



**Ad Hoc Lead Advisory Committee and
Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force
February 15, 2017
Quarterly Meeting – Summary Notes**

Summary:

On Wednesday, February 15, twenty-six 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 lead guidelines. Two representatives from NC DHHS attended this meeting and provided presentations focused on preventing take home occupational lead exposure, and lead and pregnancy testing protocols. 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:

City of Charlotte – Sherry Rathod

- Safe Kids grant from Tide for cabinet locks/door locks/magnets to inform people about keeping Tide products out of reach from children, 200 locks will be given out with buckets and supplies
- Last month presented to a private group of 17 landlords
- This Saturday tabling at board retreat to talk about grant, table at police department for a landlord group meeting

Chatham County – Nellie Benitez

- Working with 4 families with lead investigations but having difficulties with funding to help families make house repairs, 1 family has child with Down Syndrome, application for support was denied because of family's income
- Neasha suggested calling Michael Handly and home improvement stores (e.g. Lowes, Home Depot) for grant awards, ask Bev Baldinger
- Another suggestion was to look into Urgent Repair Program, they help with rebuilding together for Chatham/Orange/Wake, part of national group and they do healthy homes and other repairs, Dan Sargent is director
- Preparing for outreach event called Inspiration Day on March 18, there will be activities for families with food and educational materials for children/parents/caretakers

Forsyth County – Doris Hogan and Craig Bethel

- Lynn Stone retired last month, Craig is learning lead education, there will be a new incoming director and a new lead nurse in the coming months
- 2 EBL investigations, 1 supplemental for EBL, 5 children in work flow waiting on confirmation for investigation
- Question to group about outreach on pottery and lead for Hispanic churches and Tiendas, Answers: Nellie did outreach to Tiendas about candy but it was not well received, she is

also planning some outreach at her church in the first week of March, Forsyth has a bean pot that tests positive for lead and they use it for education

- Working with Safe Kids and beginning work with Habitat soon, Habitat has a class on home repair and they want to incorporate safe repair practices and home safety, this will be new outreach for them
- Question for Tena regarding refugees in the work flow, Answer from Tena: we now have the ability to upload refugee children and they are working to make it up to date
- Kate Mason asked if there were still residual cases from Johnson Control cases, Answer: they are still unsure about the property of the family that triggered the inspection but they think the lead is from the car, the employee still brings lead home despite new procedures at Johnson Controls
- Sheila Higgins commented about new procedures at Johnson Controls, they have a new locker room for employees to shower and change clothes before leaving work, but there is a problem with sticky tape for shoes, David Brown asked about measurement template for wiping boots
- Forsyth has 2 level of concern cases both with parents that work at Johnson Controls, Kate advised that they follow up on testing even though it's not required

Alamance County – Elizabeth Ellmore

- UNC CEHS is providing a Healthy Homes training on March 8 for maintenance and housing people in Burlington
- 4 lead cases so far this year, 3 have been investigated, 1) Inspection of pre-k classroom with flecking/peeling paint, 2) Inspection of trailer with father that is painter and bringing home dust on clothes, 3) 1915 home never painted interior so lead could be coming from exterior paint or rocking chair, working on 4th investigation but need translator

Orange County – Kiana Redd

- Hosted asthma night with Frank Porter Graham and Estes Hills Elementary Schools; 30 families attended and rotated through stations to learn about asthma; looking to use a similar model in Orange County schools
- Has been working on 10 asthma referrals and doing outreach to school nurses

PEACH – Beatrice Jackson

- Finished grant with Duke and now working on grant with city to look at homes, research to action grant
- Increasing empowerment in city and involvement of Latinos, would like to identify groups with successful efforts and schedule meeting with these groups to increase success in lead outreach with Latinos

