



The
Alameda County
Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Fourth Quarter Report 2008-2009

ALAMEDA COUNTY LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM
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FY 2008-2009

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The Alameda County Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (ACLPPP) presents its fourth quarter progress report on the goals and objectives for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. This report reflects progress on the objectives approved annually by the Joint Powers Authority Board of Directors of the Alameda County Lead Abatement District, which incorporate deliverables determined by the various granting agencies, as well as those designed by the Program to provide quality services to Alameda County's children and County Service Area (CSA) property owners.

QUARTERLY HIGHLIGHTS

Emergency Medical Response

This quarter the emergency response and chelation of an Alameda County child due to a false positive very high blood lead level of 78 mcg/dL, sparked a state-wide review of laboratory procedures for emergency blood lead levels. The child endured three days of intravenous chelating treatment while waiting for results of a confirmatory blood test. Finally, the test results were returned negative for lead, deeming the initial test a false positive. The child returned home and is being monitored by his primary care physician to ensure no ill effects from the chelating treatment, since it also rids the body of many useful metals such as iron, zinc and copper.

Program staff consulted with the medical consultant at the State Lead Program to discuss their concerns with this situation. In response to these discussions, the State medical consultant initiated a review of procedures with laboratories statewide regarding the turn around times for emergency confirmatory lab analysis. The State staff has assured the Program that until the new procedures are completed and formalized, interim measures will be put in place establishing at least one laboratory for quicker response times so that in the future a child should not have to endure harsh chelation treatments unnecessarily.

Nursing Case Management

This quarter, staff completed a case management outcomes evaluation for children who received case management services in 2007. The evaluation tracked blood lead levels over a one year period as well as nursing, educational, and environmental interventions during that same time period. The analysis revealed that blood lead levels decreased in 91% of the children served (see page 11).

EPA Renovation Repair and Painting Rule

In anticipation of the full implementation of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule (RRP), on May 29, 2009 the ACLPPP applied for accreditation to teach the RRP *Lead Safety for Renovation Repair and Painting* classes that will be mandatory for all persons working in pre-1978 target housing and child-occupied facilities after April 2010. EPA is requiring home renovators pass these new courses and become a Certified Renovator before next spring. Meanwhile, the Program has included information on the pending EPA requirements and the implications of the RRP Rule for contractors, renovators and property owners in all of its trainings.

Presentations to City of Oakland Building Department, June 17th and 24th, 2009

The ACLPPP made two presentations on unsafe work practices to City of Oakland Building Department staff. Approximately 64 inspectors, plan checkers, permit technicians, and clerical support staff attended the presentations, which included the video "Lead's Revenge," and a presentation on the health effects of lead exposure, unsafe and safe work sites and worker protection, State Housing Law requirements and the upcoming EPA Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule (RRP). ACLPPP resources and compliance activities were also reviewed. The ACLPPP provided a copy of the video, "Lead's Revenge," to the City's Green Building Center and Permit Counter.

LEAD POISONING PREVENTION

Public Education and Outreach

The Program's public education and outreach activities are designed to increase awareness of the dangers of lead exposure and other housing related health hazards, and provide residents with information on how to prevent exposure. These activities are funded by the local County Service Area (CSA) fee, the California Department of Public Health (DPH), and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Objective

Increase Awareness

By June 30, 2009 there will be a 20% increase (to 43,000) in the number of people in Alameda County who, through contact with the Program, increase their awareness of lead poisoning and ACLPPP services.

A total of 38,934 people contacted the Program through the website and information line this past year. This is a 10% increase from last year but did not meet the objective of increasing the total number by 20%. While the number of website visitors increased by 4,213, the number of information line calls decreased by 583. A contributing factor to the decrease in the number of calls is that the Program used stricter criteria for determining what constitutes an information line call. Basic requests such as signing up for a class are no longer included in the count.

Increase Knowledge

By June 30, 2009, 1,200 people will demonstrate an increase in their knowledge of the risks, sources and ways to prevent lead poisoning.

A total of 1,467 people have increased their knowledge about lead poisoning prevention as a direct result of Program activities, which have included 43 presentations, seven classes and 24 trainings to date this year. This past quarter the Program provided a lead safe painting and remodeling class in Berkeley and four one-day lead safe work practice trainings for property owners, maintenance personnel, contractors, and re-entry individuals in Oakland. Through Kresge Foundation support, the one-day lead-safe work practice training is now offered free to anyone who lives, works or owns property in Alameda County. Program staff conducted presentations for parents, homeowners, Head Start service providers, and landlords. Twenty-two persons have completed the lead-safe work practice quiz on the Program's website.

Increase Action

By June 30, 2009, 40% of people who have contacted the Program's information line or website will have taken at least one action to prevent lead poisoning.

- 1) The Program recorded 73 calls this year from repeat callers or people who had previously used the Program's services. Of these calls, 50 callers (68%) indicated that they had taken an action to prevent lead poisoning as a result of their previous contact with ACLPPP.
- 2) A total of 250 lead sampling kits were provided this year. A total of 92 lead sampling kits have been submitted to the lab for analysis indicating a 37% use rate. This usage rate is slightly higher than last year (36%).
- 3) A total of 37 people completed an online survey to provide feedback about the Program's website. Of these, 73% reported they were motivated by the website to take action to prevent lead poisoning.

