

# OHIO LEAD-FREE KIDS COALITION

## #LeadFreeKidsOH

### Our Vision

All Ohio children are lead-free.

### Goal

To secure a public commitment and investment in comprehensive primary prevention to ensure all Ohio children are safe from lead in their homes and communities.

### Who We Are

We are a collection of organizations and individuals who share a deep and urgent concern about the well-being of our children given our understanding of the toxic and potentially life-long harm caused by lead poisoning and the future prospects of our state. We work collaboratively to support the overall advancement of prevention of lead poisoning to ensure lead-free children.

### Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition Members

Advocates for Basic Legal Equality, Inc.  
(ABLE)  
Ashland/Richland Lead Prevention  
Collaborative  
Canton City Public Health  
Center for Community Solutions  
Children's Defense Fund, Ohio\*  
Cleveland Lead Safe Network  
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in  
Ohio (COHHIO)\*  
Concerned Citizens Organized Against Lead  
(CCOAL)\*  
Columbus Public Health\*  
Corporation for Ohio Appalachian  
Development (COAD)  
Cuyahoga County Board of Health  
Enterprise Community Partners  
Environmental Health Watch

Greater Cincinnati Water Works  
Groundwork Ohio\*  
Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics  
Ohio Environmental Council  
Ohio Healthy Homes Network (OHHN)\*\*  
Ohio Nurses Association  
Ohio Poverty Law Center\*  
Ohio Public Health Association  
MetroHealth  
National Council of Negro Women, Inc.  
Northeast Ohio Black Health Coalition  
Policy Matters Ohio\*  
Public Children Services Association of Ohio  
Schubert Center for Child Studies, Case  
Western Reserve University\*\*  
Toledo Lead Poisoning Prevention Coalition  
Voices for Ohio's Children  
West Ohio Community Action Network\*

\* OLFKC Steering Committee members

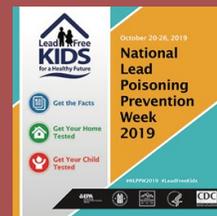
\*\* OLFKC Co-Chairs, Patricia Barnes, OHHN Executive Director & Gabriella Celeste, Schubert Center Policy Director

Please contact [OHleadfreekids@gmail.com](mailto:OHleadfreekids@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining the coalition or for more information.

# National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

#NLPPW2019 #LeadFreeKidsOH

## Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition



### Ohio is Committed to Preventing Child Lead Poisoning

### 7 Things You Can Do Now

There is no safe level of lead in a child's blood so preventing lead exposure is critical.



#### 1. Get the Facts!

Share good information with friends, family, and colleagues – especially if you or they are [pregnant](#) or a parent of young children. Check out this new [resource](#) from Ohio Department of Health.

#### 2. Know your Home & Child Care Setting!

Find out if your home, or where your child attends child care, was built before 1978. If it was built before 1978 contact 1-800-532-3723 to request information on getting a lead risk assessment and possibly [free lead hazard removal assistance](#) to protect your children from potential lead exposure.

Homes built before 1978 could have lead paint that could cause serious health problems.

- Is your child Medicaid eligible and under 19 years of age?
- Are you pregnant and Medicaid eligible?

If you answered yes to either of these questions you may qualify for FREE home testing and lead paint hazard removal.

Call 1-877-532-3723  
www.odh.ohio.gov

#### 3. Renovate Right!

If you are planning to remodel or renovate your pre-1978 home- be sure your contractor is [RRP-certified and uses lead-safe work practices](#). You may also qualify for the new Ohio Lead Abatement Tax Credit for up to \$10,000 in

work you have done to make your home lead-safe. Contact [lead@odh.ohio.gov](mailto:lead@odh.ohio.gov) or 1-800-532-3723 for details.



#### Hire a Professional

July 20, 2019 [EPA](#)



WELCOME  
HIRE A PROFESSIONAL



#### 4. Get Your Home Inspected for Lead!

You can find [state licensed](#) lead inspectors and lead risk assessors in your area. Access resources to keep your home lead-safe, like the [HEPA Vacuum](#) Loaner Program in [your community](#).

