



**Ad Hoc Lead Advisory Committee and  
Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force  
February 24, 2016  
Quarterly Meeting – Summary Notes**

**Summary:**

On Wednesday, Feb 24, twenty two lead and healthy homes professionals met at the UNC Institute for the Environment for the quarterly NC Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force meeting. Attendees provided brief program updates and participated in a discussion about current federal and state lead and pregnancy guidelines. Two representatives from the CDC attended this meeting. Research associate Megan Hughes in the UNC IE Environmental Resource Program coordinates meetings of the task force, and this meeting was supported by funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

**Local Updates:**

**Chatham County – Nellie Benitez**

- Continuing to do home visits and provider visits
- Outreach events coming up: Telemond Head Start, Fatherhood Summit (includes lead sticks for kids who haven't been tested by providers)

**Union County – Traci Colley**

- Partnering with bilingual health educator to add lead and HH information to parent classes; class will be taught on rotating basis in different areas throughout the county (English and Span2ish); she took community health worker training
- Addressing elevated and poisoning as they come in

**Reinvestment Partners – Lorisa Seibel**

- Wrapping up first year of grant: outreach to 1000 households in Durham, did Healthy Homes/Lead home visits; focus in June was to do 10 homes with an environmental assessment; what is the role of the health provider in identifying sources of lead; help with state to do some XRF readings on paint

**Wake County – Christy Klaus**

- Invited to speak in San Antonio in June to talk about lead in spices
- City of Raleigh contacted them to partner about lead and water (in light of Flint, MI crisis) to find out if there is any concern in Raleigh; they are being very proactive
- Recently met with group to talk about lead in artificial turf; over 400 ppm children should not play on turf; research from NJ Health Department and ATSDR that tested turf; lots of brands that are used locally were positive; CDC has issued an advisory; recommend hand washing after playing on turf; day cares and private schools should take a look at their turf; no state laws or regulations on this; free testing can be mailed to lab in CA; Christy will provide link to CDC advisory and non profit lab; David Brown noted that it is the nylon thread blend that is the concern; Sally recommends coming up with some guidance and distributing to Ellen Essick, Department of Public Instruction Healthy Schools (eessick@dpi.state.nc.us)

### **Orange County – Coby Jansen Austin, Jessica Salerno**

- Jan and Feb – no referrals; two new referrals in the last day (several of referrals have been refugee families) (school nurses, UNC Hospitals, Piedmont, CC4C, private providers)
- Have seen great results from pilot program and got approval to continue through rest of fiscal year
- Will be requesting funding for part of a position, starting in July,
- Developed Betel Nut flyer – link on website (beetle nut); also have it translated in Karen and Burmese; some refugee communities use betel nut like chewing tobacco
- Presenting to folks from 9 counties; ACCESS care;
- Worked with UNC Pediatric Pulmonary Clinic with 30 school nurses; allergist, respiratory therapist, pulmonologist; 90 minute training; training was in a county facility
- Sally asked her to send Betel Nut flyer to tobacco network; follow up offline
- Also working with pulmonologist at UNC to evaluate their program; health outcomes; Mary Currie
- Also working with Madlyn Morreale with Legal Aid interested in medical/legal partnership; did a training in Jan on health and housing and legal issues with Orange County

### **PEACH –Lenora Smith**

- Still teaching RRP classes
- Continue working with Mayor’s Poverty Reduction Task Force and city offices to create an infrastructure where contractors are certified for RRP; working to create a brochure to be published by the city as a city document
- Working with neighborhood services department; working on language so that when a property is cited for substandard housing they include language that requires a clearance before a family can reoccupy or unit can be re-rented
- Reaching out to Kim Gaetz to try and gather some information about lead levels in children in a specific census tract
- Went to DC as part of National Safe and Healthy Housing coalition to advocate for more federal funding; seems like this meeting created some momentum to create more funding for the program
- Green and Healthy Homes Initiative has sites across the country; use resources within the community to create jobs and increase number of healthy homes interventions that are possible; thinking of submitting for a HUD lead renovation grant whenever they launch it in 2016
- Working with Megan and Neasha to present at UNC Minority Health Conference; Lorisa and Lenora hoping for funding for interventions for children with BLLs 5-9 (Duke funding; going up to panel soon; hopeful that they will receive this funding)

