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**Lead Safe St. Louis**  
**City of St. Louis**  
 A collaborative team of City Agencies:  
 Building Division  
 Communications Division  
 Community Development Administration  
 Health Division  
 Problem Properties Court

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### LEAD SAFE ST. LOUIS DATA

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Number of children <6 years in population	31,266	28,369	28,369	28,125	28,369	27,894	28,053	29,064	29,064	31,430	30,199	30,199	29,476
Number of children <6 years screened	14,580	11,260	12,743	11,497	12,011	13,249	11,227	12,779	12,836	13,634	13,522	13,976	14,115
Percentage of children <6 years screened	46.60%	39.7%	44.9%	40.9%	42.3%	47.5%	40.0%	44.0%	44.2%	43.4%	44.8%	46.3%	48.0%
Number of screened children ≥ 10 µg/dl	3,340	3,503	2,058	1,683	1,638	1,189	1,025	892	567	502	438	421	316
Prevalence of screened children ≥ 10 µg/dl <sup>1</sup>	22.9%	31.1%	16.2%	14.6%	13.6%	9.0%	9.1%	7.0%	4.4%	3.7%	3.2%	3.0%	2.2%
Highest Blood Lead Level, µg/dl					60	80	87	113	98	60	65	94	200
Number of housing units inspected					405	1169	723	742	1062	1423	1198	651	474
Number of housing units re-mediated	76	169	252	294	320	517	547	562	519 <sup>2</sup> 819 <sup>3</sup>	812 <sup>2</sup> 1256 <sup>3</sup>	799 <sup>2</sup>	329 <sup>2</sup>	228 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Prevalence is all cases of screened children <6 years whose blood lead levels are ≥10 µg/dl. <sup>2</sup>Total remediation projects by Building Division. <sup>3</sup>Total housing units remediated through City programs.

**2012 year to date**

Through October: Screening prevalence rate is 2.4%, 287 children identified with blood lead levels ≥ 10 µg/dl; highest lead level is 53.4 µg/dl

## Establishment of LSSL and partners

- In November 2003 Mayor Francis Slay announced the “Comprehensive Action Plan to Eradicate Childhood Lead Poisoning by 2010”. Among the dignitaries present were the late Dr. Benjamin Hooks, former Executive Director of the NAACP, Judy Dungan representing Senator Christopher Bond, and Ruth Ann Norton, Executive Director of the Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning.
- **The Mayor’s Lead Safe St. Louis (LSSL) Task Force** was created in January 2004, with community partners serving on the following committees: Outreach/Education, Community Partnerships, Contractor Development, Housing, Legislative, and Enforcement.
- **Formal partnerships with community and faith-based organizations:** Grace Hill, St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition, Health & Environmental Justice, Catholic Commission on Housing, Beyond Housing/Neighborhood Housing Services, Midtown Catholic Community Services, St. Louis City Rental Property Owners Association, St. Louis Area Housing Providers Association, SW Garden Property Owners Association, St. Louis Association of Realtors, St. Louis Real Estate Investors Association, Affordable Housing Commission, Child Day Care Association, Children’s Health Forum, Southside Day Nursery, Interfaith Partnership of Metropolitan St. Louis & Faith Beyond Walls, West Side Missionary Baptist Church, Area Resources for Community & Health Services, Carpenters’ District Council, Painters District Council No. 2, LTD Environmental Services, YEHS/YouthBuild St. Louis, Safety First At Home, Inc., and Missouri Policy Fellows Program.
- **Medical community:** HealthCare USA, St. Louis University School of Public Health, Children’s Hospital, Cardinal Glennon, ConnectCare, Family Care Health Center, Grace Hill Neighborhood Health Centers, and Peoples Health Center.
- **St. Louis Public Schools:** The City established a partnership to investigate, through risk assessments, Pre-School and Kindergarten areas of 59 elementary schools for possible lead-based paint hazards, and work with school administration to establish a short, medium and long-term prioritization plan to address lead hazard reduction in the schools. Assessments were completed in August 2004.
- **State Agencies:** Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services, Missouri Department of Natural Resources

## Special projects

- Lead Safe St. Louis focused on primary prevention—remediating homes before children are poisoned—and during some years of the program nearly 80 percent of the remediations were primary prevention.
- The Lead Safe St. Louis Hotline (314-259-3455) was established in 2004 to assist all citizens with questions about lead.
- Building Division’s Window Replacement Project and Multi-Family Lead Remediation Program assists landlords to address the costs of remediation in their rental properties to protect their youngest tenants from lead poisoning.
- A documentary on the lead program was produced and can be found at <http://leadsafestlouis.com/video/lis-documentary.wmv> .

