

CDC's Lead-Free Communities Initiative: The Path To Lead Exposure Elimination

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Lead-Free Communities Initiative (LFC): Purpose/Goal

Purpose: A proof-of-concept based on a multi-sectorial collaborative agenda that will aid in reaching the goal of eliminating children's exposure to lead

Goal: To develop and pilot a model of primary prevention interventions leading to “lead-free” communities



Lead-Free Communities Initiative: Background

- Exposure to lead can cause serious adverse health effects, especially to children; no safe blood lead level has been identified
- CDC's goal of eliminating childhood lead exposure as a public health concern has yet to be achieved
- A rigorous primary prevention approach – removal of lead hazards in children's environments before exposure -- is optimal
- Multi-sectorial public-private collaborations will be necessary to accomplish elimination goal

Lead-Free Communities Initiative: Background (cont'd)

- Individual and collective federal efforts – Congressional funding (i.e. Federal Lead Action Plan)
- State, local, territorial, tribal efforts – grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and community-based resources
- National and community-based organizations – for profit, nonprofit
- Academicians, researchers, and other stakeholders – ROIs, etc.

Lead-Free Communities Initiative: Concept

- Development of quasi “collaborative” (SMEs, public/private sector partners, national organizations, stakeholders)
- Focus on recommended and proven primary prevention interventions: addressing lead exposure before it occurs
- Vision/interest of eliminating children’s exposure where children live, play and learn in a specific community
- Collaborative eye towards leveraging current efforts with new initiatives to create a comprehensive community-based approach



Lead-Free Communities Initiative: Action Steps

- **Convene national experts, partners, stakeholders (“collaborative”) with an interest in lead exposure elimination**
- **Work with “collaborative” to develop an LFC model and evaluation plan**
- **Pilot test LFC model in selected communities/states via the National Leadership Academy for the Public’s Health (NLAPH)**

Lead-free Communities Initiative: Public Health Institute's National Leadership Academy for the Public's Health (NLAPH)

Program Design

- **Leadership training to multi-sector teams (4 to 6 members)**
- **1-year long experiential learning program**
 - The team will complete an applied public health project – LFC
 - One-week virtual training retreat, monthly webinars, coaching support, peer networking
- **Learning community to facilitate interaction with “Lead-free Community teams**

Lead-free Communities Initiative: Current Considerations and Next Steps

- **In consultation with the Public Health Institute (PHI), select three communities to participate in this year's academy (10/2020 – 09/2021)**
- **Work with NLAPH multi-sector leadership teams to focus projects on developing a local community collaborative that will address lead exposure elimination**
- **Work with NLAPH multi-sector leadership teams to promote development and piloting of LFC model**

Lead-free Communities Initiative: Current Considerations and Next Steps (cont'd)

- Working with Resolve and CDC/ATSDR SMEs, identify and invite national experts, partners, stakeholders (“collaborative”) with an interest in lead exposure elimination to participate in the collaborative
- In concert with CDC/ATSDR SMEs, draft a working definition of “lead-free” communities and an outline of the LFC model framework
- Continue discussions with FLAP members to determine collaboration in pilot site(s)



For More Information

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