4) The feedback form for those receiving an In-Home Consultation and/or kit was revised mid-year to include a question about whether any preventative actions were taken as a result of this service. To date a total of 40 feedback forms have been received of which 17 asked whether any action was taken. Of these 12 (71%) stated they had taken action as a result of utilizing the In-Home Consultation and/or kit service. Of the total 40 feedback forms received, 34 (85%) gave the Program the highest rating, stating they were “very satisfied” with all aspects of the service.

Expand Collaboration

By June 30, 2009, five (5) additional agencies, community-based organizations and institutions will take action to increase public lead awareness by incorporating lead messages into their operations.

During the first three quarters, the ACLPPP worked with the Center for Environmental Health, Centro Legal de la Raza, St. Rose Hospital, California Poison Control, Association for Environmental Contractors, CBS/CW TV, Emeryville Chamber of Commerce, Radiation Monitoring Devices (RMD), and Oakland Community Organizations (OCO).

This past quarter the program expanded collaboration activities with the Alameda County Food Bank and two of its distribution sites, and collaborated with Coliseum College Prep Academy and Futures Elementary School campus in Oakland (see neighborhood outreach section of this report).

The Program has also held meetings to build partnerships with the Alameda County Senior Injury Prevention Partnership, and the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund.

The Program continued its active leadership role with the **Bay Area Get the Lead Out Coalition**. Utilizing funds from the Kresge Foundation, an advocacy training was held with Coalition members, and outreach was provided to day-laborers through a partnership with Centro Legal de la Raza. This partnership has resulted in one-on-one education with 197 day-laborers, a presentation at the Multicultural Institute in Berkeley and plans for training of workers through the Hayward Day Labor Center. Program staff is also working to establish a partnership with the Oakland Day Labor Center. Utilizing funds from the Public Health Trust, the Get the Lead Out Coalition is also in the final stages of completing an outreach project to increase awareness about lead in some candies from Mexico.

Increase Use of CSA Services

By June 30, 2009 there will be a 10% increase in the number of CSA property owners who utilize CSA services.

There has been a seven percent increase in the number of CSA property owners utilizing CSA services this year.

| Cumulative Measure | Thru Q4 2007-08 | | Thru Q4 2008-09 | | Difference | |
|---|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| | # provided | # of people | # provided | # of people | # change | % change |
| Lead Safe Painting (2 hour classes) | 18 | 71 | 7 | 32 | - 39 | -55% |
| Lead Safe Work Practices (1-day training) | 14 | 108 | 19 | 195 | + 87 | +81% |
| In-Home Consultations | 229 | 229 | 172 | 172 | - 57 | - 25% |
| Lead sampling kits given out / used | 323 | 117 | 250 | 92 | - 25 | - 21% |
| HEPA vacuums | 187 | 187 | 196 | 196 | + 9 | + 5 % |
| Web page visitors: Services for CSA Property owners | n/a | 1421 | 1 | 1673 | +252 | +18% |
| Web page visitors: Classes for CSA homeowners | n/a | 1883 | 1 | 1,943 | + 60 | + 3 % |
| TOTAL | | 4016 | | 4,303 | +287 | + 7 % |

* # of lead sampling kits utilized by the owner/sent to the lab for analysis

Activities:

- **Provide 60 educational opportunities to local community, neighborhood, property owner and parent groups as well as medical and childcare providers.**

A total of 102 educational events, including 43 presentations and 59 informational tables at events, have been provided to date for parents, landlords, medical providers and the general public. This past quarter presentations were conducted at the Emeryville Leadership East Bay Program, Burbank Elementary School Educational Migrant Program in Hayward, day laborers at the Multicultural Institute in Berkeley, Berkeley Health Services Advisory Committee, Ashby Lofts Parents Group, Oakland Housing Authority Section 8 Owners Briefing, City of Oakland Public Works Department, Kelly Moore Paint store, Alameda County zoning and permit staff and Santa Rita Jail in Dublin. Informational tables were staffed at Earth Day celebrations in all County Service Area cities and in Hayward, Hayward Day Labor Center, Raza Health Fair, Black Infant Health and Heart 2 Heart Block Party and Juneteenth Festival in Berkeley, Oakland Housing Authority Section 8 Landlord briefings, Rental Housing Association workshops, St. Bernard Church and the Healthy Living Fair in Oakland. In addition, two Healthy Homes' trainings were provided.

- **Provide five CSA classes on lead-safe painting and remodeling.**

The Program provided a class this quarter in lead-safe painting and remodeling at Berkeley's South Branch Tool Lending Library. Through these classes, a total of 32 people have increased their knowledge of the sources of lead hazards in the home and ways to safely conduct painting and remodeling projects this year. A total of seven classes have been provided to date this fiscal year.

- **Conduct neighborhood outreach pilot projects in two high risk CSA neighborhoods. Program staff will identify two high risk neighborhoods, assess each neighborhood's needs and assets, and develop a plan for a coordinated outreach and education campaign.**

During the first half of the year, Program staff conducted an intensive targeted lead outreach campaign in the Fruitvale district in Oakland (see previous reports).