Cumberland County – Daniel Ortiz and Diana Blue

- School lead investigation was performed and they are working with school system about areas contaminated with lead, schools that are pre 1978, about 10 parents have brought their children in for testing
- Completed 1 EBL investigation, 1 pending and 2 more child care center investigations coming up not due to EBL just due to condition of the child care center, both licensed centers but both home conversions
- Healthy Baby Initiative with NCPHA looking for speakers, Kim and Christy offered to

present on lead and spices

Wake County – Christy Klaus

- Fall EBL for child with Turmeric sold in local store and masala spice, child lives in new home, she used spice survey from Kim and gave info to FDA, they went out to spice hut to investigate the spices, they confirmed lead in the turmeric but it was a different lot number than the one at child's house
- FDA went to New Jersey warehouse to talk to them about spices, the manufacturing plant offered to check the spices themselves, FDA doesn't currently have regulations on spices
- Investigating another EBL from November, initial thought was level was due to fathers occupation because he tears down old buildings but it wasn't on his clothing or car, child lives in new home, she found lead in cinnamon that child eats daily on sweet potatoes and bananas, FDA said only 1% of imports are looked at for contamination
- She has been working with Kim to get more research out
- She works with Hispanics sometimes, City of Raleigh Tamale Festival in March at Carolina Pines Park, she will provide information to PEACH for help with outreach for Latinos, contact name maybe Lisa Torres

Megan Hughes asked who could provide Spanish help – Elizabeth Ellmore (interpreters at HD), Lorisa Seibel (bilingual intake person), Kiana Redd (interpreters in Spanish, Korean, and Burmese), Doris Hogan (access to interpreters all the time), and Nellie Benitez (she is bilingual)

Reinvestment Partners – Lorisa Seibel

- She will be presenting to NC State Center for Human Health and Environment
- Looking for an image of a toy with chipping paint, contact her if you have one
- She asked why spices didn't come through extensive testing at state lab, spices get pushed aside because there is a lot of focus on well water, she should contact Debbie Monsol and ask for mass spec testing of spices, newer instrument, more robust
- 57 contacts, 35 home visits, 17 new and 18 follow-up at end of last year
- Working on lead coalition and trying to pull together with home repair, right now homeowners have to apply to 4 different groups and she is trying to combine these so the process is less lengthy, welcomes any wisdom for repair grants
- Kiana asked how Lorisa gets her clients, Answer: most clients come from required testing, clinic in Durham county with refugees, sometimes from private practitioners, door to door outreach, follow-up on EBLs, home visits and dust sampling for 5-9s and soil if there is a play area outside
- She is excited about HUD guidelines on porch floors

State Program Updates:

DHHS Health Hazards Control Unit - Jeff Dellinger and Cory Edwards

- Averaging 1200 renovation firms, updated renovators listed on website, please continue to send tips and complaints, they try to respond to all of them and they follow-up with renovators
- Updated applications on website
- Number of lead abatement firms down to about 78 and continues to drop over the years, abatement permits are also dropping about 60 now, why is there such a drastic drop?

Answer: because it was tied to HUD lead grant and those have since been closed except maybe Charlotte

NC CLPPP – Ed Norman, David Brown, Tena Hand, Kim Gaetz, Megan Hughes, Neasha Graves, Ann Chelminski

- Tena is mapping refugees in NCLEAD and uploading as they come into the county
- Kim is working on 2015 data, surveillance tables for 2012-2014 have been updated and added to the website
- Kim will be sending out the spice survey to all when it is ready; currently working on having a focus group for mothers from South Asia to gauge whether survey is understandable, culturally appropriate, etc.
- Neasha and Megan need feedback on outreach materials we are updating, Lead Do's and Don'ts and Lead and Pregnancy brochures, we don't know how quickly these materials will be finished/printed so continue to use what you have for now, final versions will be in English and Spanish
- Recruiting for training opportunities especially around Healthy Homes and Lead, trainings can be tailored to the needs of the audience
- Feedback on flow chart about lead testing for health care providers; Sheila Higgins mentioned that a similar wall poster about lead poisoning prevention at the worksite would be useful
- Ann is working with labs to help them submit better data (eg. Stop reporting BLL without address or phone numbers); she is also doing outreach to medical providers

