

Priority:	Education	Lead Agency:	Health Department
Program Offer Type:	Existing Operating	Program Contact:	WICKHAM Lila A
Related Programs:			
Frameworks:	Early Childhood Framework		

Executive Summary

The Lead Poisoning and Prevention program assures school readiness and eliminates the barriers to success in school by identifying lead exposure early and linking children with treatment services. Tracks and responds to cases of childhood lead poisoning. The program administers a statewide and local LeadLine, an information and referral service offering lead poisoning prevention information in multiple languages. Program offers blood lead level screening at immunization clinics, elevated blood lead level environmental investigations, case management, and advocacy for services.

Program Description

This program uses a variety of approaches to prevent lead poisoning in children and to reduce the damage to children where lead exposure has occurred. Cookware, candies, and remedies used by some foreign-born populations can cause childhood exposure to lead. A local study found elevated lead dust levels in older housing. In the past, lead poisoning in children has been associated with low income families; however, anyone purchasing or residing in an older home is at risk for lead exposure or poisoning.

1)Education: The Lead Program teaches parents, landlords and property owners about lead exposure causes and effects, screening, reducing home lead hazards, tap water testing, and lead poisoning interventions. 2)Childhood Screening: The Lead program provides information about free lead screening locations in the county. They work closely with Primary Care clinic and Early Childhood field nurses to both identify children at-risk and to provide testing for those children. Primary Care clinics test all infants and small children who come in for services. 3)Home Risk Assessment: If a child has elevated blood levels, the Lead Program will have a State-certified Risk Assessor conduct an assessment of the home and family lifestyle to identify causes and/or exposures to lead. 4)Intervention and Case Management: After completion of the risk assessment, the Lead professional will provide the family with an intervention plan, resources and advocacy to improve their elevated blood levels, and track the progress of remedying the lead exposure problem via a management model. 5)Data Tracking: The Lead Program tracks elevated blood levels over time to detect program trends/risks and identify future direction of the program.

Program Justification

Lead education, screening and interventions addresses the Education team strategy to meet the basic needs of children and to promote the development of children who come to school ready to learn because they have not been compromised by exposure to lead, preventing significant learning disabilities. If children have been exposed to lead this program provide referrals to early childhood services and develop an active remediation plan for their environment. Children who have lead exposure or lead poisoning develop significant brain damage and learning disabilities. Since many families do not know they are at-risk, outreach, education, and testing is critical. The program provides these services in a variety of accessible venues, including the collaboration and coordination with healthcare services to assist clients who need to access other community based services.

Performance Measures

Assure that all cases of elevated blood lead level (using CDC case definition) are investigated by a State-certified Risk Assessor.

Increase blood lead testing while reducing the number of children whose blood test confirms a high blood lead level. Only 1% of those children who are tested have confirmed elevated blood lead levels. From 1993 through 2001, the number of confirmed childhood lead poisoning cases in Multnomah County decreased from 126 to 61.

Summary of last year's program results and this year's expected results

3,918 children were screened in a 12-month period. Of the children tested last year, Multnomah County did not have a high percentage of children who were confirmed to have elevated blood levels; however, many at-risk children are never tested because their parents are not aware of the causes and severe effects of lead poisoning. Lead poisoning requires flexible outreach efforts that respond to ever-changing at-risk populations. Currently the lead program is developing outreach materials for the African Refugee population, since this community has experienced a high rate of lead poisoning in other parts of the United States.

Program Mandate: 2 Mandated Program with Funding/Service Level Choice

ORS 433; City of Portland codes 8.20.210 (Maintenance of Health Hazard not Permitted); 8.20.200 (Notice of Unsanitary or Unhealthful Condition of Premises to be Given and Posted – Unlawful to Remove); 29.30.110 (Interior Walls, Floors, and Ceilings); 29.30.060 (Exterior Walls and Exposed Surfaces); Contract includes City of Portland (115K).

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2005	2005	2006	2006
Personnel	\$33,073	\$76,979	\$2,208	\$118,443
Contracts	\$0	\$15,300	\$247	\$13,253
Materials & Supplies	\$7,880	\$3,041	\$63	\$3,412
Internal Services	\$4,214	\$19,680	\$388	\$28,947
Capital Outlay	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$45,167	\$115,000	\$2,906	\$164,055
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$2,754	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$11,769	\$5,543
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$0	\$14,523	\$5,543
Total GF/non-GF:	\$45,167	\$115,000	\$17,429	\$169,598
Program Total:	\$160,167		\$187,027	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.03	1.42
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$9,599	\$0	\$7,439	\$0
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$115,000	\$0	\$134,000
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$6,776	\$5,543
Total Revenue:	\$9,599	\$115,000	\$14,215	\$139,543

Explanation of Revenues**Significant Program Changes**

FY06 Outreach efforts to new African refugees will be expanded, in response to that communities higher lead exposure rate in other communities.