In the second half of this fiscal year, staff focused efforts in the East Oakland neighborhood with zip code 94621. The semi-industrial East Oakland area was selected based on a review of the demographic and blood lead screening data, which indicated that this is a high risk area with a disproportionately high level of children with elevated blood lead levels. Outreach included working with local community based organizations and schools including Oakland Community Organizations (OCO), Community for a Better Environment, Coliseum College Prep Academy and Futures Elementary School, as well as the Alameda County Food Bank and the State's Department of Toxics Substance Control. A letter of commitment for on-going lead education was signed with the Principal of Coliseum Prep. A model Family Resource Center on the school campus opened with lead education materials, staff trained in key lead poisoning prevention messages and a lead quiz was put on the Center's computers for clients. This past quarter Program staff worked with two Alameda County Food Bank distribution sites, Grace Baptist Church and St. Bernard Church in Oakland to provide lead education and hold a poster contest for families picking up bags of food. Staff also met with the local Beat 33X NCPC, conducted a training for Kelly Moore Paint store staff, and attended a two-day Toxic Tour and follow-up community meeting in East Oakland. Plans are continuing for on-going activities at the school and with other Family Resource Centers in Oakland.

- **Provide the appropriate level of phone consultation, including referrals, to 1,440 callers to the Program's Information Line.**

The Program has provided a total of 643 phone consultations to the public this year. Each of these calls involved a significant amount of time and expertise; basic requests such as signing up for a class are no longer counted as phone consultations.

- **Serve 42,000 unique visitors to the Program’s website, while providing more interactive and user-friendly ways to access both information and program services.**

The Program has had a total of 38,934 visitors to its website (www.aclppp.org) to date. Interactive functions on the website include a lead-safe work practices quiz, on-line sign-up for in-home consultations, and a website feedback survey.

- **Conduct 200 In-Home Consultations for CSA property owners, which include a professional on-site consultation with a visual survey, and customized written recommendations for reducing lead hazards in the home. Property owners will also be offered a lead testing kit.**

A total of 172 In-Home Consultations and 250 lead sampling kits have been provided this year.

Compliance with Lead Safe Work Practices

The ACLPPP works with neighborhood residents, building and code enforcement agencies, among others, to promote compliance with regulations requiring lead safe work practices when renovating pre-1978 structures. The Program provides guidance, educational materials, technical assistance and appropriate referrals to Alameda County residents concerned with potentially unsafe renovation activities.

In the cities of Alameda, Emeryville, and Oakland, staff also responds with a site visit if the risk of exposure warrants it. The ACLPPP is developing a tracking system to gather more information on the outcome of complaint calls. Staff will also provide technical support to City of Berkeley Public Health Department staff responding to Berkeley unsafe renovation complaints.

Objective

Increase compliance with lead safe work practices.

Activities:

- **Respond to 60 unsafe renovation complaints with telephone or on-site consultations. Provide information on clean-up, safe work practices, and evaluate complaints for possible referrals to appropriate enforcement agencies.**

The Program responded to seven unsafe renovation or unsafe condition complaints during the quarter for a year to date total of 38. Of the total to date, 31 were unsafe renovation complaints and six were unsafe condition complaints. Six have been in Alameda, 12 in Berkeley, where the ACLPPP assists the Berkeley Public Health Department, two have been in Emeryville, 10 in Oakland, and eight were in other cities in the County.

Fewer complaints were recorded this year than anticipated which may be due more to changes in tracking than to a change in call volume. In the past, unsafe renovation and unsafe condition calls were tracked like info line calls where multiple callers or even multiple calls from the same person about the same incident would have been counted as separate calls. This year, in order to focus more on the properties involved, each incident is now counted as a single complaint, regardless of the number of phone calls received.

This quarter, site visits were performed at two properties in Oakland and lead sampling kits were provided. In both instances, HEPA vacuums from the loaner program were used for clean-up. Program staff provided information on regulations and lead-safe work practices to property owners and contractors. An unsafe renovation complaint in the City of Piedmont was still open as of the end of the quarter and the ACLPPP will follow-up with the owner and the City of Piedmont Building Department. Information was provided to the property owner on safe work practices in response to an unsafe condition complaint in Hayward. The

ACLPPP will follow up to determine the outcome of that call. Three complaints were addressed by the City of Berkeley Public Health Department.

During this quarter, presentations on regulatory changes and new research on the impact of lead on society were made to 64 City of Oakland Building Department inspectors, plan checkers, permit technicians, and clerical support staff, and to 19 code enforcement, planning, and permit counter staff from the Alameda County Planning Department.

- **Develop two educational tools as part of Permit Office Materials.**

The ACLPPP has posted a lead-safe work practices quiz on the Program's website and has designed a "Lead Alert" sticker suitable for placing on building plans during the permit process and is encouraging their use by building departments in Alameda County.

