



Ad Hoc Lead Advisory Committee and Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force

Quarterly Meeting

February 24 from 10:00am to 1:00pm

Meeting Location:

- Phone meeting due to winter weather

Meeting Contacts:

Megan Hughes, meganhughes@unc.edu, UNC Institute for the Environment, 919-966-2463

Neasha Graves, Neasha_graves@unc.edu, UNC Institute for the Environment, 919-966-3746

Agenda:

Welcome and Local Program updates

State Program updates

Ken Rudo, State Toxicologist, NC DHHS

Mike Handley, Mgr. of Housing Rehab, NC Housing Finance Agency

Updates, announcements, closing

Call-in Access: Please call 919-962-2718. No passcode is needed. We will open the line a few minutes before 10:00am.

Summary:

Attendance:

Beverly Baldinger	NC DHHS	Beverly.baldinger@dhhs.nc.gov
Nellie Benitez	Chatham County HD	Nellie.benitez@chatamnc.org
Traci Colley	Union County	tracicolley@co.union.nc.us
Paula Cox	Guilford County DHHS	PCOX@co.guilford.nc.us
Stephanie Fisher	NC DHHS	Stephanie.fisher@dhhs.nc.gov
Elizabeth Fridley	Chatham County HD	Elizabeth.fridley@chatamnc.org
Neasha Graves	UNC IE	Neasha.graves@unc.edu
Tena Hand	NC DHHS	Tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov
Mike Handley (speaker)	NC Housing Finance Agency	mghandley@nchfa.com
Megan Hughes	UNC IE	meganhughes@unc.edu
Jan Jackson	Durham County DPH	jjackson@dconc.gov
Beth McKee-Huger	Greensboro Housing Coalition	beth@greensborohousingcoalition.com
Ed Norman	NC DHHS	Ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov
Sherry Rathod	City of Charlotte	srathod@ci.charlotte.nc.us
Ken Rudo (speaker)	NC DHHS	Ken.rudo@dhhs.nc.gov
Lorisa Seibel	Reinvestment Partners	Lorisa@reinvestmentpartners.org
Lenora Smith	PEACH	peachlead@aol.com

Local Updates:

- **Chatham County:** presentation planned to talk with foster parents on Thurs; plan to check all foster children; Mar 12 health fair planned for Siler City; canvassing begins on Mar 11
- **Durham County:** appreciates the lead update from Kate Mason; did a lead investigation with David Brown this past Friday (old miniblinds; lead based paint on glassed-in porch area); EPA has webinar on mold and moisture in school buildings that has been useful to them
- **Reinvestment Partners:** outreach in East Durham; lots of renovation going on in the area; does not have resources for testing; daycare owners/parents in northeast and southeast interested in children's health and nutrition workshops; planned outreach in that area (new preschool); outreach includes handing out buckets (\$20 worth of supplies; especially heavy duty mops and buckets instead of the cheap ones); working with Lenora on certification for renovators
- **Guilford County:** cases have dropped a bit; working on inspecting childcare centers for lead; lost a staff member who inspects childcare; hoping to fill that position soon; struggling trying to get reimbursement from the state for some of the lead cases (the problem is billing and coding but Medicaid reimbursement isn't working)
- **City of Charlotte:** been doing safe home program and urgent repair; 64 no lead; cleared 57; 39 homes tested and in process; recently housing authority had property managers association conference and they tabled at the event; working in Park Plaza condominiums (conducting door to door outreach using tax

records; 2/3 renters, 1/3 homeowners; concern about windows; they did a similar project in a small apartment complex a few years ago; homeowners association has okayed; Charlotte rentals are supposed to be registered with the police apartment but most don't; no cost to the owners and paid through Lead Hazard Control grant)

- **Union County:** a couple of poisoning cases this year already due to parents renovating in the home; childcare inspection revealed stripping of doors and stained glass windows in the laundry room with dust being tracked into childcare area; children were tested and none of the levels were above 5 µ/dL but did find elevated lead on floor and toys; it took 6 visits to obtain clearance; used this example when speaking at childcare association meeting; on the board for Safe Kids and Communities in Union County; her goal this year is to add more on lead outreach
- **Greensboro Housing Coalition:** housing summit tomorrow; finished all the housing interventions and post-intervention assessments; parents are reporting less asthma and more comfortable breathing; plan to expand on this; looking to focus on the highest asthma tracts

State Updates:

