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CITY OF DANBURY

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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Hon. Mark D. Boughton via the Common Council
FROM: Dena Diorio, Director of Finance & Personnel *Dena*
RE: RESOLUTION – VICTIM ADVOCATE LAW ENFORCEMENT PROJECT
DATE: August 22, 2005

Attached for your review is a resolution, which would allow the City of Danbury, Police Department to apply for and accept funding from the Office of Policy and Management. The Danbury Police Department will use this funding to develop a Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Project. The cost of this project would be funded entirely by Federal and State Funding in the amount of \$50,000.00. There would be no local match required.

The Common Council is requested to consider this resolution at its next meeting.

If you have any questions, or require any further information, please contact my office at (203) 797-4652.

Attach.



RESOLUTION

CITY OF DANBURY, STATE OF CONNECTICUT

_____ A. D., 200_

RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Danbury:

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Victim Advocate Law Enforcement Project ("V.A.L.E.") has offered a grant to the City of Danbury in the amount of \$50,000.00; and

WHEREAS, said grant would provide funding for law enforcement to develop a victim advocate law enforcement pilot program in the City of Danbury to focus on improving response to domestic violence crimes, enhancing access to victim services and creating collaborative relationships between victim advocates and police; and

WHEREAS, of the total award of \$50,000.00, the federal match is \$37,500.00 and the State match is \$12,500.00 with no local share required; and

WHEREAS, the proposed period of award will be October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2006.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Mark D. Boughton, Mayor of the City of Danbury or his designee, Alan D. Baker, the Chief of Police be and hereby are authorized to execute a V.A.L.E. Grant Application Form in order to secure the funding for the V.A.L.E. program and to ratify and take all necessary action in furtherance thereof.



PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION
of Connecticut, Inc.

A Healthy
Neighborhood is a Lead
Safe Neighborhood

A Childhood Lead Screening and Lead
Poisoning Prevention Initiative

A Healthy Neighborhood is a Lead Safe Neighborhood: A Childhood Lead Screening and Lead Poisoning Prevention Initiative

Statement of Purpose

The Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc. in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Local Health Municipalities, Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP) and local community partners (i.e. school-based health centers, community health centers, neighborhood coalitions, and managed care organizations, etc.) will implement a multifaceted public health initiative addressing the serious public health problem associated with childhood lead poisoning. This community education and outreach initiative will focus on primary prevention, screening, community education and outreach, case management, hazard identification and remediation, and public health surveillance within high-risk urban neighborhoods in Danbury, Hartford, and Meriden.

Background

Over the past decade, Connecticut has made great strides to reduce the incidence of the most common environmental health problem that affects children today - childhood lead poisoning. In some communities, especially those suffering from poverty and other social disadvantages (e.g. access to healthcare, language barriers, etc.), lead poisoning remains a significant problem, yet this health problem is entirely preventable. However, in Connecticut, only 67,480 children or 25% of children under the age of six are screened for lead poisoning and approximately 1,500 children or 2.2% of those screened are identified with elevated blood lead levels of 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or higher. If only 242 children or 25% of those screened were identified as having a blood lead level of 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or greater, the actionable level that triggers an environmental investigation in Connecticut there could be an additional 750 children who go undiagnosed each year, which costs the state an estimated \$5.5 million in medical care, special education costs, and lost taxable income each year.

Moreover, growing knowledge about the toxicity of lead demonstrates that even levels of lead once thought to be safe can have serious detrimental effects on young children. Exposure to lead is associated with a range of serious health effects on children, including cognitive, behavioral, and developmental problems that can result in serious personal and social consequences that can persist throughout their lifetime. The long-term effects of elevated blood lead levels in children include deficits in IQ, attention deficit disorders, and impairments of fine and gross motor skills.

According to the 2000 Census, Connecticut has 10.2 % of families with children less than five years of age living below the federal poverty level. Poverty is an important

factor related to childhood lead poisoning. Because poverty limits housing choices, available housing for low-income families is generally found in communities with the oldest housing and the most deferred maintenance. As a result, children in these communities are more likely to live in older deteriorated housing with lead paint hazards (the sale of lead-based paint for residential use was banned in 1978).

The Connecticut Department of Public Health conducts surveillance of children tested for lead poisoning as well as demographic, environmental and medical data. In collaboration with the local health departments, healthcare providers and community partners, this information is used to identify high-risk communities as well as to plan and implement appropriate intervention strategies for the targeted high-risk neighborhoods. The Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Program (LAMPP) will support initiatives around housing remediation in the communities where Medicaid (HUSKY A) children are identified as having blood lead levels of concern and lead poisoning.