- **Work with the City of Oakland Building Services Department to ensure correction of lead hazards at least one high risk property or properties where more than one child has shown evidence of lead exposure.**

While the ACLPPP has not had the need this fiscal year to approach City of Oakland Building Services regarding properties where more than one child has been poisoned, it did complete lead hazard control on a 61 unit property in the City with a past history of lead exposed children where inspections and compliance activities were carried out in conjunction with the City of Oakland Building Department and the Neighborhood Law Corps. The ACLPPP also supported City of Oakland Code Enforcement Department at a multi-family dwelling with prior history of exposure by providing information and training in lead-safe work practices to the property owner and his maintenance crew. This resulted in the treatment of the lead hazards by the property owner in order to correct the cited violation.

- **Host an interagency collaborative of health, housing and community-based organizations to develop integrated approaches to lead elimination in communities.**

A Housing Committee of the regional Get the Lead Out Coalition has been established to address advocacy and enforcement issues. The committee has reviewed enforcement gaps in participating jurisdictions and is researching enforcement and advocacy strategies as well as funding to carry out demonstration activities.

- **Host a Bay Area Housing Forum on lead and housing specific issues and solutions.**

The ACLPPP hosted a Compliance Training Forum entitled, "New Lead Challenges in Alameda County" during the second quarter. Electronic versions of conference information and compliance tools have been distributed to attendees and invitees for their use in promoting awareness and compliance.

Lead Safe Work Practices Training

The ACLPPP offers lead-safe work practices training to promote practices that ensure children, occupants, neighbors, and workers are not exposed to lead during renovation of pre-1978 buildings.

The basic training course for lead-safe work practices is the HUD-EPA-approved, 1-day Lead Safety for Remodeling, Repair, and Painting. The Program also has a special collaborative relationship with the Laney Community College in Oakland to provide four one-day trainings to students in its Construction Program. The ACLPPP is also a state-accredited training provider and offers the three-day Worker and two-day Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor courses that are pre-requisites for certification in those disciplines.

Objective

Provide Lead Safe Work Practices Training to 130 individuals.

Activities:

- **Conduct 12 one-day HUD/EPA approved classes. Eight classes will be promoted for contractors, landlords, and homeowners; four classes will be conducted in collaboration with Laney Community College.**

Four Lead Safe Work Practices classes were held during this quarter: two classes in April, one class in May, and one class in June. Total attendance for these classes was 37 participants. Of these classes, one class was held specifically for East Oakland's Allen Temple Baptist Church, as part of its Department of Justice Re-entry grant program, and three classes were regularly scheduled classes. Of the persons attending classes this quarter, 19 were low-income persons, 11 were CSA property owners, four were contractors, and three attendees were community partners from Centro Legal de la Raza, Rising Sun Energy, and Rebuilding Together.

Fiscal year to date, 191 persons have attended this class.

- **Provide two state-accredited Lead-In-Construction trainings; one Worker and one Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor class.**

No state-accredited training was provided during this quarter. However, two state-accredited Lead-in-Construction classes were held during this fiscal year: a Worker class and a Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor class. These classes were given in the second quarter. Six persons attended the Worker class and four persons attended the Supplemental Supervisor/Project Monitor class. Of the students attending these classes, five individuals are construction/painting contractors and one person works with the City of Concord, Lead Paint Hazard Control Program.

LEAD POISONED CHILDREN

California Department of Public Health-Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (DPH-CLPPB) funds comprehensive services to ensure that children at risk for lead poisoning receive blood lead testing, and those identified with lead poisoning receive the necessary services to address the health and housing issues responsible for lead exposure.

Promotion of Lead Screening

One of the Program's primary functions is the early identification of children exposed to lead through lead screening or testing. Program staff conducts outreach to families and medical providers to encourage blood lead screening as called for under California Department of Public Health guidelines. The ACLPPP also collaborates with other government, community, and/or health care agencies and programs to increase lead screening of children at risk in Alameda County.

Objective

Increase Screening

Increase the number of children screened for lead to 10,000 by June 30, 2009.

Due to availability of data from DPH, the progress toward this objective will be reported twice a year (October quarterly report for January-June date, and April quarterly report for July-December data).

A six month review of screening data was initiated last quarter to determine the nature/extent of an inconsistency between State DPH and Program data; to date, two months have been completed. Preliminary results reveal the need to extend the review to a full year of data which is expected to take until December 2009.

The results of the review will allow us to develop better methodology to compare the data sets and to determine which data to report in the future.

Activities:

- **Conduct one capillary blood lead testing event to Medi-Cal eligible children in Alameda County.**
This activity was completed in the second quarter.
- **Provide lead education to an estimated 50 Alameda County medical providers who serve children eligible for publicly-funded programs.**
This activity was completed in the third quarter.
- **Distribute annual ‘Lead Poisoning Update’ newsletter to an estimated 100 medical providers serving the high risk Medi-Cal population in Alameda County**
This quarter, the annual provider newsletter was distributed to approximately 450 medical providers throughout Alameda County, including those in the City of Berkeley.
- **Partner with two agencies serving children with populations to promote blood lead screening.**
This quarter, staff made a presentation to the City of Oakland’s Education Partnership Committee on the “Effects of Lead Poisoning on the Cognitive Development of Young People”. Recent scientific evidence of the impact on lead at even lower levels than previously considered safe was presented. Recommendations were made to increase the rapid response of schools in the identification of a lead poisoned child, and to increase neuropsychological testing of lead poisoned children to identify specific deficit areas. The School Board President offered to work with the ACLPPP in the future.

