



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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Allegheny Lead Safe Homes Program Opens Today

PITTSBURGH – County Executive Rich Fitzgerald announced today that the Allegheny Lead Safe Homes Program is now open. The program, to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in homes in Allegheny County, opens today for homeowners and rental units. It is being funded through a Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grant from the U.S. Housing & Urban Development's (HUD) Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes.

"We're glad that we've been able to leverage local funds and partnerships to make this program available in Allegheny County," said Fitzgerald. "Through this collaboration, we're able to make improvements to properties that will ensure that good, quality, affordable housing is available in our community that is also safe for our families."

Eligible applicants will have a lead-based paint inspection and risk assessment conducted to test for the presence of lead-based paint and identify lead hazards. Once the inspection is complete, a lead hazard control strategy will be developed to repair the lead hazards identified and treatments, specific to the property and hazards identified. The program will hire and pay a Pennsylvania State Certified Lead Abatement Contractor to conduct the renovations which could include window replacement, enclosing exterior trim and components, door replacement, repairing and repainting lead-hazardous surfaces, and repairing or replacing linoleum or carpet flooring. Following completion of the work, a visual inspection and lead-dust sampling will be performed to ensure the home is lead-safe.

"Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, along with the federal government, are doing all they can to tackle the challenges of lead in our homes," said City of Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto. "I thank all our government partners for this initiative and urge all eligible residents to take part in the program."

The \$4 million in funding which includes funding from HUD, Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh and is expected to provide lead hazard control remediation in approximately 175 units. Through an additional partnership with the Allegheny County Health Department, there will be Healthy Homes interventions in 75 of the units, and additional lead poisoning prevention education and outreach.

"Allegheny County has a significant number of homes built before 1950 that are likely to contain lead-based paints. From the available data, it's clear that the greatest source of lead poisoning in our county is lead paint and contaminated household dust," said Larry Swanson, Executive Director of ACTION-Housing. "More than 86% of the county's housing stock was built before 1978 and 60% of homes were built before 1950, when lead-based paint was used more frequently. With this funding, we can begin addressing lead remediation in some of these homes, particularly where incomes make it difficult for the families to do so themselves."

Eligible homes are those built prior to 1978 and are in Allegheny County. Occupants must include a child under the age of 6, a pregnant woman, or a child under the age of 6 must spend a significant amount of time visiting the property. Owner-occupant homes must have incomes at or below 80% of the Area Median Income. Tenants must apply along with the landlord in order to be eligible. At least 50% of the total number of rental units assisted must be occupied by families at or below 50% of the Area Median Income. Priority will be given to a child with an identified elevated blood lead level.

Income Limit Category	Household Size					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
50% AMI	\$24,950	\$28,500	\$32,050	\$35,600	\$38,450	\$41,300
80% AMI	\$39,900	\$45,600	\$51,300	\$56,950	\$61,550	\$66,100

To apply, interested parties can call ACTION-Housing at 412-227-5700 or can reach out to the program via e-mail at alleghenylead@actionhousing.org. E-mails should include your name and phone number so that ACTION-Housing staff may contact you directly. More information is also available online at www.allegHENYcounty.us/leadsafeprogram.

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