

Integration of Healthy Homes into a Lead Program

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Mission Statement

*"Our mission is to prevent childhood
lead poisoning and other health-
related environmental problems."*



Integration of HH into Lead

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- ## Program Experience
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- 1992 - ACLPPP is formed
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Environmental
 - 1995 - Public Health arena
 - Focus on managed care
 - Collaboration encouraged (e.g. *Connecting Points* model)
 - 1998 - HH Working Group (internal development)
 - PHN comprehensive case management
 - Asthma recognized as on the rise
 - Mold complaint calls
 - Safety issues



Program Experience (cont.)

- 1999 - Case Review Working Group (Lead cases)
 - Health
 - Housing
 - Environmental
- 2000 - HUD defines Healthy Homes issues
- 2003 - HUD Round IX -
Healthy Homes Demonstration grant
 - Healthy Homes training and housing interventions
- 2006 - HUD Round XIV -
Healthy Homes Demonstration grant
 - Provider of NCHH Practitioner's course



Rationale for Integration

- PHNs recognized other health issues
 - Asthma
 - TB
 - injuries
- No housing niche in Alameda County
- No other agencies/programs responding to calls
- Initial approach - primarily safety oriented
 - Child car seats (PHD)
 - Bicycle helmets (public/private partnership)
 - HEPA-filtered vacuums (excess funding)



Steps to Integration

- Set the Stage
- Define what HH means in your community
 - needs of community
- Get "buy-in"
 - funding stream
- Know your demographics
- Establish partners and get them in place
 - existing programs/agencies
- "Active" collaboration
- Avoid competition
 - niche (public health vs. housing)




Challenges to Integration

- Internal
 - Resistant staff
 - "lack of expertise"
 - Changing/increased workload
 - Staff in-services
 - Updating educational materials
 - Expensive
 - Funding restraints
 - Proposition 218



Challenges to Integration

- External
 - Establish relationships with non-traditional organizations/agencies
 - Define what HH is (and is not)
 - Not readily admitted to the asthma medical community (competition)
 - Lack of continuous funding = major hurdle to sustainability



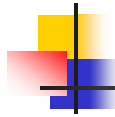
Alameda County Healthy Homes Project

- November, 2006 through October, 2009
- Treatment of 225 units (275)
- Targeting zip codes in Oakland and Berkeley



Health Outcomes

- 50% of participants will demonstrate a reduction in severity of asthma symptoms or number of hospitalizations and/or emergency room visits.
- 80% of participants will demonstrate increased knowledge on how to control asthma and allergy triggers.
- 75% of participants will implement measures to improve conditions in the home to reduce asthma triggers.
- 80% of participants will demonstrate increased knowledge of minor injury prevention in the home.
- (75% of participants in the Project who have not been previously screened for lead will be screened.



Housing Outcomes

- 80% improvement in ventilation and moisture control will be measured by a reduction in mold growth in bathrooms and kitchens.
- 75% improvement in the management of IPM in all homes measured by dust sampling for dust mite and cockroach allergen levels.



Elements of Project

- Assessment of unit
- Allergen dust sampling
- Radon testing
- Education of occupant
- Housing intervention to unit
 - Basic intervention
 - Enhanced intervention
- Follow up on unit and occupant



Improvements to Approach

- Expanded in-home curriculum
 - Message development
 - Expertise from experience
- Kit / message tuned to needs
- Community involvement
- Language / culture sensitive
- Fewer visitors
- Additional visits when necessary

