaminated Urban-yard Restoration: Testing Apatite II Immobilization of Lead in Soil (CURTAILS) - A New Orleans Field Trial”

**The University of Texas at Arlington** will be awarded \$498,138 in 2010 Lead Technical Studies funds to assess the use of Apatite II (a phosphate) to immobilize lead in contaminated urban residential soil in New Orleans. The phosphate converts soluble lead ions in the soil into a stable and insoluble crystalline lead phosphate. The study will test the ability of Apatite II to sequester soil lead in comparison to the other types of phosphate treatment, and demonstrate that Apatite II is an environmentally acceptable remediation agent because it does not leach from the soil. Partners include Tulane and Xavier Universities, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## **ASTHMA INTERVENTIONS IN PUBLIC AND ASSISTED MULTIFAMILY HOUSING GRANT AWARDS**

## **ILLINOIS**

**The Sinai Health System** will be awarded \$549,000 in Asthma Interventions in Public and Assisted Multifamily Housing Grant funds. The project aims to decrease asthma-related illness by decreasing the frequency of asthma symptoms, decreasing urgent health care utilization, and decreasing activity limited days (days child could not attend school or carry out his/her usual activities; days caregiver missed work) as well as to improve the family’s quality of life.

## **NEW YORK**

**The New York Academy of Medicine** will be awarded \$549,000 in Asthma Interventions in Public and Assisted Multifamily Housing Grant funds. The project aims to improve the health and quality of life of East Harlem children (age 17 and under) with severe and/or persistent asthma through implementation and evaluation of a comprehensive case management, education, training, and remediation program focused on improving indoor air quality and eliminating household environmental conditions that exacerbate asthma symptoms.

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## **MASSACHUSETTS**

**The University of Massachusetts, Lowell** will be awarded \$364,000 in Asthma Interventions in Public and Assisted Multifamily Housing Grant funds. The proposed project will develop cross-

cultural healthy homes interventions that impact the quality of housing. It will demonstrate how cost effective, replicable interventions, implemented in ethnically diverse households, can lower exposures to in-home hazards and improve the health of the residents. In doing this, the project will demonstrate through training and technical assistance to their institutional partners, how they can further develop their capacity to create sustainable programs and policies which lead to improvements in the residential environment of families with asthmatic children.

## **MINNESOTA**

**The American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest** will be awarded \$538,000 in Asthma Interventions in Public and Assisted Multifamily Housing Grant funds. The project will tackle the significant and relatively unaddressed problem of poorly controlled asthma among American Indian children 18 years and younger by addressing multiple home environmental asthma triggers. The interventions will be developed and demonstrated in two targeted urban American Indian communities and six tribal reservations in several states in the Upper Midwest