Staff participated in this quarter’s meeting of the Afghan Health Consortium. Ongoing participation is vital to gaining the trust of this community and raising public awareness about cultural practices that may cause lead poisoning in this population.

- **Conduct a special project with the Women, Infant, and Children Program (WIC).**
Staff completed development of the train-the-trainer tool that will be provided to WIC and other agency staff to assist them in institutionalizing ongoing lead health education with their parent groups. The tool is adapted from the DPH Bright Future’s Guide, and includes updated sections highlighting the latest evidence that there is no known safe level of lead, lead in consumer products and candies, and healthy housing. Staff continues to work on the implementation plan to train-the-trainers with these newly developed tools; implementation is slated for next fiscal year.
- **Conduct a special project with one commercial childcare center to promote blood lead screening.**
This quarter, staff attended a planning meeting of the Alameda Child Care Council to assess the possibility of future collaborative projects.
- **Host and coordinate four meetings of the Regional Bay Area Lead Programs.**
The fourth meeting of the fiscal year was held on April 24, 2009. It was attended by health, environmental and housing representatives from local Bay Area lead programs. Representatives from the State Department of Public Health Lead Branch provided local programs with an update on state issues.

Comprehensive Health Services

The ACLPPP strives to intervene early when a child has been identified as lead exposed. The Program offers an array of services to children identified with lead in their blood and their families. The type of service provided is determined by the levels of lead found in the blood.

Public Health Nursing Case Management is provided to families of children with blood lead levels greater than 15 micrograms per deciliter. The Program's case management of lead poisoned children is coordinated with the primary care provider, and encompasses comprehensive health assessments, the development and implementation of individualized care plans, and ongoing evaluation to determine effectiveness of the interventions. Particular attention is paid to the developmental status of the lead poisoned child by conducting developmental screenings and ongoing monitoring.

Case managers facilitate linkages to educational, community, health, and social resources, as needed. In addition, the nurse case manager coordinates the referral to the environmental professional for an environmental investigation to identify lead sources in a child's environment.

If the environmental investigation identified property-related lead hazards, the Program's housing professionals provide technical assistance to the occupants and property owners to ensure lead hazards are remediated in a lead-safe and timely manner.

The nurse case manager convenes a semi-monthly Case Review Working Group with environmental and housing professionals, evaluating all cases to ensure progress towards eliminating housing-based lead hazards. This collaboration between the health, environmental and housing professionals is imperative to ensure a reduction in children's elevated blood lead levels.

Lead Poisoning Consultations are provided to families of children with blood lead levels 10-14 micrograms per deciliter. They consist of in-home, one-on-one education; a visual survey of the home, along with health and housing education materials, and an environmental lead testing kit for those who are CSA property owners.

Telephone consultations are conducted when families decline an in-home consultation, which consist of education, technical assistance, and the mailing of the educational materials. Follow-up blood lead levels will be tracked and monitored to evaluate the need for further case management services.

Lead Poisoning Outreach & Education is provided to families of children with blood lead levels 5-10 micrograms per deciliter. This includes direct mailings of health and housing education materials on lead poisoning to the families. The child's blood lead levels are tracked and monitored to evaluate the need for further intervention and case management services.

Objective

Decrease Blood Lead Levels

By June 30, 2009, 80% of children with blood lead levels above 15 µg/dl will demonstrate decreased blood lead levels.

This quarter, staff completed a case management outcomes evaluation for children who received case management services in 2007 to assess the effectiveness of the interventions in reducing blood lead levels. The evaluation tracked blood lead levels over a one year period as well as nursing, educational, and environmental interventions during that same time period. The analysis revealed that blood lead levels decreased in 91% of the children served. The sources of lead exposure for these children were: housing based sources (42%), combined housing and non-housing based sources (21%), and non-housing based sources (37%). This initial evaluation revealed a number of other indicators to consider in next year's

evaluation. As a result, the plan for next year's evaluation is to link the decrease/increase in blood lead level to the type of lead exposure source, the degree of intervention, and the time it takes for blood lead levels to decrease.

Activities:

- **Provide appropriate services to children with newly identified blood lead levels.**
This quarter, 80 children with elevated blood lead levels were newly identified and received one of three health promotion services ranging from comprehensive nursing case management (8), to lead poisoning consultations (11), to lead poisoning outreach and education (61). The outreach and education service to children with lower lead levels was initiated this quarter.
- **Track and evaluate blood lead levels quarterly.**
Staff tracks follow-up blood lead levels of children to evaluate their need for additional services. This quarter, one child was referred and received additional services due to an increase in blood lead level.
- **Develop an evaluation tool for quarterly analysis of blood lead level reduction in lead poisoned children.**
This activity was completed in the first quarter.
- **Conduct a quarterly review and analysis of blood lead level reduction in children with blood lead levels greater than 15 micrograms per deciliter.**
The review was completed in the third quarter. The analysis was completed this quarter, please refer to the objective discussion in this section.

