

Lead Watch

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LeadWatch is designed to share news and information about CPLP and lead poisoning prevention efforts in the Greater Monroe County, NY area. Send contributions to Elizabeth McDade at emcdade@leadsafeby2010.org.

FEWER CHILDREN BEING REPORTED LEAD POISONED

The newest data from the Monroe County Department of Public Health on screening children for high blood lead levels indicates that Monroe County and the City of Rochester are making great strides in the campaign to end childhood lead poisoning. The encouraging statistics regarding Blood Lead Screening Data for children under the age of six shows a **decrease in the number of children with blood lead levels above the Centers for Disease Controls level of concern (10 mg/dL per deciliter) from 426 in 2007 to 363 in 2008**. It is clear that the Rochester example of continued cooperation between the City, Monroe County, parents, healthcare providers, community agencies, property owners, elected officials, insurers, universities, hospitals, etc. is the only way to eliminate childhood lead poisoning, and for that we should be proud of what we have accomplished.

While it is important to celebrate community successes, we must remember that only approximately 60% of the children who should be

tested for exposure to lead, are being tested. Testing rates for one-year olds are high, but the number of children tested again at age two (as required by New York State law) drops precipitously. As a result, it is likely that some children with elevated blood lead levels are not being identified. We must continue to collaboratively develop and implement innovative interventions to protect all children from this permanent, yet easily preventable, public health scourge. *Blood Lead Screening Data 1997-2008* is available on the Monroe County website at <http://www.monroecounty.gov/eh-leadpoisoning.php>



Joan Roby Davison & Leann Howell
photo credit: Joseph Hill

PARENT ADVOCATE VISITS ROCHESTER

by Joseph Hill

Leann Howell, one of America's leading parent advocates for families dealing with childhood lead poisoning, made two presentations in Rochester in late February. The Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning and Nazareth College sponsored her visit. Howell is a New Jersey mother who unknowingly lead poisoned her infant son 13 years ago while renovating her home. During the subsequent years, she educated herself about lead poisoning, became a strong advocate for her son Julian, and formed ALPHA, (American Lead Poisoning Help Association). Howell spoke to an estimated 100 students and faculty at Nazareth College on February 25th and 30 concerned community members at the Child Care Council on February 26th.

SAVE THE DATE

The CPLP Annual Members Meeting will take place on **Tuesday June 16** at 12 noon at the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency at 1150 University Ave. The agenda will include the election of

new board members, the 2008 Annual Report, Thank-yous, and lunch. Details will be forthcoming.

SAVE THE DATE

The Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning will be participating in the UNITED WAY's DAY OF CARING on **Thursday May 7**. Joseph will be heading up the door-to-door outreach effort that day. If you and/or your friends and family are available from 9AM-2PM, please contact Joseph at (585) 256-2267 x129 as soon as possible. Door-to-door outreach continues on two upcoming Saturdays: June 13 and July 11.

LEAD SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY UPDATE

By Suzanne Wheatcraft

Given that the average Rochester City School District (RCSD) building is over 60 years old, the District works very hard to keep schools safe from potential lead hazards. In February 2007, the District approached CPLP for assistance in creating a Lead Hazard Policy. The CPLP and RCSD worked together to craft a comprehensive, district-wide lead policy which includes building surveys, testing, abatement and education. This precedent setting initiative (one of the few School District policies in the U.S.) was approved at the Roches-

ter Board of Education Meeting that September.

In the past 18 months, in my role as RCSD Coordinator of Environmental Health & Safety, I have trained 60 maintenance workers and 160 custodial workers in lead safe work practices. The RCSD has also developed a training brochure. CPLP staff member Elizabeth McDade and I will be meeting with RCSD Principals to present an update on the Policy and distribute educational materials. To review the Rochester City School District **LEAD SAFE SCHOOLS POLICY**, please go to

<http://www.leadSAFEby2010.org/ForEducators/Resources/abid/97/Default.aspx>

Suzanne Wheatcraft is a member of the CPLP Government Relations Committee.





HEALTHY HOME REFUGEE OUTREACH PROGRAM

by Dot Gulardo

Two new Healthy Home (HH) projects in 2009 are focused on increasing involvement by two groups with a particular need for its education, resources and support: tenants (specifically refugee families) and property managers (landlords, property management staff and contractors).

In collaboration with the Catholic Family Center, and funded through the Monroe County Department of Health Lead Poisoning Primary Prevention Program, the Healthy Home will train interpreters as HH tour guides for Burmese, Somali and Burundi refugees. The tours will provide hands-on education on lead paint, asthma triggers and other environmental home health hazards, as well as on healthy housekeeping and food preparation and storage. This education will help refugees to maintain

healthy and safe homes in a home environment that is in many cases new and unfamiliar.

Under a Department of Environmental Conservation Environmental Justice grant, the Healthy Home will recruit property managers to visit the HH. We will create a referral network among existing housing programs to provide property managers with resources on grants, technical support, and information tailored to their needs. Landlords who tour the Healthy Home will be given "Healthy Home tickets" to give out to their tenants. When the tenants visit the Healthy Home for a tour, they will receive a free cleaning kit. Both initiatives aim at encouraging effective partnerships between renters and their landlords.