#### 5. Find lead-safe rental housing!

Use the [Ohio Rental Housing Locator](#) to find lead-safe apartments and homes. Check to see if a property is on the [Ohio Lead Hazardous Properties list](#).



#### 6. Get Your Child Tested & Supportive Services!



Talk to your child's doctor about lead poisoning and risk factors. If your child is 2 or under, consider having them tested (Medicaid requires testing for all 1 and 2 year-olds). If your child tests with elevated lead in the blood, contact [your local health department](#) for potential resources. They also automatically qualify for [early intervention \(EI\) supportive services](#). Call 1-800-755-GROW (4769) for EI services through the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities or find a [local EI contact in your county](#).

#### 7. Join the Ohio Lead-Free Kids Coalition (OLKFC)!

If you would like to join the OLFKC or learn more about the OLFKC and ways to educate policymakers and others concerned about child lead poisoning prevention, contact: [OHleadfreekids@gmail.com](mailto:OHleadfreekids@gmail.com)

## Ohio State FY20-21 Budget Investments Addressing Lead Poisoning & Prevention

*\$26 Million to Make Homes Lead Safe, Improve Lead Screening & Provide Early Intervention Supports to Lead Poisoned Children*

The Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition urged support for Governor DeWine's lead budget priorities. Every one of those budget items was approved in the final budget, with some additional investments, as summarized below.\*

### 1) SCHIP Lead Abatement Program

Managed by Ohio Departments of Medicaid (ODM) and the Health (ODH), the state child health insurance program (SCHIP) Health Services Initiative waiver provides \$10 million in funding for lead abatement funding for pre-1978 properties with children or pregnant women. [Call 877-532-3723 (LEAD-SAF) for information]

- \$9 M in funding for lead hazard abatement for approximately 200 pre-1978 units/year – properties may include day care facilities and homes where children spend at least 6 hours a week (i.e. relative).
- Some of this funding can support lead workforce development and cost of cleaning supplies and equipment, such as HEP vacuums and water filters.
- Removal of several barriers such as requiring homeowners insurance and contribution, or landlord match. Birth certificate requirement also removed (ODH to verify Medicaid eligibility).
- Additional funding to manage the state Lead Safe Rental Registry also included.

### 2) Improving Lead Screening and Testing for Children

Increasing access to effective lead screening and testing is an important part of ensuring children receive referrals and have access to necessary supports, as well as assessing progress in prevention efforts.

- ODH entered into an agreement with the American Academy of Pediatrics Ohio Chapter for \$120,000 to create a quality improvement pilot program targeting pediatricians to conduct on-site office lead screenings and referrals.
- ODM created a Comprehensive Primary Care (CPC) for Kids Program which includes a new metric for “lead-screening” as a payment incentive beginning in 2020.

### 3) EI Supports for Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (EBLL)

Managed by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD), early intervention (EI) supports will be automatic for children with 5 or greater elevated blood lead levels (EBLLs).

- The budget increased DODD funding by \$24M for all EI services, including approximately \$4 million in targeted funding for lead poisoned children and children with NAS (Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome). The lead-related funding will be distributed based on EBLL prevalence data.
- ODH will refer children with 5 or greater EBLLs to DODD through an automated referral system to ensure timely follow up for EI service coordination and other supports.

### 4) Increase Supply of Lead Abatement Workforce

ODH is working to partner with other state agencies with \$450,000 in new funding to leverage funding and existing partnerships with training centers to cover costs for training and waiver of license fees for lead abatement contractors and workers.

### 5) Demolition of Lead Hazardous Properties

ODH is partnering with other state agencies with \$500,000 to support demolition of lead-blighted properties in rural and urban areas, with landbank partnerships.

### 6) Lead Abatement Income Tax Credit

A nonrefundable state income tax credit to cover costs associated with lead abatement work in pre-1978 private homes and rental units will be available to property owners beginning January 2020.

- \$10M for a lead abatement state tax credit of up to \$10,000 for lead-related costs per unit.
- The tax credit can be applied over 7 years and there is no income limit for eligibility. All work must be certified with a lead clearance exam.

