

Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the Omaha Lead Site

Repository Subcommittee
Summary Notes from April 12th, 2004 Conference Call

Dr. Donna Polk-Primm (Nebraska Urban Indian Health Coalition), Siobhan Blackwell (Creighton University), Don Bahnke (EPA), Jennifer Rawley (MFG, Inc.), and Stacy Meacham (MFG, Inc.) spoke via phone regarding repositories for the Omaha Lead Site.

Currently, EPA has established repositories at the W. Dale Clark Library (Downtown), the Washington Branch (28th and Ames Avenue), and the South Branch (23rd and M Street). It was suggested that in addition to these, EPA establish several “partial” repositories throughout the site. Suggested locations for the partial repositories included the Chicano Awareness Center, local churches, Charles Drew Health Center, One World Community Health Organization, and locations accessed by Sudanese and Native American community members. In addition, it was suggested that EPA establish a partial repository at the Willa Cather Library Branch (located at 44th and Center Streets) to make information available to people on the western edge of the site.

It was suggested that only key documents be made available to the public at the partial repositories, versus everything from the Administrative Record. It was also suggested that EPA include at these locations a binder with fact sheets regarding the site and lead exposure and also an index summarizing what information and documents are available at the full repositories. Such an index does not currently exist, and it was further suggested that EPA complete this and place copies at the existing repositories. It was suggested that fact sheets be developed in Arabic and Neur, with referral numbers if additional information is desired.

There was discussion regarding how the public would be notified of the existing and new repositories. Currently, EPA advertises its repositories via the Omaha World-Herald and a site mailing list. Suggestions for increasing notification included creating flyers to post at grocery stores, churches, and other places people frequent and creating an electronic kiosk with lead information. The Subcommittee agreed to provide EPA with a recommended list of area organizations and businesses to which flyers could be distributed.

There was discussion regarding whether or not EPA would place CAG materials into the established repositories. It was agreed that in order to prevent confusion as to who

provided the information, the CAG would create separate binders to submit to the repositories. Therefore, the materials submitted by the CAG will be separate from the materials provided by EPA. To make access more convenient for the public, the CAG materials will be located at the same library branches and in the same location within the libraries as EPA materials. CAG materials are also available online at www.olscag.com.

The Subcommittee agreed to the following:

1. The Subcommittee will request that the CAG provide copies of CAG meeting materials to the existing repositories (W. Dale Clark, Washington, and South Branch libraries), in binders sorted by meeting date.
2. The Subcommittee will suggest that the CAG consider locating funding, perhaps through a grant, to create an information kiosk, similar to kiosks found at Albertson's, Goodwill, and Home Depot.
3. The Subcommittee will prepare a list of locations at which the CAG would like EPA to establish partial repositories. Once given the list, EPA will establish the repositories and include educational materials and fact sheets at these locations.
4. EPA will produce an annotated index of materials in the existing repositories and place copies at all current and future repository sites.
5. EPA will advertise the existing repositories and the newly created partial repositories at grocery stores and other frequently visited locations. The Subcommittee will provide EPA with a list of suggested locations.