



**Ad Hoc Lead Advisory Committee and  
Healthy Homes Outreach Task Force  
August 30, 2017**

**Quarterly Meeting – Summary Notes**

**Summary:**

On Wednesday, August 30, thirty-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 lead guidelines. Ilona Jaspers, Professor in the UNC Department of Pediatrics, Director of the Curriculum in Toxicology and the Deputy Director of the UNC Center for Environmental Medicine Asthma and Lung Biology presented on current e-cigarette research. 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:**

**Guilford County – Paula Cox and Luke Van Eyk**

- 2-3 lead investigations
- Getting in touch with CC4C for referrals about allocated HUD grants
- Unusual healthy homes investigation involving formaldehyde and VOCs in house, discovered immense amount of dry cleaning with plastic covers still on, husband was smelling it but his wife was not, health hazards brand was a huge help with this investigation, they will make suggestions about removing the plastic from the dry cleaning to let it air out

**Mecklenburg County – Tasharra Kenion**

- Working on 3 EBL cases, going into lead investigation with lead expansion

**Charlotte – Sherry Rathod**

- 13 events in the last 3 months including one with Head Start, one with housing authority for a group of landlords in a program called Housing the Homeless, met with department of social workers, spoke on a radio show about the lead program, participated in Charlotte community health clinic event and provided information about different vendors, event with schools
- Cleared 7 homes since last quarter
- Provided tenant orientations, criminal background checks, talked with contractors
- Meeting in late September for contractors to learn about the program
- Guest named Ruth, joined her on the phone for the task force meeting, as a result of seeing her on the NC Healthy Homes website

### **Forsyth County – Doris Hogan, Craig Bethel, and Sarah Frantz**

- Recently seeing lead in spices cases, some from West Africa (many of the spices were in clear bottles and clear bags with no labels)
- One investigation with child putting brass figurines in mouth every day
- Attended refugee conference in Greensboro, *recommend attending next year!*
- First encounter with child from India using the black make-up and mom is using kumkum, they talked to family but they didn't do any testing yet
- Working on a fact sheet and brochure on lead in dishes to encompass Hispanic pottery, will go on website when finished
- Spice fact sheet includes: cumin, chili, turmeric, ginger, allspice, masala, kabsa – let her know if she is missing any
  - Tom Vitaglione (NC Child) is testing spices in the Cary/Raleigh area, they get 50 free tests from the state lab, Paula Cox (Guilford) asked if Tom can send picture of spice label when sending sample to the lab and Tom said that due to their protocol they've already taken many pictures of the products and store fronts

### **Chatham County – Nellie Benitez and Elizabeth Fridley**

- Finished back to school event, going to begin testing in mid-September
- They have 2 investigations done and ready for clearance testing
- Still have 1 EBL case with family that doesn't have A/C, family was opening the windows in their house and putting a fan on the window sill, there was lead dust from paint on the sill and the fan is bringing the dust into the house, they will talk with the family about cleaning

### **Duke Children's Primary Care – Barbara Donadio and Danielle Wolf**

- Puzzling case with family from Henderson with 20-month old child, worked closely with parents to interview about lead exposures, they live in a motel that the family manages, window and mini-blinds tested negative, only possibilities were cumin and turmeric, they are concerned that they don't have a known exposure yet
  - Kim says to ask the lab to send spice through IPC mass spec for 1 ppm test

### **Greensboro Housing Coalition – Gina Uresti**

- She would like to focus on getting parents to ask for explanation of lead testing

### **Reinvestment Partners – Lorisa Seibel**

- State lab has been great in helping with children 5-9, they've been testing water, dust, and soil
- Working with PEACH on lead week at Holton School on Driver Street in Durham on October 24

### **UNC Hospitals – Carol Sockman**

- 21 referrals for Healthy Homes and 18 kids from CC4C, servicing over 40 counties in the state

### **Durham County – Lakieta Sanders**

- Participated in 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Head Start health fair, getting children ready for back to school, they saw ~100 families, collected paperwork for lead screenings, hearing, vision, height, and weight, parents received information from various organizations while children were screened
- Currently working on Durham lead health assessment, will submit first draft at the end of month

### **Cumberland County – Daniel Ortiz and Diana Blue**

- 2 schools going through a clearance, completed 2 childcare centers, 1 EBL child, 1 pending and parent is going for another lab at the end of the month, 4 possible EBLs with new regulations
- They have an ordinance where they investigate home daycares, working with Neasha and Sally on a grant for healthy homes
- Planning training session in Cumberland County by the end of the year

### **PEACH – Beatrice Jackson**

- Finding a lot of adults are unaware of the effects of lead poisoning, advocating for education

### **TJCOG – Julia Katz**

- Working with Chatham and Siler City to develop and preserve more affordable rental housing, this year they will be implementing strategies