### **City of Charlotte – Sherry Rathod**

- Met with Charlotte Mecklenburg police department’s advisory group (40 people)
- Also met with landlord group (20 people); landlord units will be assessed
- As of end of Dec, cleared a total of 96 homes; did 19 in this past quarter
- Applying for a new HUD grant
- Needs stats from Tena for last few years of children with EBLs

### **Forsyth County – Doris Hogan and Lynn Stone**

- Finalized logo and purchased items with logo to give out at health fair (hand sanitizer, mood pencils, ink pens)
- Health fairs coming up
- Working with school system to get into family fun nights
- Community Walk and Roll with Safe Kids Northwest Piedmont (several thousand people expected)
- Blast Fax to doctor's offices has been helpful; numbers are good
- Lots of 5-7 BLLs; several at >8
- Recent case: investigation found that father was working on a race car and melting lead in the driveway to balance car
- Hoping to get list from Tena Hand of all providers with lead analyzers in Forsyth County

### **Craven County – Deb Yarbrough**

- Uptick in lead cases
- Some immigrant patients with elevated BLLs - working with some Burmese refugee populations
- Conducting risk assessments to help pay for the lead and HH works in Craven County
- Block grant: program is going to remediate a home that has a confirmed lead poisoned child; also have a hospital grant that will pay to relocate a family during window renovation
- Has been able to put healthy homes work at top of her list; \$15,000 worth of grants this past year for common interventions (mattress covers); uncommon intervention (cleaning of upholstered couch or rug)
- Trying to come up with dates to train Head Start and Care workers in home assessments

### **Durham County – Warren Richardson**

- 4 EBL cases that need input; 4 confirmed cases that need input; issues with addresses connected to children
- Lenora noted that PEACH is not necessarily connected to health department in terms of homes with kids with high EBLs; plans to talk with Warren

### **State Program Updates:**

#### **NC CLPPP Program – Ed Norman, Tena Hand, Kim Gaetz, Megan Hughes, Neasha Graves**

- Upcoming HHCHW training in Orange
- Trying to get our lead trainings around the state; 2 hour training; sources of lead; things families can do; state and federal policies; relevant for professionals working with young families; interested in opportunities to provide lead trainings with varied groups across the state
- Applied to SOPHE (NC and National): lead, Healthy Homes, asthma
  - o National: 3/30/16
  - o NEHA/HUD HH conference in San Antonio: 6/15/16; co-presenting with Christy Klaus
- Kim and Tena continue to work on the surveillance data

#### **Sally Herndon – Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch**

- HUD/Home Intervention conference in mid-late September

- Involved with upcoming Asthma Summit – May 17

## **Jeff Dellinger – DHHS Health Hazards Control Unit**

- (Update currently being approved)

### **Presentation Notes:**

#### **Green Housing Pilot Study – Nicolle Tolve, US Environmental Protection Agency**

This study is addressing how young children's exposure to pollutants changes as a result of building renovation-based interactions. It is also looking at children's exposures to various pollutants. The study is considering factors like activities in the house (cleaning practices, ventilation), pets, consumer products, household furnishings and appliances, building materials, temperature, and humidity. This pilot study is a great opportunity to interact with other federal organizations via interagency agreement (HUD, EPA, CDC).

#### **Lead Hazards in the Home and Health Concerns specific to Recent Immigrants and Refugees – Jennifer Morillo, State Refugee Health Coordinator**

This presentation summarized what it means to be a refugee and how the resettlement process works in the US and in North Carolina. North Carolina counties such as Mecklenburg, Guilford, Wake, and Durham are currently receiving the most new arrivals. The presentation also covered the lead screening process for newly arrived children.

### **Handouts:**

- o Jennifer ppt and resources
- o Nicolle ppt and resources
- o Betel Nut resources  
([http://www.orangecountync.gov/departments/health/betel\\_nut.php](http://www.orangecountync.gov/departments/health/betel_nut.php))
- o Health.ny.gov resource mentioned by Lorisa (photos of spices)  
(<http://www.health.ny.gov/publications/6517/>)

Additional resources from Jennifer Morillo:

### **Dear NC Lead Contacts,**

I'd like to first thank you for having me yesterday and for your participation in the discussion. I wanted to be sure you all have the main NC refugee service providers contact information – see below list. I have organized them by city for your convenience. Many of these cities have quarterly community consultations. I encourage you to make contact with the refugee agency in your city and consider participation in the community consultations. If I can assist in any way, please reach out to me. My contact information is below the agency list. Thanks again for having me, Jennifer

