Gaps & Opportunities in Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

**Policy:**
- Renovation Repair and Painting Rule Enforcement
- Systematic Code Enforcement
- Testing and Remediation

**Financing:**
- Tax Credits
- Children’s Health Insurance Program
- Neighborhood revitalization

**Data:**
- Exposure data
- Predicted risk
- State & local cost benefit data
EPA’s RRP Rule:

- Requires **safe work practices** in pre-1978 housing and child occupied facilities.
- EPA took **100 enforcement actions**
  - **4.4 million jobs** are subject to the rule.
- **14 states operate** their own state programs
- **$7,500,000 state** revenue opportunity (based on NYS estimate)

“How can we eliminate dust that is coming up when you’re surrounded by construction? How bad is it for my two-year old to sit on his front step when the house that was built in 1940 is literally being demolished?”

-Father and focus group participant in Philadelphia, PA
Policy in Action: Systematic Code Enforcement

Rochester, NY

- Proactive visual assessment & lead dust wipe testing required as part of certificate of occupancy
- Approximately **14,000 units visually inspected/year**
- Units have their certificates **renewed every 3-6 years**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># of Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>110</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Blood Lead Levels ≥10 ug/dL
Policy in Action:
Lead Remediation
Massachusetts

Any property built before 1978 and occupied by a child under 6 must be “deleaded” by removing or covering lead paint hazards.

Owner costs for abating lead hazards mitigated though income tax credits of $500 to $1,500.

Surcharges of $25 to $100 on certain professional licenses provides $2.5 million annually for the Lead Trust.

Blood Lead Levels >/= 10 ug/dL

- 2001: 3095
- 2016: 686
Policy in Action: Children’s Health Insurance
*Michigan, Maryland*

- Michigan will spend $333,000 in 2017, matched by 23.5 million in federal funds to replace water pipes and fixtures from homes of low-income families with children.
- CMS authorized Michigan CHIP to pay for the replacement of water pipes and lead paint hazard control.
Policy in Action: Neighborhood Revitalization, *Camden, New Jersey*

- The Cooper Foundation acquired and renovated properties in the 10-square block area and sold them to local residents who underwent financial training.
- They were able to recycle the proceeds from these home sales into other community investment efforts.
Data Gaps

“We need to get children tested. Once we have that data we will have a game plan. If 80 percent of our kids have lead, then we have an epidemic. We can raise our voices and perhaps get something done.”

–New Orleans, LA
**Objective:** Explore the relationship between census tracts with the highest risk of lead exposure.

**Indicators:** Households living below 125% poverty level & Age of Housing from the American Community Survey

[https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/wn/WTNIBL/]
Clinical Decision Support (CDS) Tool
Chicago Department of Public Health

- Alerts providers to the risk of lead exposure based on the patient’s current address instead of discovering abnormal blood lead levels upon screening.
- Provides recommendations regarding the need for visual home inspections and patient education on lead abatement strategies.
## Keeping Blood Lead Levels of Children Born in 2018 at Zero Would Generate $84 Billion in Benefits

Future Savings and Increased Earnings by Source and Recipient

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>Value (In billions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased lifetime earnings for entire 2018 cohort</td>
<td>$77.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health savings</td>
<td>$1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education savings</td>
<td>$1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality-adjusted life years benefit</td>
<td>$3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total future benefits</strong></td>
<td><strong>$84.0</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share to the federal government</td>
<td>$18.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share to state and local governments</td>
<td>$9.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share to households, private sector and other non-governmental entities</td>
<td>$55.9</td>
</tr>
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