The Healthy Home is located at 700 W. Main St., Rochester, NY 14611. To get more info about the Healthy Home, please go to:

www2.envmed.rochester.edu/envmed/ehsc/outreach/CommunityPartners/CommunityPartnersHH.html

Dot Gulardo is a member of the CPLP Education and Outreach Committee.

NEW COORDINATOR AT WESTERN NY LEAD RESOURCE CENTER

Judy McMaster is the new coordinator for the Rochester Office of the WNY Lead Resource Center. She will establish close working relationships with the nine county health department lead poisoning programs in the catchment area, meet with community organizations, and develop educational materials for medical providers. Judy will be contacting Pediatric, Family Medicine, and Obstetrics medical offices to provide the practitioners with information and arrange for Drs. Stan Schaffer and Jim Campbell to give presentations. She will continue to be a member of the CPLP Screening and Professional Development Committee and will join the Education and Outreach Committee.

EPA "RENOVATION, REPAIR & PAINTING RULE"

In April 2008 the EPA enacted the **Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program (RRP)**, a [rule requiring the use of lead-safe practices](#) and other actions aimed at preventing lead poisoning.

The rule requires contractors and construction professionals that work in pre-1978 housing or child-occupied facilities to follow lead-safe work practice standards to

reduce potential exposure to dangerous levels of lead for children.



Photo credit: Journal of Light Construction

By April 2010 renovations in pre-1978 housing and child-occupied facilities **must be conducted by certified renovation firms, using renovators with accredited training, and following the work practice requirements of the rule.** After April 2010, the EPA, or a state agency enforcing the regulations, can fine a company \$37,500 per infraction, per day. The new rules also render companies vulnerable to the threat of a civil suit for non-compliance.

The EPA has posted a new page on their website with "Tool Boxes" for RRP contractors and trainers that lists materials for compliance: <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/toolkits.htm>

They also have a new "Steps to Lead-Safe Renovation, Repair and Painting" or "Steps Guide." This document summarizes the re-

quirements of the rule and can be used by certified renovators to help guide the on-the-job training of their non-certified colleagues. CPLP has also posted this guide on our website.

Implementation Timeline:

April 22, 2008: Rule enacted.

December 22, 2008: Distribution of *Renovate Right* pamphlet to homeowners and facilities.

April 22, 2009: Certified Renovator training begins.

October 22, 2009: Contractors may apply to be Certified Firms.

April 22, 2010: Full implementation of the RRP.

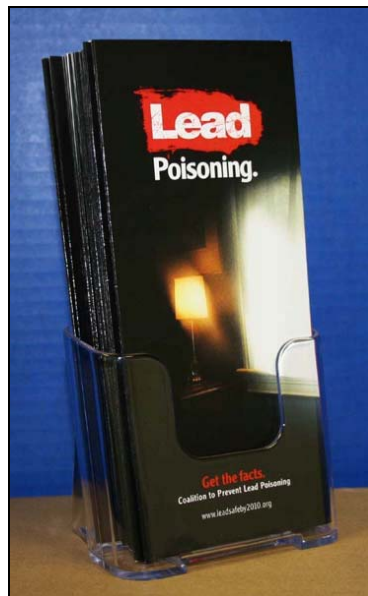


Photo credit: Elizabeth McDade

CPLP BROCHURES

Nearly 10,000 of these brochures (in English and Spanish) have been distributed throughout the community at locations that include: 1199 SEIU, ABC Healthy Start

Centers, ABC Lead Resource Center, Ad Council Social Marketing Workshop, Adonai Community Luncheon, AIDS Rochester Needle Exchange, Beautiful Life Church Live Well Eat Well Program, BEST Program, Brown Square Health Center, Catholic Family Services, Charles Settlement House, Child Care Council, Child First Network, all City of Rochester NCS Offices, Culver Road Medical Associates, Clinton Family Health Center, 14621 Neighborhood, Eastman Dental Center, Excellus BC/BS, Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency Latino and African American Health Coalitions, Franklin High School Health Fair, Genesee Pediatrics, Grace Community Village, Greater Rochester Health Foundation, Highland Family Health Center, Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection Annual Health Fair, Home Care of Rochester, Ibero Children and Youth Services Head Start Program, Jordan Health Center Women, Infants & Children Program, Judicial Process Commission, March of Dimes Mother-to-Be Event, Mental Health Assoc., MCC Damon City Center Health Fair, Monroe Co. Children's Center, Monroe Co. Youth and Partnership Program, Monroe Co. Dept of Public Health, Monroe Co. Legal Aid Society, Monroe High School, NE Quadrant Health Fair, Perinatal Networking Event, Preferred Care, Promotores de Salud, Puerto Rican Youth Dvlp., Public Market, Public Librar-

ies, Rochester Area Outreach Workers, RCSD Parent's University, RCSD Administrative Staff, RCSD School Placement Office, Rochester Fire Dept Open Houses, Rochester Real Estate Investment Club, Rochester Surround Care, Rotary Club, Schools #36, #20, #12, #9 and #41, Southeast Area Community Health Fair, SWAN, Southwest Farmers Market, Strong Hospital OB/GYN, UofR Center for Community Health Healthy Living Program, UofR Dept of Pediatrics and Community & Preventative Medicine, UofR Wilson Commons, Volunteers of America, West Main Pediatrics, Westside Farmers Market, and Wilson Magnet School.