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**Church World Service (CWS) – Greensboro**

620 S. Elm St., Suite 315, Greensboro, NC 27406

Phone # 336-617-0381 (*Main Line Connects to All*)

Fax # 336-617-0654 Agency

Website: <http://cwsgreensboro.org/>

*Stephanie Adams*, Director

Email: [sadams@cwsglobal.org](mailto:sadams@cwsglobal.org)

*Kelly Dent*, R&P Coordinator

Email: [kdent@cwsglobal.org](mailto:kdent@cwsglobal.org)

**North Carolina African Services Coalition (ECDC) – Greensboro**

122 N. Elm Street, Suite 810, Greensboro, NC 27401

Phone # 336-574-2677 Fax # 336-574-2672

Agency Website:

<http://www.ascafrica.org>

*Million Mekonnen*, Executive Director

Phone #336-574-2677, ext.

24 Email: [million@ascafrica.org](mailto:million@ascafrica.org)

**Guilford County Schools – Greensboro [REFUGEE SCHOOL IMPACT PROGRAM]**

120 Franklin Blvd., Greensboro, NC 27401

Phone # 336-370-8982

Fax # 336-370-8939

Website: <http://gcsnc.com>

*Mayra Hayes*, Director of Guilford County School District, English-As-A Second Language

Program Email: [hayesm2@gcsnc.com](mailto:hayesm2@gcsnc.com)

*Millie Barreto*, ESL Community Liaison

Email: [barretm@gcsnc.com](mailto:barretm@gcsnc.com)

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**World Relief Refugee Services (WR) – High Point**

155 Northpoint Avenue, Suite 102, High Point, NC 27262

Phone # 336-887-9007 (*Main Line Connects to All*)

Fax # 336-887-5245

Agency

Website: <http://worldrelief.org/highpoint>

*Andrew Timbie*, Director

Email: [atimbie@wr.org](mailto:atimbie@wr.org)

*Jennifer Foy*, Refugee Services Director

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*Sandy Paige*, Refugee Health Promoter

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**World Relief Refugee Services (WR) - Winston Salem**

545 Trade Street, Suite 201, Winston-Salem, NC 27101

*Annie Vasquez*, Case Coordinator

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Email: [avasquez@wr.org](mailto:avasquez@wr.org)

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**Catholic Charities Diocese of Charlotte (USCCB) - Charlotte**

1123 S. Church Street, Charlotte, NC 28203-4003

Phone # 704-370-3262

Fax # 704-370-3377

Agency Website:

<http://www.ccdoc.org>

*Cira Ponce*, Office Director

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3277

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**Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency, Inc. (HIAS) – Charlotte**

5009 Monroe Road, Suite 100, Charlotte, NC 28205

Phone # 704-535-8803

Fax # 704-535-8806

Agency Website:

<http://www.carolinarefugee.org/>

*Marsha Hirsch*, Executive Director

Phone # 704-535-

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Email: [marsha.hirsch@carolinarefugee.org](mailto:marsha.hirsch@carolinarefugee.org)

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**Cross Cultural Resources, Inc. – [statewide LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION – live and via telephone]**

4801 E. Independence Drive, Ste. 608, Charlotte, NC 28212

Phone # 704-469-5638 Fax # 704-208-4018 Agency Website:  
<http://www.cclanguages.com/>  
*Abdullah Sheikh*, Executive Director Email: [Abdullah@cclanguages.com](mailto:Abdullah@cclanguages.com)

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**Interfaith Refugee Ministry (EMM)– New Bern**

1913 Trent Blvd., New Bern, NC 28560  
Phone # 252-633-9009 Fax # 252-638-7570 Agency Website:  
<http://www.helpingrefugees.org>  
*Susan Husson*, Executive Director Phone # 252-633-  
9009 Email: [shusson@helpingrefugees.org](mailto:shusson@helpingrefugees.org)

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**Interfaith Refugee Ministry-Wilmington (EMM)– Wilmington**

610-A South College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403  
Phone # 910-264-7244 Fax # 910-769-3907 Agency Website:  
<http://www.helpingrefugees.org>  
*Sara Pascal*, Sub-Office Coordinator Phone # 910-264-  
7244 Email: [spascal@helpingrefugees.org](mailto:spascal@helpingrefugees.org)

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**Lutheran Services Carolinas – Child & Family Services – Refugee Resettlement Services (LIRS) – Raleigh**