Inter-grant Comparison of Educational Messages

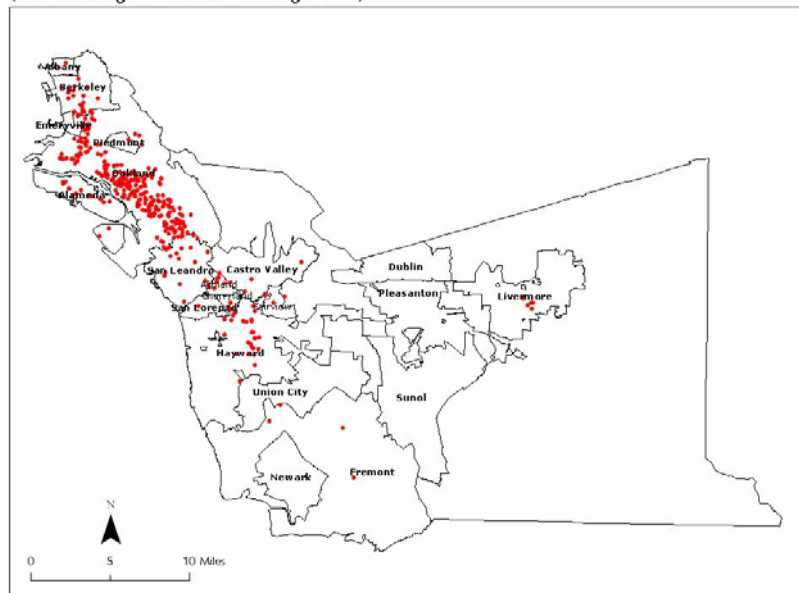
Round IX

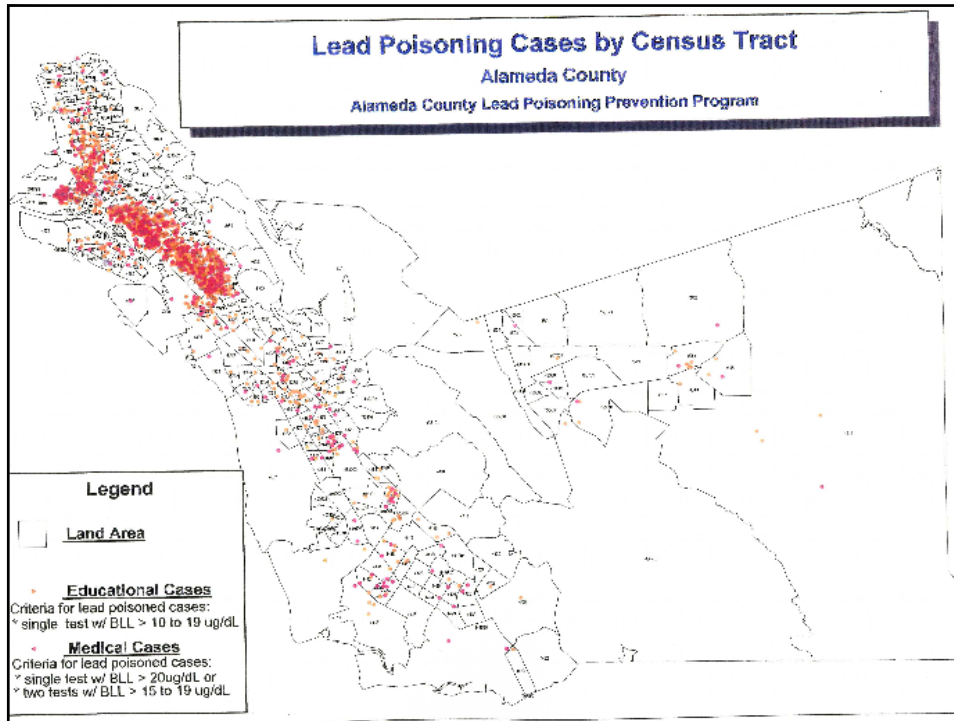
- Asthma triggers
- Home safety
 - Physical
 - Chemical
 - Biological
- Lead
- Mercury

Round XIV

- Asthma triggers
- Home safety
 - Physical
 - Chemical
 - Biological
- Lead
- Mercury
- Radon
- Asthma action plan

Referrals from Medical Providers 2007 (Children diagnosed with asthma ages 0-18)





Basic Intervention

- Complete HEPA vacuuming of home
- Application of:
 - dust mite/flea killer
 - allergen neutralizer
 - boric acid behind stove and refrigerator (IPM prevention)
- Cleaning of:
 - refrigerator coils
 - wall furnace/exhaust fans
 - stove
 - refrigerator drip pan
- Installation of:
 - mattress/pillow covers
 - CO/smoke detector
 - fire extinguisher
 - air purifier
 - cabinet / drawer latches
 - outlet covers



Enhanced Intervention

- Installation of:
 - Exhaust fan in bathroom (time-delay switch)
 - Hood fan in kitchen
 - Minor plumbing repairs
 - Removal of carpet in child's room
 - Safety hazard remediation
 - Replacement of security bars
 - Installation of lattice on sub-code guardrail
 - Installation of wall ceramic tile next to stove



Moisture Control/Safety

- Exhaust fans (kitchen/bathroom)
- Minor roof repairs
- Plumbing leaks
- W2W carpet removal, cleanable floor installation (child's room)
- Window repair
- Window safety bars
- Security window bars



Referrals

- Weatherization programs
- City CEDA programs
 - Minor home repair
 - Emergency home repair
 - Rehabilitation programs
- Landlord-tenant mediation
- Psychosocial services
- Animal rescue services



Challenges to Project

- Clients lost to follow up
 - Transience
 - Family issues
 - Unable to locate/contact
 - Disenrollment
- Unable to treat due to cost
 - Lead hazard control - refer to LHC grantee
 - Extensive mold issues
- Sensitivity to landlord-tenant issues
 - Citizenship status
 - Sublets
 - Recalcitrant landlords
- Enforcement
 - Codes are vague
 - Agency ability to respond is limited



Partners in an Integrated Approach

HUD Round XIV
HH Demonstration Project



Partnerships

- Prescott-Joseph Center for Community Enhancement
- Children's Hospital & Research Center, Oakland
- Kaiser Hospital, Oakland
- Regional Asthma Management Program
- American Lung Association
- Alameda County Asthma Coalition
- Neighborhood Clinics
- Private medical providers
- School District nurses




Partnerships (cont.)

- Community Energy Services Corp.
- Manos Janitorial Cooperative
- Richard Heath & Associates
- EMSL Laboratory
- Social Services agencies/programs
- Weatherization programs
- Housing Authorities
- Minor Home Repair programs
- Emergency Home Repair programs
- Lead Hazard Control grants
- Utility Companies




Healthy Homes Consortium

- Meetings held quarterly
- Provides forum for:
 - Project results
 - Suggestions for improvements
 - Intervention services
 - Administrative
 - Address partners concerns



Impact of Integration

- Contracts with local public housing authorities
 - FFS inspections/interventions
- Important: Lead model ≠ HH model



Impact of Integration

- Creates Opportunities
- Opens doors
- Approval by other groups
 - OHA
 - BHA
 - California Breathing
 - City/county of San Francisco
 - HHP and IPM