

LEAD Educator



KERN COUNTY CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

Winter - 2011



Contact Us

Kern County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

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LEAD in the NEWS

Eliminating Childhood Lead Poisoning by 2010

The National Healthy People 2010 set an ambitious goal to eliminate elevated blood lead levels (BLLs) in children by 2010. The California Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch also set the same goal.

CDC's National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, conducted between 1976 and 2002, show a marked decrease in lead exposure of children in the U.S. For example, the prevalence of BLLs ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ among children in the U.S. decreased from 8.6 percent in 1988-1991 to 1.6 percent in 1999-2002, an 81 percent decline. This decline, observed even in groups at high risk for lead poisoning, reflects the impact of strategies followed at the national, state, and local levels, including eliminating lead in gasoline, controlling lead in paint hazards in housing, and improving screening of high-risk groups (CDC 2005).

Now Healthy People 2020 is building on a foundation of three decades of work. In the document listing the topics and objectives, under the Toxics and Waste section of Environmental Health (p. 87), the following on lead was found:

EH-8: Reduce blood lead levels in children.

EH-8.1 Eliminate elevated blood lead levels in children.

Target: Not applicable

Baseline: 0.9 percent of children had elevated blood lead levels in 2005-08.

Data source: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), CDC, NCHS.

EH-8.2 Reduce the mean blood lead levels in children.

Target: 1.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ average blood lead level in children aged 1 to 5 years.

Baseline: Children aged 1 to 5 years had an average blood lead level of 1.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in 2005-08.

Target setting method: 10 percent improvement.

Data source: National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), CDC, NCHS.

Progress has been made even though lead poisoning has not been eliminated. Lead issues are still a concern in the 2020 document. The good news for 2011 is that the state of California Lead Branch will continue to fund the local childhood lead poisoning prevention program for another three years. Perhaps by 2020, the need for lead poisoning programs will show even more gains – or perhaps – even be *eliminated!*

KCDPH CLPPP NEW WEB PAGE ADDRESS

<http://www.kernpublichealth.com/departments/CHDP/kcclp.html>

If you have questions, call the CLPPP Health Educator at 868-0247.

UPDATE

ATTENTION: Health Care Providers

Health Care Providers – please specify which type of **blood test** you want the Physician's Automated Labs (PAL) laboratory to perform on the lab sheet for each child who potentially is lead poisoned.

1. **Venous** or
2. **Capillary**

The local CLPPP needs this information. Thanks for your assistance.

RETIREMENT NEWS



Kathy Van Reusen, Ed.D., Senior Health Educator in the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, is retiring April 22, 2011 after 8 1/2 years at the Public Health Services Department. Kathy started the public health portion of her career in November 2002, after moving to Bakersfield from San Antonio, Texas.

As a public health educator in the lead program, Kathy has developed and presented many programs for parents and professionals in Kern County; developed educational materials; organized Day Care Provider workshops; initiated the publication of the *Lead Educator*; developed new evaluation tools; attended health fairs; coordinated Lead Week activities; and much more. She also worked half time in CHDP.

Kathy's past experience includes being a certified teacher of physical education and health education at the elementary and high school levels; college professor in health and physical education; program coordinator for a public school district; Education Director at Planned Parenthood; test developer for a national health education exam at an educational measurement company; curriculum writer (K-6 diabetes lessons) for a nonprofit agency; consultant in health education for KCSOS; and she was one of the original board members on the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc., in which she assisted in setting up the first national health education credentialing exam for the health education profession. Kathy is also a Certified Health Education Specialist.

Currently, Kathy stays busy as a member of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and has been on the AAUW board for the past two years and was just appointed Membership Chair for 2011-2012.

We wish Kathy a healthy and happy retirement!

All Lead Recalls and other Lead Resources can be found on the **CLPPP web page** (see address at bottom of page 1) and at:

www.cpssc.gov

For **Lead in Candy** information - go to:
www.cdph.ca.gov/data/documents/fdblicic07.pdf

Childhood Lead Poisoning Report Kern County July – December, 2010

Number of New Cases – 1

Number of EBLLs – 147

[4 of these were 15-19 mcg/dl, 20 were 10-14 mcg/dl and 123 were 5-9 mcg/dl]

Primary Source: Chipping and peeling paint