

Lead and Its Effects on Children and the Community

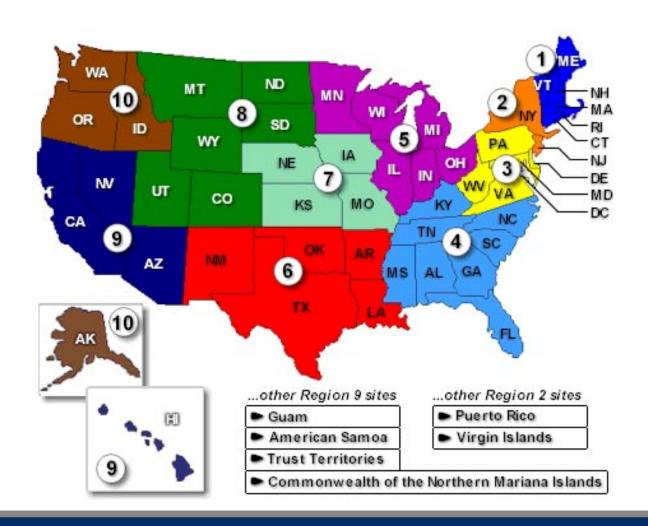
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GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

PEHSU Regions











• Goals: Provide consultation/referral and outreach/education with a focus on children and reproductive environmental health

LEAD POISONING

Very common, very significant environmental health problem for children









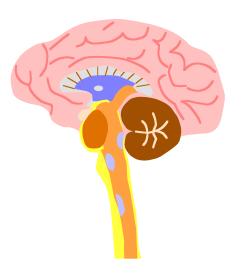
RESIDENTIAL EXPOSURES

Lead



Health Effects of Lead

- Damage to the brain and nervous system
- Behavior and learning problems
 - Hyperactivity
 - Poor impulse control
 - Violence
 - Lower IQ
- Delayed growth and puberty
- Hearing problems
- Headaches
- Kidney problems
- Increased risk of hypertension in adulthood
- Greater chance of failure to graduate high school

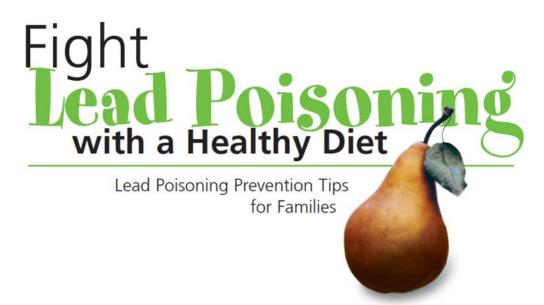


Primary Prevention is the Only
Appropriate Approach to the
Resolution of the
Lead Poisoning Problem

CHWs address barriers to Healthy Homes







- Have families get their homes tested for lead
- Pregnant women residing in houses built before 1978 should not initiate home renovations



Lead in Soil: English and Spanish



Early educational interventions for children with developmental delays or disabilities have been shown to **greatly increase that child's progress**, especially when the child is allowed to **remain in a classroom setting** amongst their peers!

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

Summary

- Lead can cause learning and behavior problems.
- A lead test is the only way to know if a child has lead poisoning.
- Recognize that the sources of lead exposure are widespread and variable.
- Nutritional interventions can reduce long term impacts

Thank you!

