Opportunity to Make History: Lead Paint Hazard Remediation in California

Lead Paint Company Litigation Settlement

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Background

20-year Lead Paint Litigation

• Lawsuit filed against three former manufacturers of paint – The Sherwin-Williams Company, ConAgra, and National Lead
  ▪ Liable for creating public nuisance by promoting & advertising lead paint for use on interiors of home while having knowledge of the toxic hazard to human health

• In July 2019, 10 California Jurisdictions reached a settlement with defendants to pay $305 million for lead-paint hazard abatement
Background

Editorial: Lead paint makers will finally pay up to clean up thousands of California homes

Prior to the Settlement, parties were continuing to litigate issues related to the final judgment

This Settlement allows for flexibility in use of funds to create programs to specific regions

- Will prevent future lead poisonings of thousands of children across California
- Funds will be distributed based on the number of homes with lead paint in each jurisdiction
Lead Hazards

Lead poisoning affects the mental and physical development of children and unborn babies.

Approximately 3,000 children are lead poisoned in Los Angeles County each year.

Lead Paint is the #1 source of lead poisoning hazard for children.

Over 720,000 homes in LA County old enough to be at risk for lead paint hazards.

Lead poisoning is completely preventable and is vital to the health of future generations of LA County residents.
Countywide Lead Paint Remediation Program Funding
(Lead Paint Company Settlement)

LA County will receive approximately $134 million to provide lead paint hazard remediation services to low-income neighborhoods across the County.

Funding will be distributed over the course of 7 years, launching an 8-year countywide program.

The Department of Public Health will receive annual payments of approximately $20 million beginning October 2019.
Other DPH Lead Paint Programs

- Housing Urban Development (HUD) Grant
- DPH Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
- Aliso Canyon Settlement (Lead Paint Safe Program)
Plans for Implementation

Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) will coordinate the provision of lead remediation services.

DPH and LACDA will work with local municipalities, regional service providers, community based organizations, and other entities to link property owners with community programs (e.g. neighborhood stabilization, residential rehabilitation, home energy program).

LACDA will launch a workforce development pilot program for the Lead Paint Safe program in partnership with WDACS to expand a larger program for the Countywide Lead Paint Remediation Program.
### Prioritization Areas & Groups

#### Targeted Regions
- Large pre-1951 housing stock
- High prevalence of low-income families
- Significant population of young children (under age 6)

#### Priority Groups
- Children with elevated blood lead levels
- Children under age 6
- Pregnant women
- Environmentally disadvantaged communities
Goals for Implementation

**Outreach**
- Robust public outreach and education

**Protect**
- Proper protection of occupants and workers

**Workforce**
- Local hire and workforce development

**Remediate**
- Test and remediate lead paint hazard residential units

**Evaluate**
- Evaluate program, making improvements and adjustments along the way as needed

**Community**
- Link program with other community development efforts
Targeted Community Outreach Strategies

Utilize trusted community based agencies & gatekeeper

Promotoras/Community Health Workers

Broad Spectrum of media outlets & communication methods
Program Estimates

• Mitigate lead paint hazards in 4,000-5,000 units*
  ▪ Average remediation costs range between $10,000-$25,000 per single family residence
  ▪ Separate costs for lead paint hazard evaluations ($1,000 per unit), clearance of properties following remediation ($1,000 per unit), and temporary relocation ($2,000 per family)

• Mitigation of lead paint hazards in as many homes as possible to maximize number of households served

• Many more units expected to be tested than remediated, as not every unit will have a lead paint hazard

* Based on spending 75% of the total budget on remediation
In Summary

Funds will be used to **remediate interior and exterior lead-paint hazards in county residences** and link with other community development efforts.

Focus on most **vulnerable populations**; low-income families most at risk for lead poisoning are prioritized for remediation services.

The Countywide Lead Paint Program will **begin to recruit and enroll homes in Spring 2020**.

Will require partnering with other **County Departments, cities, local organizations, CBOs, and workforce development organizations** to be successful.
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