

Childhood Lead Poisoning Still Hurts Kids



Childhood lead poisoning is still a concern in Kent County. In 2012, more than 700 kids had more lead in their bodies than is considered safe by the Center for Disease Control. Lead poisoning causes brain damage and keeps kids from learning and succeeding in school and life.

Are the Children You Serve at Risk?

The biggest risk to children is lead-based paint in older homes.

- ? Do the children you serve live in older homes?
- ? Do they live in the city of Grand Rapids?
- ? Are parents renovating their homes?
- ? Is their housing distressed and is there peeling or chipping paint in the home?

If you answered "yes" to **any** of these questions, these children are at risk.

Support is available!
Call (616) 241-3300





Protect Your Kids from Lead



Encourage or require parents to get their child a lead test.

- ✓ Children should be tested until age five, and especially at one and two years of age.
- ✓ Medicaid and insurance reimburse, so children should be referred to their primary care provider.
- ✓ WIC tests children free in Kent County.
- ✓ Less than 60% of children who should be tested are getting tested.



Promote safe housing.

- ✓ Make sure homes are in good repair.
- ✓ Refer families for home repair support.
- ✓ Report peeling paint and hazards to code enforcement.



Get training.

- ✓ Learn more about lead poisoning, how it impacts kids, community resources, and how you can help.

To learn about testing kids, promoting safe housing or training opportunities, call Healthy Homes today!

(616) 241-3300

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