Environmental Case Response

Environmental Case Response is designed to ensure the source of exposure for a lead poisoned child is eliminated in a safe and timely manner. California Department of Public Health (DPH) guidelines call for the property owner to begin the lead hazard corrections within 30 days of notification that a child has been poisoned as a result of hazards found at the property. The complete correction of hazards is required within 90 days.

Under its contract with the California Department of Public Health, the Program is responsible for lead poisoning case response in Alameda County, with the exception of the City of Berkeley. The City of Berkeley's Public Health Department has its own contract with the DPH, and is responsible for case response in its jurisdiction.

The Program's Case Review Working Group (CRWG), comprised of health, environmental and housing professionals, meets semi-monthly to guarantee the elimination of the child's housing related hazards. It monitors the status of the lead poisoned child as well as the lead hazard control work.

The CRWG works closely with property owners and occupants, providing technical assistance and classes for lead hazard work, and referrals to other program services to ensure that housing-based hazards are addressed in a safe and timely manner. The CRWG refers noncompliant property owners to the Alameda County Environmental Health Services for further enforcement actions.

Objective

Promptly Correct Lead Hazards

Within 90 days of owner notification, ensure correction of lead hazards in 60% of the properties associated with a lead poisoned child.

This quarter, correction of lead hazards was achieved at five properties, none within the 90 day goal for completing the work. One of the five projects took advantage of the Program's HUD Lead Hazard Control funds to address the lead hazards on the properties; the extra paperwork and testing required for this funding resulted in greater than 90 days for the correction of hazards. Three of the five properties corrected hazards approximately a month or less beyond the 90 day deadline. Several properties had fairly minor lead hazards to address, but the Program had great difficulty locating the property owners of the rental units. The records indicated the properties were owner occupied, but clearly this was not the situation and the tenants were reluctant to provide contact information for the owners. Eventually the tenants addressed the hazards themselves.

For the year, four of the 12 properties (33%) where lead hazard reduction work was needed met the goal of completing the project and achieving clearance within 90 days. Seven more projects (58%) were completed in approximately one month additional time. Three of these (25%) were projects that received HUD financing, which often delays initiation/completion of work. The requirements of additional paperwork and testing to be completed after the initial Environmental Investigation for projects that receive HUD financing is a recurring challenge to meeting this objective. As a result, the Program has found that HUD projects almost never achieve the 90 day completion goal even with diligent work on the part of the owner and contractors. ACLPPP will reconsider if the 90 day goal for project completion is realistic for HUD funded projects that require these extra measures. In addition, ACLPPP is currently reviewing the causes for delays in achieving clearance in all properties to determine the problem areas and a plan of action for improvement.

Activities:

- **Conduct an estimated 30 Environmental Investigations (EI) of properties to determine the likely source of lead exposure for children with elevated blood lead levels meeting state case management criteria.**

The Program conducted six Environmental Investigations (EI) this quarter. Housing based lead hazards were found in three of six residences.

For the year, a total of 26 EIs were conducted. Of these, 15 properties (58%) were found to have housing based lead hazards. The property was not a likely source of exposure for 11 properties (42%) where an EI was conducted.

- **Provide technical assistance to occupants and rental property owners of an estimated 30 properties where an Environmental Investigation has identified lead hazards at the property.**

This quarter, technical assistance on the elimination of lead hazards was provided to the occupants and rental property owners of eight properties, for a yearly total of 28.

For the year, the program provided technical assistance to an average of seven property owners or tenants per quarter. Assistance for each property typically spans several quarters.

- **Ensure 30 housing units associated with a child meeting the state case management criteria are free of lead hazards through a lead evaluation or clearance test.**

This quarter, lead hazards were abated and clearance was achieved at five properties. In addition three properties that received an Environmental Investigation this quarter were not found to contain any property based lead hazards.

For the year, 16 properties had their lead hazards successfully addressed and passed clearance testing. Eleven properties that received an EI this year did not have property based lead hazards. At the end of the fiscal year, the Program has six properties where hazards are still being addressed, two of which are almost ready for closure.

LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

HUD Round 13 and Round 16 Grants

On October 31, 2008, the Program completed its 36-month \$3 million HUD Round 13 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Through this **Partnerships for Affordable Lead-Safe Housing Project**, the ACLPPP and its partners exceeded performance objectives of 300 risk assessment/paint inspections (365), lead hazard control in 200 housing units (264), education of 2,850 individuals (4,020), and lead-related skills trainings of 400 individuals (405).

On March 18, 2009, the HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control approved the HUD 13 final report.

HUD 16 Lead Hazard Control Grant

On January 1, 2009, the ACLPPP began a three-year, \$3 million HUD Round 16 grant from HUD's Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control; its seventh competitive Lead Hazard Control grant. The Partnerships for Affordable Lead Safe Housing project will allow the ACLPPP to treat lead hazards in 200 privately-owned, low-income housing units, and provide property owner and community education and workforce lead-safety training. As in the past grant, the ACLPPP is working with housing authorities, city housing rehabilitation programs, and other partners to both address the highest risk properties, including those associated with a lead-poisoned child, and to maximize the availability of lead-safe rental housing. The grant will run from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2011.