616 Hutton St., Raleigh, NC 27606  
Phone # 919-832-2620 Fax # 919-832-9876 Agency  
website: <http://www.LSCarolinas.net>  
*Haneen Alsafi*, Area Manager Phone # 919-861-2812 Email: [halsafi@lscarolinas.net](mailto:halsafi@lscarolinas.net)

**U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI) – Raleigh**

The Raleigh Building; 5 West Hargett Street, Suite 202, Raleigh, NC 27601  
Phone # 919-334-0072 (Main Number) Fax # 919-334-0077 Agency Website:  
<http://www.refugees.org/about-us/where-we-work/north-carolina/>  
*Scott Phillips*, Director, NC Field Office (Ext. 4010) Email: [sphillips@uscrinc.org](mailto:sphillips@uscrinc.org)  
*Nicole Redford*, Employment & Match Grant Coordinator (MG) (Ext.  
4006) Email: [nredford@uscrinc.org](mailto:nredford@uscrinc.org)

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**World Relief Refugee Services (WR) – Durham**

801 Gilbert Street, Suite # 209, Durham, NC 27701  
Phone # 919-286-3496 Fax # 919-956-5918 Agency Website:  
<http://worldreliefdurham.org/>  
*Adam Clark*, Office Director Phone # 919-286-3496 Email: [aclark@wr.org](mailto:aclark@wr.org)  
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**Church World Service (CWS) – Durham**

112 S. Duke Street, Suite 4B, Durham, NC 27701  
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*Ellen Andrews*, Director, Refugee and Immigration  
Program Email: [eandrews@cwsglobal.org](mailto:eandrews@cwsglobal.org)

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**Catholic Charities – NC Western Regional Office (Asheville)**

50 Orange St., Asheville, NC 28801

Phone # 828-255-0146

Fax # 828-253-7339

Agency Website:

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Svetlana Gundorin, Refugee Case Manager  
6630 Email: [sxgundorin@charlottediocese.org](mailto:sxgundorin@charlottediocese.org)

Phone # 828-255-0146, ext. 26, or 828-275-

**Jennifer Reed Morillo**

N.C. Refugee Health Coordinator  
Division of Public Health, Communicable Disease Branch  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

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**In Person Attendees:**

David Brown	Surveillance Coordinator	DHHS - Children's Env. Health	<a href="mailto:w.david.brown@dhhs.gov">w.david.brown@dhhs.gov</a>
Neasha Graves	Community Outreach and Education Manager	UNC Institute for the Environment/Center for Environmental Health and Susceptibility	<a href="mailto:neasha.graves@unc.edu">neasha.graves@unc.edu</a>
Sally Herndon	Program Head	NC DHHS, Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch	<a href="mailto:Sally.herndon@dhhs.nc.gov">Sally.herndon@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Megan Hughes	Educator & Research Associate	UNC Institute for the Environment/Center for Environmental Health and Susceptibility	<a href="mailto:meganhughes@unc.edu">meganhughes@unc.edu</a>
Christy Klaus	Lead Program Coordinator	Wake County Environmental Services	<a href="mailto:christenklaus@wakegov.com">christenklaus@wakegov.com</a>
Jennifer Morillo	NC Refugee Health Coordinator	Division of Public Health, Communicable Disease Branch, DHHS	<a href="mailto:jennifer.morillo@dhhs.nc.gov">jennifer.morillo@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Ed Norman	Manager/DHHS	Division of Public Health	<a href="mailto:ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov">ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
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Lorisa Seibel	Director of Housing Programs	Reinvestment Partners	<a href="mailto:loris@reinvestmentpartners.org">loris@reinvestmentpartners.org</a>
Nicolle Tolve	Scientist	US EPA	<a href="mailto:Tolve.Nicolle@epa.gov">Tolve.Nicolle@epa.gov</a>

## On the Phone Attendees:

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Traci Colley	Environmental Health Manager	Union County	<a href="mailto:TraciColley@co.union.nc.us">TraciColley@co.union.nc.us</a>
Jeff Dellinger	Industrial Hygiene Consultant Supervisor	DHHS – Health Hazards Control Unit	<a href="mailto:Jeff.dellinger@dhhs.nc.gov">Jeff.dellinger@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Kim Gaetz	Public Health Epidemiologist	NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov">kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Tena Hand	Data Manager	NC CLPPP; DHHS - Children's Env. Health	<a href="mailto:Tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov">Tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
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