### **Alamance County – Elizabeth Ellmore**

- 1 case with flaking paint in classroom and didn't pass the visual test
- Dealing with property that was classified as abandoned but wasn't really abandoned and has had 6 owners since 2004, they are creating new remediation plan for this property
- 1 case of poisoned child that need inspection but parents aren't returning phone calls

## **State Program Updates:**

### **DHHS Health Hazards Control Unity – Cory Edwards**

- Sent RRP emergency guides document last week
- Working with NC State and Office of Professional Development to disseminate materials to 16,000 students with focus in construction management
- 2 new RRP training providers: Coastal Carolina Community College and Brunswick Community College
- Claiming October 23 at Lead Safe Renovators Day in NC

### **DHHS – Children & Youth Branch - Stephanie Fisher**

- Update to be added

## **NC CLPPP**

### **Kim Gaetz**

- Addressing questions: working on spice project, testing survey on 3 focus groups of parents, also created Spanish survey (thank you to Nellie for proof reading the Spanish survey!!), created spice guide that can be used as a tool when doing home visits, translated into multiple languages, images are clear and can be used with families that don't speak the language, must go through approval process and will be sent through listserv when ready
- They've been advising families to use spices in smaller amounts in children's food and to make sure child is tested because it's hard to tell families to not use any spices
- Christy Klaus has been collecting spice data because we don't currently have systematically collected data, need spice name, store it was purchased from, lot number and picture
- Ann is writing articles for the NC Pediatrics Association about lead

- Looking into cinnamon from Whole Foods, they encourage testing closer to the consumer rather than in store because FDA can only test about 1% of spices

### Neasha Graves

- Updated two lead poisoning prevention brochures: Are you pregnant? and Lead Poisoning Can be Prevented: Some Do's and Don'ts. Available in English and Spanish at nhealthyhomes.com
- Revising Asthma and Healthy Homes modules
- Upcoming activities:
  - CDC HHLPPP Quarterly Call, Sept 20
  - Durham Lead Poisoning Prevention Planning Meeting, Sept 26
  - Asheville Healthy Homes Presentation, Sept 28
  - Lead SOP, Oct 11-13

### Ed Norman

- Last fall he submitted an update to the governor and it was included in governor's budget, in previous years authority and resources were limiting factors
- Most of the memo is still the same with small adjustment for pregnant women with EBLs (tricky because lab process is different for adults than children, lab doesn't know if sample is from pregnant woman or not)
- Lowered blood lead level and as a result, there will be more mandatory tests and investigations, expecting to have 5x the number of investigations
- In a separate provision, the legislature told Medicaid that they need to hire more staff
- Planning to implement new law on January 1, 2018
- Also asked to extend the time frame between 2 blood tests from 6 months to 1 year
- Submitting proposal with Sally on Healthy Homes, include funding to state lab and county

### Presentation:

- "E-Cigarettes and Potential Adverse Health Effects: What We Do and Do Not Know" – Dr. Ilona Jaspers, Professor in the UNC Department of Pediatrics, Director of the Curriculum in Toxicology and the Deputy Director of the UNC Center for Environmental Medicine Asthma and Lung Biology (slides attached)
- "Lead Investigation Expansion Plan" – Ed Norman, Head of Children's Environmental Health at NC DHHS (update provided above in "State Program Updates")

### Announcements:

- **Wednesday, September 6, 10am-1pm:** Asthma Alliance meeting
  - Reeves Conference Room, 5505 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC
- **Wednesday, September 20, 2-3pm:** EPA webinar on Reducing Lead in Drinking Water in Schools
  - Registration: <https://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/training>
- **October 22-28:** National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week
  - **October 23:** Lead Safe Renovators Day in NC
  - **October 24:** Reinvestment Partners and PEACH event at Holton School in Durham
  - Email Megan Rodgers ([merodgers@unc.edu](mailto:merodgers@unc.edu)) with events for NC Healthy Homes website
- Check out County Referral Clearinghouse on NC Healthy Homes website: <https://nhealthyhomes.com/countyreferrals/>
- Check out NC Healthy Homes website Partner Spotlight on Lenora Smith: <https://nhealthyhomes.com/partner-spotlight-lenora-smith/>