A total of 36 housing units have been enrolled in the HUD 16 program to date and risk assessments/paint inspections have been completed in 29 of these units. The City Partnership sub-grantees, the City of Alameda and the City of Oakland, have also identified units for enrollment and are expected to complete lead hazard control units in the first quarter of the new fiscal year. The Program has reviewed the HUD 16 terms with the City of Berkeley and the City of Emeryville and will pursue any cooperative project opportunities.

Lead hazard control was completed at two units during the quarter.

HEALTHY HOMES

Healthy Homes Demonstration Project

In October of 2006, the Program was awarded a \$1 million grant to fund its second Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Alameda County Healthy Homes Project is in the second year of the three year period of performance.

The goal of the Healthy Homes Project is to demonstrate an improvement in the health status of 225 children and adolescents diagnosed with asthma and respiratory distress by combining education and low-cost housing intervention with the concurrent medical model.

All initial visits and interventions benchmarks for the Healthy Homes Demonstration Project have been completed. The Project has completed interventions in 253 units (a 13% increase over benchmark). Despite that funds have been exhausted for direct intervention such as kit, allergen reduction treatments, ventilation improvements, and moisture control, the Project continues to accept referrals and staff make home visits, perform visual inspections, provide education, and make referrals for services. Project staff feels that education

to clients is a key service in overall housing improvement due to behavior change by the occupants. The Project will continue accepting referrals for these modified services through September 30, 2009.

Objective

Fifty percent (50%) of enrolled participants enrolled will demonstrate a reduction in asthma symptom severity, number of hospitalizations and/or emergency room visits.

Activities:

- **Perform 80 home visits to visually identify housing hazards, conduct allergen dust sampling, and develop intervention plan.**

During this quarter, six initial Healthy Homes' visits were provided to Project participants. During the visit a Healthy Homes Community Specialist assesses the home for housing-related issues including moisture leaks and intrusion, evidence of pest infestation, potential allergens, safety problems and ventilation. The primary caregiver is asked about their knowledge of asthma triggers and family behaviors as a baseline for future interviews.

Some 43 initial Healthy Homes' visits were provided to families of children with asthma or respiratory distress this fiscal year.

- **Perform 85 housing-environmental interventions designed to reduce allergen levels, reduce mold and moisture problems, improve ventilation, and resolve minor structural problems.**

During this quarter, no housing-environmental interventions were completed. However, during this quarter, six clients were referred to appropriate agencies for additional housing services, such as weatherization or minor home repair.

Over the course of the Project, City of Alameda residents received nine interventions, at an average cost per unit of \$505; Berkeley residents received 15 interventions, at an average cost of \$453 per unit; and Oakland residents received 173 interventions, at an average cost of \$800 per unit. This accounts for 78% of all interventions completed in Alameda County, as 22% of all interventions occurred outside of the County Service Area. No interventions were performed in Emeryville.

- **Perform 125 six-month follow-up home visits to query the caregiver about behavioral change and increased knowledge of asthma, injuries, and lead screening.**

During this quarter, 10 follow-up visits were performed. At these six-month visits, the Healthy Homes Community Specialist interviews the primary caregiver again to determine any increase in knowledge of asthma triggers and safety, and whether any behaviors such as smoking have changed as a result of the education and referrals. Allergen dust samples are also collected to determine the efficacy of the housing-environmental intervention.

In situations where clients have declined the follow up visit or Project staff has been unable to contact the client via phone calls, follow up surveys for knowledge retention and behavior changes are mailed to the clients' address with a self-addressed stamped envelope included. To date, more than 45 surveys have been mailed with a return rate approaching 20%.

- **Complete a mid-Project evaluation by July 30, 2008.**

The mid-Project Quality Assurance report was completed and submitted to HUD on July 30, 2008.

- **Apply for HUD Round 17 Healthy Homes Demonstration Project Grant in 2009.**

The Notice of Funding Availability has not been released to date. A grant proposal (application) will be completed following the release of the notice.

Healthy Housing Training

The ACLPPP provides training to promote safe and healthy housing. The ACLPPP provides the Essentials of Healthy Housing Practitioner's course to those who perform on-site residential visits, such as public health nurses, environmental health specialists, code enforcement personnel, social service providers, contractors, and public housing staff. Course attendees may also include individuals involved in advocating for safe, healthy, and affordable housing.

Objective

Train 20 Individuals to Identify Unhealthy Housing Conditions.

Activities:

- **Provide one Healthy Homes Practitioner's Course**

As a training partner with the National Center for Healthy Housing, Project staff provided one Healthy Homes Practitioner's course during this quarter in April. The class was held in Santa Rosa at the Sonoma County Environmental Health Department at the request of the Sonoma County Asthma Coalition. The course was attended by 19 persons.

