

2004 Legislative Lead Study

Topic Paper #5: Resources for Local Agencies

Goal: Develop and evaluate the best strategies to reduce the number of children endangered by lead paint.

Specific mandate: The study shall examine ways to provide resources for local jurisdictions to conduct outreach

Background: The MDH has prepared the "Protecting Families from Lead: The Lead Poisoning Prevention Workshop" manual to assist lead case managers and health educators in spreading the word about childhood lead poisoning prevention. The target audiences for the workshops are professionals/groups that work with families with young children. The manual includes a set of seven appendices which provide support materials for workshop hosts, including frequently asked questions and answers about lead, sample demonstrations, and sample evaluation tools. There are a host of other lead-related materials available, both directly and through links, at the MDH website at: www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/lead.

MDH hired a full time state case monitor to provide case management technical assistance to local public health case managers in 2001. The state case monitor provides technical assistance on lead cases to 85 of the 87 counties within the state of Minnesota. The Sustainable Resources Center, as part of its CLEARCorps program, provides education and outreach on lead hazard reduction state-wide.

Current Activities

- Develop local access to surveillance data for case management
- Collaboration with health plans and health care providers
- Promotion and distribution of lead educational material provided through nonprofit organizations, federal grant funding, state general fund and local support.

Proposed future steps

- Stable adequate funding required for programs providing outreach
- Increase data sharing/linking within privacy limitations
- Characterize local needs to better target resources and collaboration
- Better coordinate health and housing enforcement activities