- **DHHS:** trying to get CDC grant in place so they can start spending the money; working on subcontract with Reinvestment Partners; hoping for permission soon to advertise two new positions; continue to have more Lead Care laboratories come on board (purchase Lead Care analyzers and do analysis in house); Southeastern Lead Consortium coming up early May (Asheville, NC); updated rules for RRP training and Ed has submitted some comments; Beverly mentioned an investigation of a home with very high lead levels in Wilmington (contractors seemed unaware of work safe lead practices); a reminder was mentioned that there are certified contractors in all parts of the state
- **State Lab:** noted that the 2013 Lead Data handout is data only from the state lab (which is only about 60% of all NC children tested)
- **Division of Public Health:** waiting for Health Check Billing Guide to come out; **UNC:** we are assisting with the coordination of the Asthma Summit this year, Mar 3, Burlington, NC; we have extra lead and HH materials if anyone needs them; we will be conducting a new lead training in the coming weeks, hosted at our Chapel Hill office (lead poisoning prevention; lead and pregnancy)

Handouts:

- Kate Mason's 2013 Lead Data from NCDHHS
- Chatham County's Health & Wellness Fair flyer – March 12, 2015

Speaker Notes:

- **Ken Rudo, State Toxicologist, NC DHHS –**
 - Generally looks at how people are exposed, what the chemicals may do in their bodies; in most cases, they only have limited information; right now, Ken is the only state-paid Environmental Toxicologist; investigates private

wells, public water systems, Guilford County well that has levels of pesticides due to chemical companies burying chemicals on site; Winston-Salem school system wanted to build on a site that was having some vapor intrusion (school system perceived the risk and moved children out of the school); risk assessment: hazards, dose, response to that dose, exposure, characterizing risk; give recommendations, as a risk assessor, to risk managers; managers calculate in politics and cost; animal data, human studies, high and low dose effects; impacts on children; address risks as you can

- Studying groundwater contaminants including fluoride, arsenic, nitrates, copper, lead, manganese; testing at both well head and kitchen tap to see if flushing can reduce costs and impacts
 - Ken and Ed (Norman) will work on getting a listserv message sent out to health departments on how to ask for analysis
 - They consider 1 in a million cancer risk to be acceptable; for arsenic, cancer risk is 1 in 75; this is a hole in his system
 - Asked by DENR to deal with testing around coal ash ponds; still fish consumption advisory in Dan River; ponds continue to leak coal ash; well testing within 1000 ft of coal ash ponds (14-20 sites around the state); Ken asked to do this sampling for 15-20 inorganic chemicals (arsenic, lead, thallium, and others)
 - Developed a health-based standard for chromium 6 that will be used for drinking water and well water; standard is low so they will likely find it but not necessarily from coal ash (could be naturally occurring)
- **Mike Handley, Mgr. of Housing Rehab, NC Housing Finance Agency –**
 - Self-supporting state entity; NC has 28 entitlement communities (entitled to getting direct dollars from federal government); federal dollars go directly to communities in these areas;
 - 42 different housing program administered by 6 different state agencies (example: veterans programs; hazard mitigation)
 - He oversees owner-occupied rehab program; Rental units in state of NC are not eligible for state funding but local funds may be available
 - Generally 3 rehab programs are available to owner-occupied units:
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) scattered site program money used to go directly to counties; the state has moved this money to infrastructure;
 - Urgent repair program funded through housing trust fund; 3.5 million dollars worth of work each year; eminent threats to life or safety or displacement (elderly, disabled, single parents, children with elevated blood lead levels); up to \$8000 worth of work (it is a loan but is forgiven at a rate of \$1000/year)
 - Single family rehab program funded with HOME funds; not an emergency program; up to \$45,000 worth of assistance; (elderly, disabled, child under the age of 6 experiencing a lead hazard);

works with local partners (county, non-profit, local government, COG); must be low-income family

- Lead is one of the essential areas of funding
- More information at Nchfa.com → Home Owners → Single Family Rehab → List of organizations –
- Mike described examples of areas with participating agencies, starting with Durham: single family rehab, partnered with Durham County; Durham County has hired Wooten Company as consultant (919-828-0531, Michael Boberg); also funding urgent repair program with Habitat (LaKisa Miner, 919-682-0516); Independent Living Rehab (919-560-6810, 1-800-689-9090, Ron Graham)
- Mecklenburg: Charlotte Habitat for Humanity
- Guilford: Greensboro Housing Coalition
- Chatham: county opted to not put in for funding (Jason Sullivan)

Announcements:

- From Linda Block: I am considering selling my XRF if anyone is in the market to buy. It is a Niton XLp 703a so it has a bulk setting to test soil. It will need resourcing. Can you announce this? They can contact me for more info 828-683-8433 or leadprevention@yahoo.com

- Our 2015 schedule will be the following:

May 2015 – in person
Aug 2015 – in person
Nov 2015 – in person

Stay tuned for more information about the date and time of the May 2015 meeting.