State Lab – Kate Mason

- Will craft a statement to post on nhealthyhomes and CEHS websites about lead and pregnancy questionnaire and State Lab support

Presentations:

- “Preventing Take Home Occupational Lead Exposure” – Sheila Higgins, RN, MPH, COHN-S, NC DHHS, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch (slides and handouts attached)
- “Lead and Pregnancy Testing Protocols” – Kate Mason, Hemachemistry Supervisor, NC DHHS, NC State Lab (slides attached)

Announcements:

- Dana Haine, UNC Center for Environmental Health and Susceptibility – announced that she is working on a Climate and Health Module, if you are interested in attending a meeting to provide feedback contact Megan Hughes, meganhughes@unc.edu.
- If any other counties are applying for HUD funding, contact Kim Gaetz, kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov.
- Check out NC Healthy Homes website Partner Spotlight on Lakieta Sanders - <http://nhealthyhomes.com/partner-spotlight-lakieta-sanders/>.

In Person Attendees:

Diana Blue	EH Program Specialist	Cumberland County	dblue@co.cumberland.nc.us
David Brown	Surveillance Coordinator	DHHS - Children's Env. Health	w.david.brown@dhhs.gov
Ann C			
Elizabeth Ellmore	REHS	Alamance County Environmental Health	elizabeth.ellmore@alamance-nc.com
Kim Gaetz + Diedra (intern)	Public Health Epidemiologist	NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov
Neasha Graves	Community Outreach and Education Manager	UNC Institute for the Environment/CEHS	neasha.graves@unc.edu
Sheila Higgins	RN, MPH, COHN-S	NC DHHS, Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology Branch	sheila.higgins@dhhs.nc.gov
Megan Hughes	Educator & Research Associate	UNC Institute for the Environment/CEHS	meganhughes@unc.edu
Beatrice Jackson	Outreach	PEACH	bvtjackson@yahoo.com
Christy Klaus	Lead Program Coordinator	Wake County Environmental Services	christenklaus@wakegov.com
Kate Mason	Hemachemistry Supervisor	NC DHHS, NC State Lab	kate.mason@dhhs.nc.gov
Ed Norman	Manager/DHHS	Division of Public Health	ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov
Daniel Ortiz	Environmental Health Director	Cumberland County	dortiz.co.cumberland.nc.us
Kiana Redd	Healthy Communities Healthy Homes Coordinator	Orange County Health Department	kredd@orangecountync.gov
Stacey Robbins	Environmental Health Regional Specialist, Children's Environmental Health	NC DHHS	stacey.robbins@dhhs.nc.gov
Megan Rodgers	Environmental Research Assistant	UNC Institute for the Environment/ CEHS	merodgers@unc.edu
Lorisa Seibel	Director of Housing Programs	Reinvestment Partners	loris@reinvestmentpartners.org

On the Phone Attendees:

Nellie Benitez	Lead Outreach Worker	Chatham County Public Health Department	nellie.benitez@chathamnc.org
Craig Bethel	Childhood Lead Program	Forsyth County Department of Public Health	bethelcj@forsyth.cc
Jeff Dellinger	Industrial Hygiene Consultant Supervisor	DHHS – Health Hazards Control Unit	Jeff.dellinger@dhhs.nc.gov
Cory Edwards	Industrial Hygiene Consultant	DHHS – Health Hazards Control Unit	cory.edwards@dhhs.nc.gov
Elizabeth Fridley	PHNII	Chatham County Public Health Dept	elizabeth.fridley@chathamnc.org
Tena Hand	Data Manager, Children’s Environmental Health	DHHS	tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov
Doris Hogan	Environmental Health Program Specialist	Forsyth County Department of Public Health	hoganda@forsyth.cc
Sherry Rathod	Lead and Outreach Coordinator	City of Charlotte	srathod@ci.charlotte.nc.us