

Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake

Grant Application



Eligibility

Applicants must be members of The United States Conference of Mayors and must complete and submit the attached application by April 21, 2006. Applications must be postmarked no later than the April 21, 2006 deadline.

The Awards

- One Award for Excellence: \$175,000
- Two Awards for Distinction: \$100,000
- Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake Best Practice Award

How To Apply

Applicants to CUSP's 2006 *Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake* grant program must complete the attached application form and submit it along with an executive summary describing the proposed program no later than Friday, April 21, 2006. The executive summary should be no more than 750 words and should outline how you propose to develop new programs to further the goal of making your city lead-safe. We are especially interested in hearing how you plan to maximize the impact of this grant money through public/private partnerships and other creative leveraging approaches.

Application Evaluation

In evaluating entries, program judges will look for information addressing such critical components as:

- Nature and extent of need
- Strategies to leverage funding
- Other innovative program elements

Judges

An independent panel of judges will review the applications and select the winners for CUSP's *Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake* grants.

Presentation of Grants

CUSP's *Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake* grants and Best Practice Awards will be presented at The U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting June 2-6 in Las Vegas.

Key Dates

April 21, 2006: Grant applications due. For the integrity of the competition, APPLICATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 21, 2006. NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DEADLINE.

June 2006: Grant awards will be presented at The U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting in Las Vegas.

Responsibility of Winners

If you plan to participate in the *Lead-Safe...for Kids' Sake* grant program, please keep in mind that mayors from cities chosen for the Award for Excellence and Awards for Distinction grants must attend The U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting June 2-6 in Las Vegas. All winning applications will be featured on the official CUSP Web site www.cusponline.org and the USCM Web site www.usmayors.org.

GARY BECKER

NAME OF MAYOR - THE HONORABLE

730 WASHINGTON AVENUE, RACINE WI 53403

CITY HALL ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)

262-636-9104

MAYOR'S TELEPHONE

262-636-9570

MAYOR'S FAX

MARCIA J. FERNHOLZ

CITY CONTACT NAME

730 WASHINGTON AVENUE

ADDRESS (STREET, CITY, STATE, ZIP)

262-636-9496

TELEPHONE

262-636-9165

FAX

marcia.fernholz@cityofracine.org

EMAIL

CUSP will send a postcard to acknowledge receipt of your application.

All awards correspondence will be sent to designated city contacts only.

Send application materials to:

Jade Floyd
Managing Director, CUSP
The U.S. Conference of Mayors
1620 Eye Street, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006

P: 202-466-7324

E: jfloyd@usmayors.org

Nature and Extent of Need

The City of Racine, Wisconsin is located on the shores of Lake Michigan 20 miles south of Milwaukee, WI and 75 miles north of Chicago, IL. The 2000 census population for Racine was 81,855. Racine's mayor is committed to protecting Racine children from the harmful effects of lead.

Racine Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Mission Statement:

By the year 2010, childhood lead poisoning will be eliminated as a major public health problem in the City of Racine.

City of Racine children have a high risk of lead poisoning due to the age of the housing stock and the significant number of children living in poverty. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) state that children from all social and economic levels can be affected by lead poisoning, but children living at or below the poverty line who live in older housing are at greatest risk. According to the 2000 Census, approximately 23% of Racine children age 0-5 years are living in poverty, 68% of Racine's housing units were built prior to 1950, and low-income renters occupy 27% of the pre-1950 housing units. Statistics show that African American and Hispanic children are disproportionately affected by lead (9.4% of African American, 5.5% of Hispanic vs. 2.3 % of white). Geographic mapping of lead poisoned children in Racine shows that children who live in the inner city, where the older housing stock is located, are more likely to be lead poisoned. In 2005, 178 children were identified with blood lead levels (BLL) ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$. Racine data from 2005 indicate that 5.2% of children tested were lead poisoned (BLL ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$). This is down from 5.6% of children tested in 2002 and a substantial decrease from 1999 (11.4%), 2000 (8.7%), and 2001 (7.7%). However, when compared to the 1999-2000 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey's estimate that 1.6% of children aged 1-5 years had blood lead levels (BLLs) ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$, Racine has more than triple this rate.

Our current services focus on providing comprehensive services to children who are already poisoned. If we are to achieve the goal of eliminating lead poisoning as a major environmental threat to our children, we must *expand* our focus and educational efforts to **prevent** children from becoming poisoned. In order to expand our efforts, it is imperative that we get into the community and work with tenants and landlords in our most vulnerable neighborhoods to eliminate lead hazards **before** children are poisoned.

Program Elements

Funding from the CUSP Lead-Safe ...For Kids' Sake would allow us to expand our primary prevention efforts. Funding would enable us to provide an outreach team that will identify high risk housing (pre 1950) in the most vulnerable neighborhoods, as identified by geographic mapping of lead poisoned children, and conduct education and risk assessments of rental or owner occupied housing units where children less than age 6 reside.

The outreach team will:

- Offer lead testing for children ages 1-5
- Provide a risk assessment to identify lead hazards in at risk housing
- Provide education, instruction and demonstration of cleaning techniques used to reduce lead dust from windows or other hazardous areas. HEPA vacuums will be used to assist in cleaning and removing immediate lead hazards (paint chips and dust from window areas) that are accessible to children. Cleaning kits consisting of a mop, broom, dustpan, shop towels, bucket, all purpose cleaner and hand soap will be provided to families as well as use of a HEPA vacuum to thoroughly clean the home.
- Provide a consultation and review of the risk assessment findings with the landlord or homeowner to develop a plan to eliminate lead hazards from the property.
- Collaborate with existing housing rehabilitation and lead hazard reduction programs already in place to assist owners/landlords in eliminating lead hazards from the property. Clearance testing will also be conducted to assure a safe environment.

We must accept the challenge to address lead hazards one property at a time until all Racine children are safe from lead. We must focus our efforts on the highest risk children and housing. We are on track to meet the challenge to eliminate lead poisoning in Racine by 2010 but need financial assistance to accomplish this important task. Thank you for the opportunity to make a difference in protecting our most precious resource - our children.