

# CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROMOTION PROGRAM





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Environmental Health Branch September 15, 2025



POPULATION HEALTH DIVISION

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

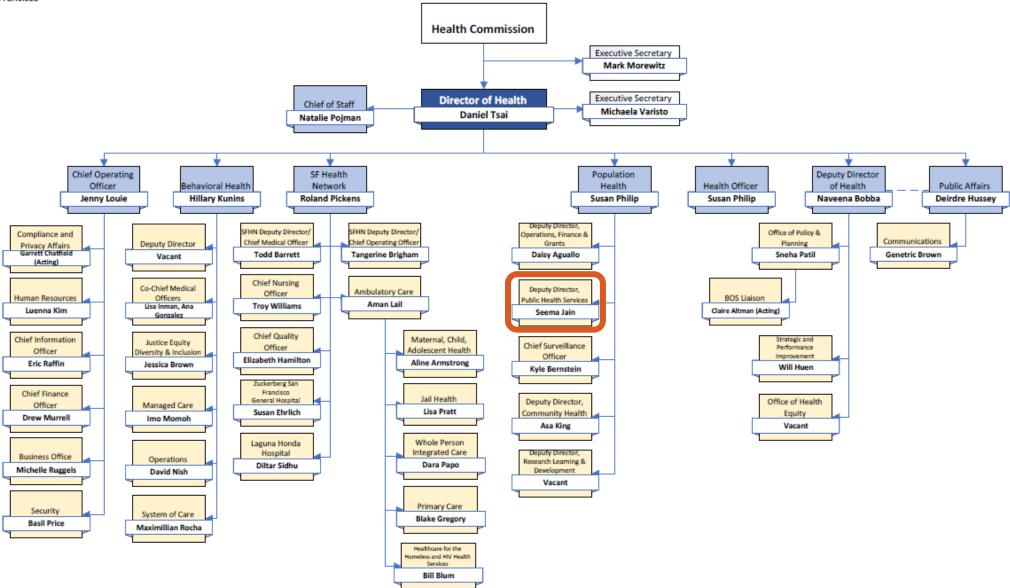
### Agenda

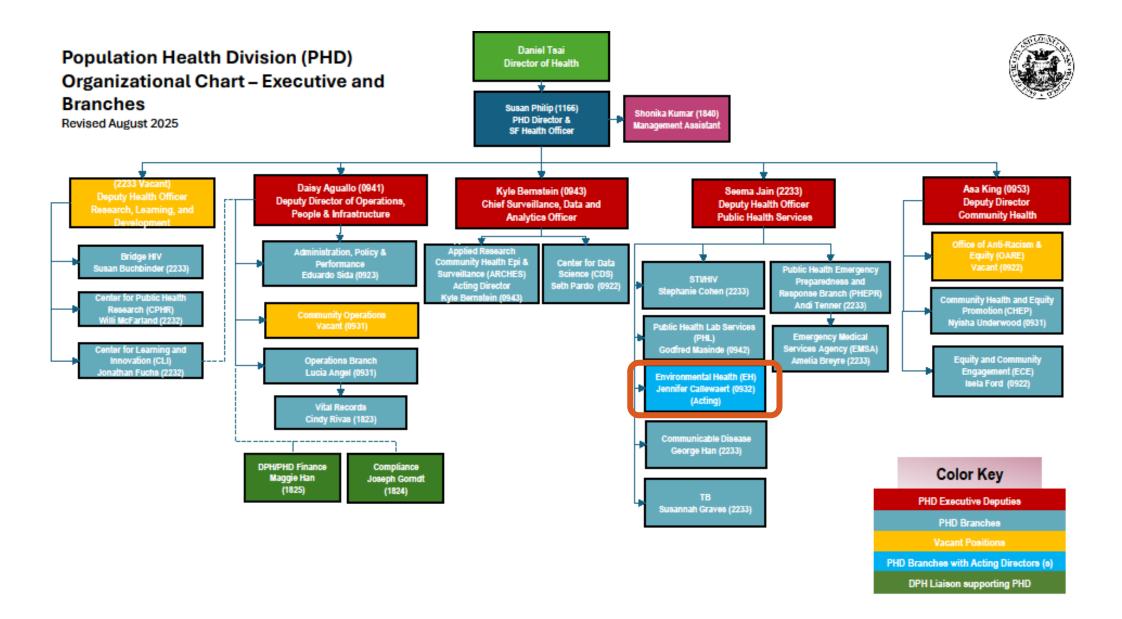
- Organizational Charts
- Need for the Children's Environmental Health Promotion Program
- Prevention Activities (risk reduction)
  - Case management (prevent further poisoning)
  - Education (increase awareness)
    - Family, Community, Providers
  - Embracing Health and Safety of Kids Program (EHSk)
  - Inspections (hazard finding)
  - Fix Lead SF (fixing hazards)
- Ongoing and future projects













