CDC’s Public Health Mission: A Faith-Based Approach

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CDC’s Vision and Mission

CDC Vision
• “Healthy People in a Healthy World—Through Prevention”

CDC Mission
• To promote health and quality of life by preventing and controlling disease, injury, and disability.
What is Faith-based?

The term Faith-based (literally, based on all religious faiths) has come into public use as an abbreviation of the "faith-based initiative", in the context of The U.S. President Management Agenda.

Religions of the World

Christianity  Judaism  Buddhism  Islam  Animism  Hinduism
Faith-Based & Community Initiative

- In 2001, The Faith-Based and Community Initiative was created to provide equal footing for FBO and grassroots Community orgs access to Federal grants.

  "...the initiative will identify and remove the inexcusable barriers that thwart the work of faith-based and community organizations".

  G.W. Bush
Faith-Based Organizations’ Role in Public Health

Faith-Based Organizations have always been very active in the public services arena:

- Christian Relief
- Catholic Charities
- B’nai B’rith
- American Friends
- Hospitals
- Emergency response / relief
- Community services / support

And countless more.....
Why Reach Out to these organizations?
Reach out to better expand our ability to serve the Public’s Health Needs

In response to our ever expanding diverse population, the LPPB want to expand our ability to address their health needs just as we have engaged and partnered with:

- State /Local Governments
- Academia
- Industry/Business

We also need to include FBOs’ as another valuable portal to reaching other special populations.
Faith-Based Organization: A Valuable Resource

Approximately 87% of Americans claimed some type of religious affiliation.

What makes FBOs’ valuable?

✓ Trusted source of information
✓ Understand the needs of their constituents
✓ Able to communicate culturally appropriate messages
✓ Able to reach into isolated communities
LPPB Goals

• To promote Primary Prevention, LPPB is focusing on developing practical information for our diverse populations.

• August 2, 2005, LPPB convened FBOs’ and other diverse groups across the country to institutionalize a primary prevention program that will aid in the prevention of lead exposure.

• After the completion of the tool kit, we will convene again for review, assessment, and any necessary modifications.

• Supporting local and global work requires widespread and easy access to these community-building skills.
CLPPP CAP
Approach
Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program,
Community Awareness Pilot
Build a Faith-based Community Tool Kit
What is a Faith-based community tool Kit and what is its value?

• A Faith-based community tool Kit is a source for community change and improvement. The community tool box (CTB's) value is that it will promote community health and development by connecting people, cultural ideas, and resources.

• Building healthier cities and communities involves local people working together to transform the conditions and outcomes that matter to them.
Cont. Community tool Kit and its value

• In some communities we know that “trust” is sometimes only gained through the local ministry in the neighborhood.

• This civic work demands an array of core competencies, such as community assessment, planning, community mobilization, intervention, advocacy, evaluation, and marketing successful efforts.
How can faith-based organizations help?

- By assisting us to develop effective approaches to:
  - Empower congregations and organizations
  - Link faith-based organizations with community resources
  - Build relationships between groups at risk in the community
  - Achieve social justice in health, dignity and self worth.
Lead’s Pilot Tool Kit

A cultural approach to our target audience

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Community Awareness Pilot “CLPPP CAP”
The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Community Awareness Pilot (CLPPP CAP) project

CLPPP CAP believes that both direct service and systemic change are needed to address lead poisoning prevention. CLPPP CAP uses three tools to modify systems targeted to underserved and uninsured communities. These tools—education, training, and action—are used to:

- Empower congregations and organizations.
- Link faith-based organizations with community resources.
- Build relationships between groups at risk in the community.
- Develop ways to address local issues and concerns.
- Achieve social justice in health, dignity, and self-worth.

CLPPP CAP’s aim is to bring about systemic change by uniting congregations and communities throughout the at-risk communities. The CLPPP CAP project strives to develop leaders and build relationships within and among local congregations and communities to achieve social justice. These leaders can work together with congregations and residents of the communities to determine the kind of community the people want to live in. Together they can make the changes to create the community they envision.
Lead at a glance

Where Is Lead Found and Is Lead Poisoning Preventable?

People are exposed to lead in many ways through deteriorating paint, household dust, soil, air, drinking water, food, ceramics, home remedies, hair dyes, and cosmetics. Much of this lead is too small for people to see. Children with elevated blood lead levels are most likely to have been exposed to lead in their own homes. However, the good news is that lead poisoning is preventable.

Today, the major sources of lead poisoning in children are the lead paint that is found in much of the nation’s older housing. Until 1978, lead paint was commonly used on the interior and exterior of our homes. Today, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) estimates that about 30 million homes in the United States still contain some lead paint. Although lead paint that is still intact (not peeling or flaking) does not pose an immediate concern, lead paint that is allowed to deteriorate creates lead-based paint dust. The deteriorating paint can contaminate household dust as well as bare soil around the house where children may play. A young child’s normal hand-to-mouth activity is a common pathway for exposure. The lead dust equivalent of a single gram of salt is enough to cause an elevated blood lead level in a child.

Both children and adults can have high levels of lead in their blood when homes that contain lead paint are being renovated or remodeled. Following are some important reminders about lead exposure:

What About the Health Effects of Lead?

Pregnant Women

Pregnant women who have elevated blood lead levels can easily transfer the lead to their fetus because lead crosses the placenta. In fact, pregnancy itself can cause lead to be released from the mother’s bones, where lead is stored—often for decades after it first entered the woman’s bloodstream. Once the lead is released from the mother’s bones, it enters the blood stream and can travel to the fetus. In other words, if a woman has been exposed to high levels of lead as a child, and some of the lead had been stored in her bones, her pregnancy could trigger the release of that lead in her bones and could cause the fetus to be exposed. In such cases, the baby is born with an elevated blood lead level.

Exposure to lead is estimated by measuring levels of lead in the blood (in micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have set a “level of concern” for children at 10 micrograms per deciliter of blood.

At this level, adverse health effects can begin to occur. Recent research published in the New England Journal of Medicine provides new evidence that harmful effects can occur at even lower levels of exposure, even as low as 5 micrograms of lead per deciliter of blood. In other words, science is now telling us that there is no level of lead exposure that can be considered safe.

Children under 6 years of age

Many health effects are associated with elevated blood lead levels. Our focus is on young children under 6 years of age who are especially vulnerable to lead’s harmful health effects because their brain and central nervous systems are still being formed. For these children, even very low levels of exposure can result in reduced IQ, learning disabilities, attention deficit disorders, behavioral problems, stunted growth, impaired hearing, and kidney damage. At high levels of exposure, a child may become mentally retarded, fall into a coma, and even die.
Children poisoned by Lead can have:

- Kidney Damage
- Hearing Problems
- Behavior & Learning problems
- Slow Development
Questions?

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