Implementation Strategies

Universal Blood Lead Screening Program

The Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc. will work in collaboration with the Connecticut Department of Public Health, local health municipalities, healthcare providers and community partners (i.e. school-based health centers, community health centers, neighborhood coalitions, and managed care organizations, etc.) to provide outreach and prevention education activities to organizations that support and serve the members of the selected communities. The program is designed to provide preventative environmental health services to targeted geographic areas that have demonstrated an elevated risk for lead exposure and lead poisoning.

A team of public health professionals who will have expertise in community health will be assembled and trained to conduct blood lead level screenings and outreach/education in pre-identified high-risk neighborhoods in the three urban cities. This team will utilize a portable LeadCare Blood Lead Testing System that is recognized as an accurate, simple and quick field tool for blood lead screening. As part of the initiative's community outreach effort, the public health professionals will conduct blood lead screenings and provide education about control measures, proper cleaning products and practices while educating parents on the effects of lead and lead poisoning.

The public health professionals will provide environmental risk assessments, education to family members on health effects of lead and lead poisoning and proper control measures, and case management follow-up services as needed. In addition, families will be referred to Lead Safe Housing (as appropriate), Healthcare for Uninsured Kids and Youth Program (HUSKY), Women, Infant and Children Program (WIC), LAMPP training programs and other necessary resources. Follow-up will include referral to the

individual's primary provider or a community health center, and LAMPP for an environmental risk assessment, home lead inspection, and assistance with remediation.

Public Awareness Campaign

Collaborating with the DPH Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Program, a yearlong awareness campaign will be conducted that incorporates creation and distribution of multi-lingual educational materials, the strategic placement of newspaper educational advertisements and radio public service announcements. In addition, the Public Health Foundation of Connecticut, Inc. working in partnership with the Connecticut Department of Public Health will issue press releases and post to their website information on the "A Healthy Neighborhood is a Lead Safe Neighborhood" Initiative.

Lead-Safe Work Practices for Painting, Remodeling, and Maintenance training and Hazard Remediation Support (Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention Project (LAMPP))

LAMPP will conduct a training program that teaches professional painters, renovators, and remodelers and property owners how to protect themselves, as well as residents and their families from the hazards of lead poisoning. It will also introduce peer-to-peer technical assistance focus groups pertinent to the needs and concerns of housing coalitions. In addition, LAMPP will support initiatives around housing remediation in communities where Medicaid children with lead exposure are identified with the initial focus being on children with BLLs 10 – 19 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. The goal is to intervene before the child reaches the actionable BLL of 20 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$.

1 Year Outcomes

1. Hire an outreach worker or identify an existing staff member to provide blood lead screening, case management, educational outreach, and promote initiatives around housing remediation in the target community.
2. Offer 100% of parents with children under the age of six identified with blood lead levels (BLLs) $\geq 10 \mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ in the target neighborhood a home visit to provide education and identify possible lead hazards. Of the families contacted, it is estimated that 65% will participate and receive an outreach/educational home visit from the Lead Action for Medicaid Primary Prevention (LAMPP) and implement interim measures to reduce risk of exposure from lead hazards.
3. 100% of children under the age of six, but especially one and two-year olds who have never been screened, will be offered a free blood lead screening test. It is estimated that 75% of all children who have never been screened will be tested.
4. Identify existing resources within the community and obstacles to health care access.

5. Partner with community agencies and faith-based organizations within the community.
6. Educate the public and health professionals about prevention, early detection, and treatment of childhood lead poisoning.
7. Identify gaps in awareness and conduct pre- and post-initiative focus group testing to demonstrate an increased awareness of the prevention, identification, health effects, and treatment of childhood lead poisoning.
8. Provide case management services for children with elevated blood lead levels.
9. Provide the necessary local health department services for the remediation of identified sources of lead in the child's home.
10. Provide public health guidance and educational materials to pediatric healthcare providers about the medical management of children with elevated blood lead levels.
11. Provide lead-safe interim housing in some communities for families of children being treated for an elevated blood lead level of $20\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or greater while the lead hazards in their environments are abated.
12. Provide Lead-Safe Work Practices training for property owners, renovators, remodelers, painters, and others to safely and effectively work with lead-based paint in residences.