### Program Overview: The Work We Do

### **California Dept. of Public Health Grant**

### Workplan of Prevention Activities

- Outreach and Education
- Environmental Investigation
- Case Management
- Data Management



#### Staff:

- Administrators
- Public Health Nurse

- **Embracing Health and Safety of Kids (EHSk) Program** 
  - Holistic environmental home inspection
  - Social determinants of health (includes more than just lead poisoning hazards) assessment
  - Community Partner Referrals

### **Fix Lead SF (settlement funds)**

- Outreach
- Lead hazard remediation
- Inspectors
- Health Educators



### History of Lead Poisoning Prevention

- Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program and Environmental Health
- 1960- CDC level of concern declared 60 ug/dL
- 1970- SFDPH began responding to individual cases of lead poisoning
- 1978- Banned lead-base paint in residential properties
- 1990- Mandatory blood lead level (BLL) reporting
- 1992- Article 26 of the San Francisco Health Code
- 2001- SF Health Code Declared Lead Hazard as Public Nuisance
- 2023- CDC level of concern declared to 3.5 ug/dL



### The Lead Problem

77% of San Francisco housing was built pre-1980

#### **Health effects**

### Developmental and Endocrine Disorders:

- Affects to growth, height, weight
- Fertility issues

### Neurodegenerative Issues

- Effects of chronic diseases later in life
- Hearing loss
- Potentially greater risk of neurodegenerative diseases in later life

### Learning and Behavioral Issues:

- Decreased Intelligence Quotient (IQ)
- Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)
- Behavioral Disorders



There is no safe level of lead in the body.

### How we connect with families

### Blood lead level reporting

- Medical providers
- Laboratories
- California Department of Public Health CDPH-Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch (CLPPB)

#### Self- Referrals

- Families with children less than 6 without a blood lead test results
- Pregnant women

### Partnerships:

- DPH partners: Women, Infant and Children (WIC) participant outreach
  - July 2022, 1,598 text messages sent to zip code 94112
  - January 2024, 951 text messages sent to zip code 94124
- External partners

WIC: Nominate your landlord to get lead poisoning dangers out of your home. No/low cost! Share information for your landlord using one of the ways below:

Text: <u>415-758-2347</u> Call: <u>415-252-3882</u>

Email: fixleadsf@sfdph.org



# Prevention Activities Through Medical Support

Case management is the medical coordination of services to prevent further lead poisoning

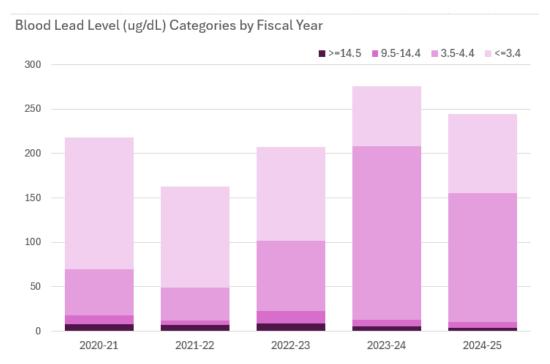
Who: Public health nurse services children with elevated blood leads

What: Coordination and delivery of case management services

#### **Benefits:**

- Ensure families do not fall through
- Blood lead testing reminders
- Advocate for services on behalf of the families served
- Educate families to prevent further lead poisoning

**Partnerships**: Refer to community and government programs as needed for additional services.





# Prevention Activities Through Community Outreach

- Community presentations to local community-based organizations
- Health fairs and community events throughout San Francisco
- Mailing Outreach: Word on Lead Newsletter (~34,000 copies) and Provider Mailing (~700 medical providers)



# Embracing Health and Safety of Kids (EHSk) Program

Partnership with key agencies that work with families with children under 6 years old:

DPH partners: Maternal Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH), WIC, SF General Hospital Pediatric Social Workers, Southeast Family Health Center-Environmental Health Clinic

External partners: UCSF Pediatric Social Workers, UCSF Health Advocates, Wu Yee, Mission Neighborhood Center, Kai Ming, Head Start

- An equitable pathway to access environmental health services
- Holistic home visits
  - Lead hazards, mold, pests, structural damage, no heat, and other environmental hazards
- One-on-one tailored health education
- Social determinants of health questionnaire
- Referrals to community and government agencies as needed



### Prevention Through Inspectional Activities

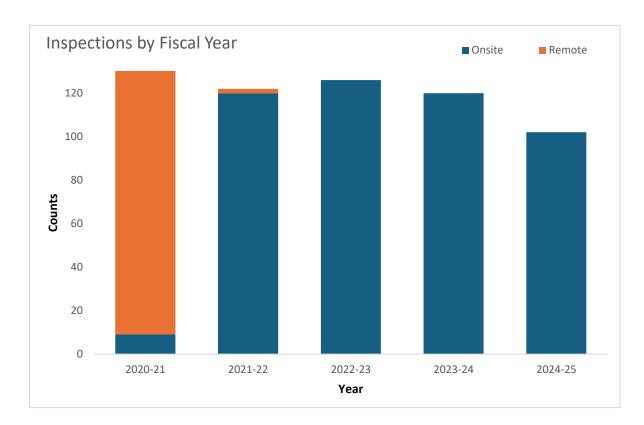
# Inspection is the key remedy to lead poisoning

Who: Upon request, families with children <6 yrs old + pregnant mom

What: Identify sources of lead

Consequences: Notification to property owner to fix hazards. Progressive enforcement program utilizing the San Francisco Health Code.