- Dr. Dan Berg's "Heavy Metal Project" began in August 2007 and continues today to remediate the homes of pregnant women in the City of St. Louis before their babies are born. The collaboration among the OB/GYN Clinics at BJC and SSM St. Mary's with the City agencies resulted in publication of the findings in the March 2012 issue of the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, reporting that remediation during pregnancy resulted in reduced risk of lead exposure to babies.
- The 5-9 Project began in 2007 to provide outreach to families whose children's blood lead levels were below the CDC's then level of concern of 10 µg/dl, alerting them to address the lead exposure of their children. In 2012 CDC adopted a new lead reference level of 5 µg/dl.

## Ten year budget

In addition to City funding, which included annual budgets from the Building Division Lead Remediation Fund averaging \$1.5 million per year, the Department of Health Lead Remediation Fund averaging \$150,000 per year, and Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services CDC lead grants averaging \$90,000 per year, the following grants fund the Lead Safe St. Louis work:

- 2003-\$2.6 million Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration (LHRD) grant
- 2004-\$3.0 million Lead Hazard Control (LHC) grant
- 2004-\$4.0 million LHRD grant
- 2004-\$497,050 EDI grant
- 2004-\$1.4 million Missouri Foundation for Health Grant
- 2004-\$100,000 United States Conference of Mayors Award
- 2006-\$3.0 million Lead Hazard Control (LHC) grant
- 2006-\$4.0 million LHRD grant
- 2008-\$3.0 million Lead Hazard Control (LHC) grant
- 2008-\$4.0 million LHRD grant
- 2011-\$3.0 million LHRD grant

## Major abatement projects

- In 2006 Mayor Slay honored St. Louis citizens Kevin Croat and Rebecca Qualls and their children, whose home, as well as four rental units owned by them, were made lead safe through the programs provided by HUD's Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grants. The HUD funds were matched by this family, in addition to matching dollars provided by the City's Lead Remediation Fund. Attending the event were Dr. Benjamin Hooks and Secretary Jack Kemp honored for their work through the Children's Health Forum and their diligent efforts to protect our youngest citizens from the hazards of lead. Together with Senator Christopher Bond who ensured HUD funding, the event included HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson former Public Safety Director in St. Louis to recognize how HUD's assistance has helped the City of St. Louis achieve remarkable results to reduce childhood lead poisoning.
- In 2006 the Mayor honored Ms. Renita Hightower and her business, The Academy for Academic Achievement, as this family child care home was made lead safe through the efforts of partner in the fight against lead poisoning, Child Day Care Association of St. Louis working with the City Building Division's Lead Inspection and Hazard Control Section and the Health Department's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. This partnership assisted more than 50 home-based child care operations become lead safe.

- In 2008 the Mayor celebrated remediation of the Winston Churchill Apartments at 5475 Cabanne, an 8-story building built in 1927 containing 109 residential units, located in the 26<sup>th</sup> Ward of the City, across from Ivory Perry Park (formerly known as Visitation Park). Eagle Point Enterprises, an affordable housing developer from Portland, ME, acquired the property in 2006. With funding from the Missouri Housing Development Commission, Centerline Capital Group, and the City of St. Louis, the property was transformed into 102 lead-safe units, including 56 one-bedroom and 46 two-bedroom units. While over \$2.7 Million in costs for lead remediation were expended in this project, the City's investment was the time to inspect and identify lead hazards, to perform clearance testing at the completion of units, and to provide only \$110,000 toward the cost of the actual remediation. In addition, the project brought in over \$20,000 in fees to the Building Division's Lead Remediation Fund to assist other families with lead safe homes.

### **Success stories**

- The Mayor's Lead Safe St. Louis Task Force received the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Children's Environmental Health Excellence Award in 2005.
- In 2006 the Lead Safe Housing Registry was established online at Socialserve.com. Socialserve.com is a website used by local housing agencies and housing authorities to assist families to find safe and affordable homes.
- Federal funds helped to upgrade data management for housing using the "Lead Housing Tracking" data portal, improving the efficiency of the lead inspection and remediation processes.
- Funded by the Missouri Foundation for Health, the Lead Safe St. Louis media campaign from 2005 through 2007 informed citizens of lead's hazards and culminated in celebrating the naming of "Lino, the Lead Safe Dino" mascot of the Lead Safe St. Louis program.