Additionally the brochure has been distributed across the US to the NYC Dept. of Health Lead Program, Illinois WIC Program, Minnesota WIC Program, Indianapolis, Grand Rapids, MI., City of Spokane WA, Univ. of Texas Medical Ctr in Galveston, and the EPA in Seattle, WA.

Available in English and Spanish, this brochure provides information about how to make a home lead safe, getting children tested at one and two, LSWP classes, finding funding to help with cleaning up lead hazards as well as the phone numbers and websites of local and national resources.

You can download English & Spanish brochure PDFs from CPLP's website:

<http://www.lead-safe-by-2010.org>

<http://www.lead-safe-by-2010.org/ForParents/Resources/tabid/95/Default.aspx>



FREE LEAD SAFE WORK PRACTICES (LSWP) CLASSES

Friday April 24

Saturday April 25

Tuesday May 5

Friday May 22

Saturday May 23

Tuesday June 9

Friday June 26

Saturday June 27

FREE 6-hour LSWP Training is being offered by the **City of Rochester** and the **Monroe Co. Dept. of Public Health**.

Call 1-866-850-5280 toll-free for more information.

Our friends to the west in **ERIE COUNTY** are offering the following free LSWP classes:

Monday April 20

Saturday April 25

Thursday April 30

Friday May 1

Wednesday, May 6

Thursday May 7

Wednesday May 13

Wednesday May 20

Saturday May 30

All classes are held from

8:00AM-3:00PM at Environmental Education Associates, 346 Austin St, Buffalo 14207. Space is limited and registration is required. For more information or to register contact: EEA @ 1-833-2929 or 1-888-436-8314.

LEAD AWARENESS FOR PARENTS DVD

This 10-minute program provides an overview on lead hazards, highlights the importance of getting children tested, demonstrates how to clean hands and toys, identifies interim lead controls and lead-safe working practices, and lists additional local and national resources. Available in English, Spanish/Español, and American Sign Language. You can also find this program on YouTube

www.youtube.com/watch?v=C0HnWFrQIo4.

EVENTS CALENDAR

(these events include outreach efforts conducted by staff, board & committee members)

Thursday March 26, 8:30AM
WIC, Upper Falls Blvd.

Monday March 30, 12PM
MCC Class

Tuesday March 31
MCC Class, 8AM
WIC, Upper Falls Blvd., 12PM

Thursday April 2, 8AM
WIC, Upper Falls Blvd.

Saturday April 4, 9AM
March of Dimes Mother-to-Be Luncheon, Clarion Riverside

Wednesday April 15, 3PM
East High School Faculty

Thursday Apr 16, 8AM
WIC, Upper Falls Blvd.

Friday April 17, 1PM
Dr. Freddie Thomas H.S. Health Fair, Scio Street

Saturday April 18, 10AM
Youth Energy Summit
MCC Damon City Campus
228 E. Main St., 5th Floor
www.summerofpower.com/Youth_Energy_Summit.html

Tuesday April 21, 8PM
MCC Class

Thursday April 23, 11AM
BEST Program, Norton St.

Friday April 24, 9AM
Earth Week Seminar & Expo.
Cornell Cooperative Extension
249 Highland Ave

Saturday April 25, 9AM
Student Natl Medical Assoc.
Regional Health Fair
Public Market, Union St.

Sunday May 3, 9AM
March of Dimes Walk

Jewish Community Center
1200 Edgewood Ave.

Thursday May 7, 9AM
United Way Day of Caring
Door-to-Door Outreach

Saturday May 9, 8:30AM
Wilson Academy
Genesee St.

Tuesday May 12, 9AM
Latino Day at the Lilac Festival
Highland Park

Saturday June 6
Spring Into Safety Health Fair
Carter Street Garage
Rochester General Hospital

Saturday June 13, 9AM
Door-to-Door Outreach

Tuesday June 16, 12PM
ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING

Sunday June 28, 9AM
RPCN Latino Health Fair
Upper Falls Blvd

Saturday July 11, 9AM
Door-to-Door Outreach

COMMITTEE MTGS.

(mtgs take place at 1150 University Ave. unless otherwise noted)

Board of Directors
3rd Tues. each month, 8:30AM

Executive Committee
1st Tues. each month, 8:30AM

Education and Outreach
2nd Mon. each month, 1PM

Government Relations
1st Wed. each month, 9AM
9:00-10:30AM

Screening and Professional Development
2nd Tues. each month, 8:30AM
Mon. Co. Dept of Health

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THANK YOU

We are extremely grateful for the current support of:

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