### 7) Lead Safe Home Fund Pilot Program & Other Local Lead Prevention Funding

- The Cleveland Lead Safe Coalition (LSC) sought funding and received \$2M in support for a “Lead Safe Home Fund” pilot program to support lead prevention efforts in Cleveland.
- The city of Toledo sought and received approval for \$150,000 in lead abatement and rehabilitation funding.

**Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition** - Contact Co-Chairs Patricia Barnes or Gabriella Celeste for details.

*\*Funding figures cover both years of the FY20-FY21 budget. Other lead-related policies in the budget included new civil enforcement language for “lead orders to vacate” properties and new members on the ODH Ohio Lead Advisory Council.*

## Protect Kids from Lead Hazards during Renovation & Construction

**Proposal:** Transfer Management of the Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP) from U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH).

### Why the concern?

Common activities in pre-1978 properties like sanding, cutting and demolition during renovation can create hazardous lead dust and chips by disturbing lead-based paint, **increasing the risk of lead exposure to children.**



**Without effective RRP management, children continue to be at risk of lead exposure during common renovations in their homes, daycare centers and schools.**

### What does the RRP law currently require?

The [RRP Rule](#) requires that firms performing renovation, repair, and painting projects in homes and child care facilities built before 1978:

1. be certified by the EPA (or EPA authorized state),
2. use renovators who are trained by EPA-approved providers; and,
3. follow [lead-safe work practices](#).

How RRP works now...	How Ohio benefits if RRP transferred to ODH
Ohio renovators and contractors must follow this federal law with little to no support. USEPA has only 2 FTEs to manage RRP for all 7 states in Region V, making it difficult to answer questions or resolve issues in a timely way.	<b>Supporting local lead workforce</b> ODH has a strong track record of working with lead workers to provide training and guidance on lead safe practices. One-time funding of \$400,000 would allow ODH to hire 3 FTEs to start the program and provide quality customer service to contractors, renovators, and the public. All subsequent years of the program would be supported with program fees.
The USEPA requires a uniform certification fee of \$300 every 5 years regardless of whether a firm or sole business owner	<b>More reasonable &amp; equitable fees</b> ODH would lessen the amount of the certification fee and have a smaller fee for sole proprietors.
The USEPA imposes fines of up to \$37,500/day for violations.	<b>Lower &amp; more appropriate penalties</b> ODH would have lower fines with more flexibility with funding remediation. [USEPA recently permitted states with transferred authority to reduce the fine for violations from the federal amount to a minimum of \$5,000/day]
None of the resources generated through fees or fines stay in Ohio; instead they go to the USEPA.	<b>Keeping Ohio Dollars in Ohio</b> This transfer of authority would <u>not</u> involve new or additional fees to Ohio contractors and Ohio would benefit from certification fees staying in Ohio. Any excess funds could be directed to the Ohio Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund to support lead abatement activities.
With minimal enforcement, the USEPA fails to ensure Ohio children get the intended benefit of RRP protection. 14 states have been authorized to administer and enforce RRP to ensure their citizens get the benefits of the program.	<b>Advances primary prevention</b> Reducing lead dust and paint chips during renovation and repair of pre-1978 homes and other structures will help to keep children living or playing there safe from lead. The lead safe work practices required by RRP provides a strong foundation on which to build a primary prevention approach to child lead poisoning.

### The basic elements of the proposed RRP Amendment

**GRF Cost:** \$500,000/FY to cover costs for initial hiring to ramp up the RRP program and to develop the database for the program.

**ORC 3742.60-3742.63** Lead Abatement. Amends language to designate ODH as accepting delegation of USEPA authority for enforcement of the RRP Rule and Program. This includes establishment of a fee structure for certification, a penalty structure for non-compliance (3742.16) and the designation of fees collected to the lead abatement personnel licensing fund.

**ORC 3742.46** Lead poisoning prevention fund. Amend language to permit receipt of RRP fees to administer the RRP program and allow additional uses related to lead abatement activities.



For more information contact "Ohio Lead-Free Kids Coalition" Co-Chairs:  
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