

Springfield Healthy Homes, 9/19/17

Attendees: Margaret Curran (MA Fair Housing Center), Robbin Jones (Springfield Office of Housing), John Lawrence (DPH), Neel Abdul Hameed (SHHC), Joni Beck Brewer (Square One), Amanda Hanley (Habitat for Humanity), Jenniefer Murphy (YWCA- Workforce Development), Keleigh Waldner (PHC), Jennifer Chacon (Square One), John Fisher (Way Finders), Lauren Willett (Revitalize CDC), Sarah Page (Way Finders), Linda Dube (DPH- CLPPP), Nigel Greaves (Springfield Office of Housing), Debi Sas (Eversource), Michele Hart (Baystate), Linda Soucy (Columbia Gas), Bedel Omar (East African Cultural Center), Sarita Hudson (PHC), Myles Callender (Revitalize CDC)

Upcoming Trainings

- Construction Training for under-employed and unemployed individuals in fall
- Lead Training (lead-safe supervisor and lead-safe worker) for income-qualified contractors
- Healthy Homes Rating System- October 4-5
- Hoarding Conference- October 18
- Visit SHHC website for more details

Updates to Service Eligibility Grid & Resource List

- PHC has been taking the lead. Organizations need to inform PHC if program information changes. Update quarterly or semi-annually.
- E-mail Sarita/Keleigh with updates

New Lead Law

- Regulation that decreases the lead blood level for lead poisoning (from 25 to 10) will go into effect on December 1st.

Housing Code Revision and Hearing

- Hearing in Northampton on October 4th regarding state sanitary code
- Talking points- mechanical ventilation and IPM
 - Many concerns about skylight removal. It seems like it may be an error in the talking points and that Skylights do not need to be removed; rather, they cannot qualify as ventilation. Sarita to follow-up.
- Discussion around expense of installing mechanical ventilation. Some estimate that it is around \$500.00 to install mechanical ventilation, but it really depends on how the bathroom is constructed.
 - Are there any resources or assistance programs to help with cost?
- A sign-on letter will be circulated
- Finding housing without mold is a big issue per Maggie from Fair Housing Center
- Committee discussed idea of Healthy Homes Registry System. CHAPA has a registry for wheelchair accessible units-we could potentially build off of that existing registry. How can you

compel landlords to register- they need to know what is in it for them. Per DPH, the Lead Registry system has been successful- landlords want their properties listed on there as being de-leaded.

Outreach and Education Meeting

Lead Poisoning Prevention Week in October

- Need a few people to figure out what the strategy will be; how to get the word out about different programs/resources; any specific things you want promoted?
 - Jennifer
- Linda D. from DPH can do announcement or something
- Mass Fair Housing would probably be interested in terms of tenant rights
- Parent workshop through parent's center at Square One on 28th 5:00-7:00? Will circulate flyer to mailing list. Landlord and Tenant Rights and Responsibilities.

Other Outreach and Education

- Discussion around how to leverage existing/reoccurring meetings and events. If anyone has events/meetings where they want a healthy homes component, please let Sarita know.
- What about lead education for adults? Per Linda Dube, it's more of an occupational risk for adults. Shooting ranges and water are also an issue. As adults, we don't do as much hand to mouth exposure as kids. John doesn't know of any lead tests for adults, but brain is still developing in to 20s.
- Status of Springfield Office of Housing's Healthy Homes Program: They have 34 applications in hand, in varying degrees of completion. Nigel is working with them to complete application and qualify applicants. All projects need environmental review, which takes about 30 days.

Next Steps

- Sarita/Keleigh will circulate correct information for construction trainings, info on tenant/landlord rights workshop, and post on SHHC website
- Everyone to e-mail Sarita/Keleigh program information or any other updates to service eligibility grid and resource guide
- Sarita to get more information about housing code talking points, particularly confusion around skylights
- Keleigh to follow-up on Healthy Homes registry idea
- Keleigh to follow-up on lead exposure for adults, what research exists?