

2020 REPORT

The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition is a public-private partnership formed to address lead poisoning in our community. Today, we encompass over 450 members, seven working Committees, four working Subcommittees, and a multi-million dollar Lead Safe Home Fund. **The Coalition believes no child should ever be lead poisoned.**

With a bold [2020 Action Plan](#) in place, the Coalition began the year by seating its inaugural Steering Committee to oversee and advise the work. Despite the coronavirus pandemic, the Coalition persisted because safe, decent homes are as important as ever for Cleveland's children and families. What follows is a *partial* list of our 2020 highlights, which were made possible by the commitment and hard work of Coalition members.

Supported the City Of Cleveland to Build & Measure the roll out of Lead Safe Certification System

- The City of Cleveland built the new system, and invested in technology and staff, while also engaging the Case Western Reserve University Poverty Center to serve as the new Lead Safe Auditor.
- Case Western Reserve University published reports on [Downstream Consequences of Childhood Lead Poisoning](#) and [Characteristics of Rental Properties and Landlords in Cleveland](#).
- The Research + Evaluation Committee established a multi-tiered framework for evaluating the Lead Safe Certification System and the Coalition.

Launched Public Awareness Campaign

- The Coalition launched a lead poisoning prevention and Lead Safe Certification public awareness campaign featuring our own community leaders. The campaign can be heard on the radio, seen at bus stops and inside buses or on flyers in your neighborhood and mailbox.
- The Coalition launched a website: www.leadSAFEcle.org.
- The Lead Safe Home Summit Committee led by United Way of Greater Cleveland, hosted a series of virtual workshops for landlords on the Lead Safe Certification system and other housing policies and programs.

Advocated for Lead Safe Policies & Resources

- The Child Care Subcommittee, led by Starting Point, engaged Groundwork Ohio in producing a report, [Building the Way to a Healthier Future](#), on lead safety in child care settings.
- The joint Early Childhood Screening + Testing & Services/HHAC Subcommittee, led by Invest in Children and Cuyahoga County Board of Health, coordinated messaging on lead testing for families, health care providers, and early childhood professionals, and facilitated a lead testing data collection and quality improvement project plan.

Secured Investments in the Lead Safe Home Fund

- Because of our ongoing belief of pairing mandates with incentives, the Coalition has raised nearly \$30 million for the Lead Safe Home Fund to support property owners.
- Secured private sector investments from Foundations, a Medicaid Managed Care Organization, Community Development Financial Institutions, Banks, and more.
- Worked toward closing a first-of-its-kind, \$14 million initial loan fund.

Launched the Lead Safe Resource Center & Home Loans and Grants

- After a nationwide search, the [Coalition selected CHN Housing Partners \(CHN\) and Environmental Health Watch \(EHW\) as the LSHE Administrators](#).
- CHN is managing property owner loans, grants, and incentives. EHW has established the Lead Safe Resource Center located at 4600 Euclid Avenue - a one-stop-shop for education, community outreach, lead safe certification system navigation, and workforce development.
- With ongoing landlord input, the Coalition crafted new loan, grant, and incentive products and launched an [application](#) for landlords seeking financial assistance.
- The Workforce Development Advisory Group, led by Urban League of Greater Cleveland, helped the Resource Center build and maintain the lead safe workforce and served as a sounding board and referral network for lead safety workers.
- The Lead Safe Resource Center hosted 20 workforce trainings in its newly established training facility.
- The Coalition, led by the Community Action Team, canvassed in every Cleveland neighborhood while adhering to COVID-19 safety guidelines to spread the word about lead poisoning prevention.
- The Coalition launched the Lead Safe Hotline, 833-601-5323 (LEAD).

Thank you for your ongoing support. The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition only succeeds with YOUR ongoing partnership and leadership. Lead poisoning affects everyone, so we all need to take responsibility for addressing it.

Know the Sources. Prevent Exposure. Let's Build a Lead Safe Cleveland.

Guiding Principles

Led by the Governance Committee, the Coalition established [Policies and Procedures](#) in May. The Policies and Procedures, like all our work, embody our Guiding Principles.

- 1 Systems Change** Lead Safe Cleveland will work to transform policies and systems to promote lead poisoning prevention, screening and testing, treatment and intervention, and education and outreach.
- 2 Public-Private Partnership** Lead poisoning affects all of us, and we all need to take responsibility for addressing it. Dedicated resources—from the public, private, corporate, and philanthropic sectors—are needed for lead testing, screening, lead hazard control and abatement, relocation, community education and outreach, workforce development for lead professionals, increasing the supply of safe, affordable housing options, training in lead-safe work practices for property owners, contractors, and more.
- 3 Cleveland Approach** Lead Safe Cleveland will identify and pursue solutions based on science, best practices, and common sense, rooted in Cleveland’s unique assets and challenges.
- 4 Primary Prevention** Lead Safe Cleveland believes in preventing childhood lead exposure in all residential properties, childcare facilities, schools, and other buildings during renovation, repair, regular maintenance, and demolition without threat of displacement.
- 5 Families Deserve Safe, Affordable Housing** Cleveland families must have access to safe, affordable housing. Families should have information on lead hazards in properties and how to protect themselves and their children.
- 6 Accountability** Lead Safe Cleveland will partner with and hold accountable landlords, governmental agencies, healthcare providers, insurers, the legal system, and others to protect the health and safety of children and families.
- 7 Outcome Oriented** The Lead Safe Cleveland goals, objectives, and actions will be directed toward achieving measurable outcomes.
- 8 Genuine Community Partnership** Lead Safe Cleveland must be sure that the voices of people directly affected by lead are heard. For solutions to be sustainable, those directly affected must be full partners in project design and implementation.
- 9 Solidarity and Collaboration** Groups working on similar issues with compatible visions should consciously act in solidarity, mutuality, and support each other’s work. We will treat each other with justice and respect, both on an individual and an organizational level.
- 10 Integrity** Lead Safe Cleveland will operate on the mode of community-centeredness. We must “walk our talk.” We must live out the values that we say we’re struggling for and we must work toward justice, peace, and community.