Attendees came from a variety of agencies and groups including, but not limited to: the City of Rohnert Park Building Department, Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County-Head Start, Laney College, Kaiser Permanente, Sonoma County Environmental Health, Rural Community Assistance Corporation in Sacramento, Sonoma County Public Health Department, EcoQuest International (a private firm providing healthy housing products and services), and the Napa County Asthma Coalition. This was a very diverse group of individuals including Public Health Nurses, social workers, home inspectors, asthma case managers, and business owners. This broad range of experiences and approaches to safe and healthy housing was useful in providing a productive training.

In the evaluation for this class, 82.4% of students identified the overall course as "excellent" and 5.9% graded the course as "good". 76.5% of responding students said they would be able to incorporate the principles of Healthy Housing into their jobs right away. In using an average of four scores for 1) Well-Prepared, 2) Knowledgeable, 3) Enthusiastic Presentation, and 4) Easily Understood, the instructor was given a rating of 4.9 out of a possible 5.

During this fiscal year, a total of 97 persons have been trained in this discipline.

- **Healthy Homes for Code Inspection**

This four-hour class, held in April, is a pilot class and was the second time nationally the class was presented. The class was developed by the National Center for Healthy Housing and is directed towards building code inspectors, but was attended by a wide range of disciplines including Public Health Nurses, social workers, and asthma coalition members. Building code inspectors attended from a wide geographic area including the Sonoma County Environmental Health Department and the Cities of Sonoma, Santa Rosa, Belvedere, Mill Valley, Healdsburg, Rohnert Park, Petaluma, and the Town of Windsor. The class was held in Santa Rosa at the Sonoma County Environmental Health Department at the request of the Sonoma County Asthma Coalition. The National Center is assessing the participants' evaluation of this pilot class and the results have not yet been announced. The course was attended by 23 persons.

- **Healthy Homes For Community Health Workers**

A one-day class was provided by request in San Francisco as part of the "Healthy Housing in California" conference sponsored by *California Breathing*, a project of the California Department of Public Health. The

class was developed by the National Center for Healthy Housing and is directed towards community health workers. Participants in the class were from locations throughout California and included nurses, housing personnel, community health workers, and tenant advocates. The course was attended by 32 persons.

In the evaluation received for the June, "Healthy Homes for Community Health Workers" course: 81.8% of students identified the overall course as "excellent" and 18.2% graded the course as "good". 86.4% of responding students said that they would be able to incorporate the principles of Healthy Housing into their jobs right away. In rating the overall quality of presentation, 86.4% graded the presentation as Excellent.

- **Mold Awareness**

As part of the City of Oakland Public Works Department continuing education program, the ACLPPP provided three two-hour mold awareness classes this quarter, attended by 20 persons. This is the third year the ACLPPP has contributed to the Oakland Public Works Department's "Safety First" program.

PROGRAM-WIDE ADMINISTRATIVE OBJECTIVES

Program-wide administrative objectives are designed to reflect efforts by the Program to enhance its mission through the expansion of collaborative relations with institutions and stakeholders at the national, state, and local levels. They also reflect efforts to improve the ACLPPP's service delivery, and strengthen its capacity and sustainability.

Objectives

- **Develop a comprehensive plan to increase compliance with and enforcement of new state and federal Lead Safe Work Practices regulations.**

With the assistance of JPA Director Desley Brooks, the Program concluded two trainings, June 17th and June 24th, for City of Oakland Building Services Department personnel. A total of 64 individuals, including building and code inspectors, engineers, plan checkers and permit office staff, attended the two trainings. Both trainings included the video, "Leads Revenge;" a PowerPoint presentation on the health effects of lead exposure; and slides showing safe and unsafe work sites, and proper worker protection. State Housing Law lead requirements and the upcoming Federal Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule were discussed. ACLPPP resources were reviewed and a "Tool Box for Agencies" provided, which includes a CD of sample documents, educational materials, and ACLPPP contact information.

The Oakland meetings were the third and fourth in the effort to educate local building, codes, and housing department professionals in the new state and federal lead requirements regarding unsafe renovation practices, and to introduce them to the resources ACLPPP has at its disposal to assist them. Two similar presentations were made to a total of 19 zoning investigators, planners, and permit counter personnel of the Alameda County Planning Department.

- **Expand the Program's Language Assistance Plan; utilizing increased coordination and collaboration to provide meaningful access for all people, including those with limited English proficiency.**

The Program is continuing to utilize existing partners and vehicles such as the language line to provide services to non-English speaking clients and populations. This fiscal year the ACLPPP signed an agreement with Centro Legal de la Raza in Oakland to conduct outreach and education to non-English speaking monolingual populations, such as day laborers. Discussions have also begun with Volunteers of America about carrying out similar activities to increase awareness of lead hazards among limited English proficiency populations.

- **Develop a plan for the effective utilization of the Program's health, housing, and environmental data for quality control, targeted outreach, enforcement, and funding.**

Program staff has been using the Phase I database component developed by the Alameda County Information Technology Department (ITD) to incorporate data on In-Home Consultations and the distribution and use of lead sampling kits. The field testing of these elements was completed this quarter. Next quarter staff will field test an additional element of the Phase I database. The implementation of the database is moving much slower than anticipated because of ITD's involvement in the recent Alameda County elections.