## In Person Attendees:

Diana Blue	EH Program Specialist	Cumberland County Dept. of Public Health	<a href="mailto:dblue@co.cumberland.nc.us">dblue@co.cumberland.nc.us</a>
David Brown	Surveillance Coordinator	Children's Environmental Health, NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:w.david.brown@dhhs.nc.gov">w.david.brown@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Barbara Donadio	Pediatric Nurse Clinician	Duke Children's Primary Care	<a href="mailto:Barbara.donadio@duke.edu">Barbara.donadio@duke.edu</a>
Elizabeth Ellmore	REHS	Alamance County Environmental Health	<a href="mailto:Elizabeth.ellmore@alamance-nc.com">Elizabeth.ellmore@alamance-nc.com</a>
Stephanie Fisher	Regional Child Health Nurse Consultant	DHHS – Children & Youth Branch	<a href="mailto:Stephanie.fisher@dhhs.nc.gov">Stephanie.fisher@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Megan Hughes	Educator & Research Associate	UNC Institute for the Environment, CEHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:meganhughes@unc.edu">meganhughes@unc.edu</a>
Beatrice Jackson	Outreach	PEACH	<a href="mailto:bvtjackson@yahoo.com">bvtjackson@yahoo.com</a>
Julia Katz	Planner II – Regional Planning	TJCOG	<a href="mailto:jkatz@tjcog.org">jkatz@tjcog.org</a>
Melanie Napier	Public Health Epidemiologist	Children's Environmental Health, NC DHHS	<a href="mailto:Melanie.napier@dhhs.nc.gov">Melanie.napier@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Ed Norman	Manager	Children's Environmental Health, NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov">ed.norman@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Daniel Ortiz	Environmental Health Director	Cumberland County Dept. of Public Health	<a href="mailto:Dortiz@co.cumberland.nc.us">Dortiz@co.cumberland.nc.us</a>
Megan Rodgers	Environmental Research Assistant	UNC Institute for the Environment, CEHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:merodgers@unc.edu">merodgers@unc.edu</a>
Lorisa Seibel	Director of Housing Programs	Reinvestment Partners	<a href="mailto:lorisa@reinvestmentpartners.org">lorisa@reinvestmentpartners.org</a>

Lakieta Sanders	Public Health Educator	Durham County Dept. of Public Health	<a href="mailto:ldsanders@dconc.gov">ldsanders@dconc.gov</a>
Alison Singer	Post-doc	UNC Epidemiology	<a href="mailto:alison_singer@unc.edu">alison_singer@unc.edu</a>
Carol Sockman	Asthma Educator	UNC Hospitals	<a href="mailto:Carol.sockman@unchealth.unc.edu">Carol.sockman@unchealth.unc.edu</a>
Gina Uresti	Rental Team Housing Counselor	Greensboro Housing Coalition	<a href="mailto:gina@gsohc.org">gina@gsohc.org</a>
Tom Vitaglione	Senior Fellow	NC Child	<a href="mailto:tom@ncchild.org">tom@ncchild.org</a>
Danielle Wolf	BSN, RN, CPN	Duke Children's Primary Care	<a href="mailto:Danielle.wolf@duke.edu">Danielle.wolf@duke.edu</a>

### On the Phone Attendees:

Nellie Benitez	Lead Outreach Worker	Chatham County Public Health Dept.	<a href="mailto:nellie.benitez@chathamnc.org">nellie.benitez@chathamnc.org</a>
Craig Bethel	Childhood Lead Program	Forsyth County Dept. of Public Health	<a href="mailto:bethelcj@forsyth.cc">bethelcj@forsyth.cc</a>
Paula Cox	Environmental Health Manager	Guilford County Dept. of Health and Human Services	<a href="mailto:pcox@myguilford.com">pcox@myguilford.com</a>
Cory Edwards	Industrial Hygiene Consultant	DHHS, Health Hazards Control Unit	<a href="mailto:Cory.edwards@dhhs.nc.gov">Cory.edwards@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Sarah Frantz	Public Health Educator	Forsyth County Department of Public Health	<a href="mailto:frantzsa@forsyth.cc">frantzsa@forsyth.cc</a>
Elizabeth Fridley	PHNII	Chatham County Public Health Dept.	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.fridley@chathamnc.org">elizabeth.fridley@chathamnc.org</a>
Kim Gaetz	Public Health Epidemiologist	Children's Environmental Health, NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:Kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov">Kim.gaetz@dhhs.nc.gov</a>
Tena Hand	Data Manager	Children's Environmental Health, NC DHHS, NC CLPPP	<a href="mailto:tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov">tena.hand@dhhs.nc.gov</a>

Doris Hogan	Environmental Health Program Specialist	Forsyth County Dept. of Public Health	<a href="mailto:hoganda@forsyth.cc">hoganda@forsyth.cc</a>
Tasharra Kenion	Senior Environmental Specialist	Mecklenburg County Public Health	<a href="mailto:Tasharra.kenion@mecklenburgcountync.gov">Tasharra.kenion@mecklenburgcountync.gov</a>
Sherry Rathod	Lead and Outreach	City of Charlotte	<a href="mailto:srathod@ci.charlotte.nc.us">srathod@ci.charlotte.nc.us</a>
Luke Van Eyk	Environmental Health Program Specialist	Guilford County Dept. of Health and Human Services	<a href="mailto:lvaneyk@myguilford.com">lvaneyk@myguilford.com</a>
Madeline Vital		Partnership for Healthy Durham	<a href="mailto:madelyn.vital@gmail.com">madelyn.vital@gmail.com</a>