Partnership: Department of Building Inspection





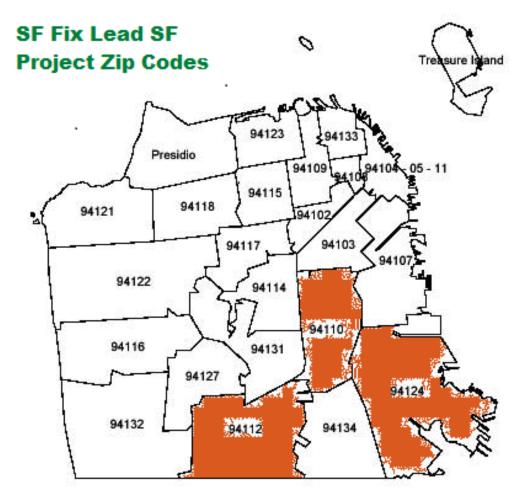
### Prevention Activities—Fix Lead SF

### Unique program

- Settlement funds
- Type of work
- Collaboration

### Targeted program

- Eligible zip codes
- Specific eligibility for homes
- Scope of remediation





# Fix Lead SF- Program Challenges

### Tenants' challenges

- Children show no symptoms
- Lack of affordable housing
- Illegal tenancy
- Immigration status

### Property owner's challenges

- Don't want to admit there's lead in the home
- Fear of how hard it is to work with the City
- Fear of the City seeing other unpermitted work

### Outreach changing

- Assuring the public that it is not a scam
- Directed towards property owners
- Ensuring proper wording





### Prevention Activities—Fix Lead SF



100 windows replaced, 185 interior windowsills stripped, 44 doors replaced, door/door jamb for 123 doors stripped across 30 projects

# **Upcoming Projects**

- Lead Week: October 19th-25th, 2025
- Fall 2025 Word on Lead Newsletter
- Muni campaign October-December
- Chinese media outreach
- Renewal of CDPH contract



#### Older Homes + Damaged Paint = Lead Hazards

Lead is often invisible but exposure can affect your child's learning and development

We can help fix those lead hazards!

Lead Hazards

affect your child's learning and

development

#### Casas antiguas + Pintura dañada = Peligros del plomo

El plomo es invisible, pero la exposición puede afectar el aprendizaje v desarrollo de su hijo, ¡Podemos ayudar a remediar los peligros del plomo en su vivienda sin costo! Para aprender si es elegible llame a Fix Lead SF al (415) 252-3882

#### 老舊房屋 + 油漆破損 = 鉛危害

Mga Lumang Tahanan + Sirang Pintura = Mga Panganib ng Tingga

Ang tingga ay kadalasang hindi nakikita ngunit ang pagkakahantad sa tingga ay maaaring makaapekto sa pag-aaral at paglaki ng inyong anak Maaari kaming tumulong ayusin ang mga panganib ng tinggang iyon! Tumawag sa Fix Lead SF (415) 252-3882 upang malaman kung nararapa sa pondo ng lungsod upang mabawasan ang panganib sa tingga



Call Fix Lead SF at (415) 252-3882 to learn about eligibility for funding to reduce lead dangers

#### Casas antiguas + Pintura dañada = Peligros del plomo

El plomo es invisible, pero la exposición puede afectar el aprendizaje y desarrollo de su hijo. Comuníquese con el Programa de la Salud Ambiental de los Niños para obtener información sobre como

斜涌堂是肉眼看不見的, 但接觸到鉛金影樂孩子的學習和發展

#### Mga Lumang Tahanan + Sirang Pintura = Mga Panganib ng Tingg

Ang tingga ay kadalasang hindi nakikita ngunit ang pagkakahantad sa ingga ay maaaring makaapekto sa pag-aaral at paglaki ng inyong anak Makipag-ugnayan sa Children's Environmental Health Promotion rogram (Programa ng Pagpapalaganap ng Kalusugang Pangkapaligiran ng mga Bata) upang matuto nang higit na tungkol sa pagkakalason sa tingga sa pamamagitan ng pagtawag sa 415-252-3800

Contact the Children's Environmental Health Promotion Program to learn more about lead poisoning by calling 415-252-3800



舊金山公共衛生局(SFDPH)近日呼籲老屋



數日。衛生局將提供並支付臨時安置住房 費用,以保障健康與安全。







# THANK YOU!



cehpp@sfdph.org 415-252-3800

sf.gov/prevent-lead-poisoning-young-children



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