

Community Advisory Group (CAG) for the Omaha Lead Site

**Education Committee
Summary Notes from January 10, 2006 Meeting
Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office**

The following people were in attendance at the Education Committee meeting:

Name	Affiliation
Sue Casteel	ATSDR
Kathy Leinenkugel	Douglas County Health Department Lead Program
Jennifer Rawley	MFG, Inc.
Joyce Stevens	City of Omaha Planning Department
Che Thompson	Lead Safe Omaha Coalition
Marian Todd	City of Omaha Planning Department
Vernon Waldren	Douglas/Sarpy County Extension

Ms. Todd began the Education Committee meeting by providing an update on the City's lead program. Ms. Todd stated that the new program is now in existence and that a new flyer has been created for the program. Ms. Todd stated that the only change in the program is that the age requirement has been changed from "children six years of age and under" to "children under age six." Ms. Todd stated that owner-occupied daycares and rental properties with a child present are eligible for the program, in addition to single-family homes with a child present. Ms. Todd stated that owners of rental properties are responsible for applying and must agree to affirmatively market the property to families with a child over a five year period, in addition to income qualifications. Ms. Todd added that Ms. Stevens will provide one-on-one education during closure of a property, including education for landlords.

Ms. Todd explained that the City's grant includes \$20,000 for activities targeting high-risk families. Ms. Todd would like the Committee's assistance in determining the best use of the funds.

Ms. Thompson asked how many units will the program provide for, what the geographical restrictions are, and if there is a bid process for workers. Ms. Todd answered that the program will provide for activities at approximately 210 units. Ms. Todd stated that the program pertains to certain zip codes, unless a child has a blood lead level of 40 µg/dL or higher, at which point the family qualifies regardless of zip code. Ms. Todd stated that the bid process is open and will remain open.

Ms. Todd stated that an agreement with EPA for the City to provide interior cleaning and exterior paint removal is in place, but much remains unresolved, including wage issues and criteria for exterior paint activities. Ms. Leinenkugel expressed concern that she has heard mixed responses to whether or not EPA will only stabilize paint on a portion of the house if only one quadrant of the yard was replaced. Ms. Todd stated that a debate continues at EPA Region 7 regarding whether paint should be addressed at all. Ms. Thompson stated that there is no reason to spend so much money on soil replacement if the paint issue is not addressed because the yards will be recontaminated from the paint.

The Committee then discussed ongoing plan for Lead Week. The Committee agreed that they would like to have a front page article in the OPS newsletter. Ms. Leinenkugel and Ms. Casteel agreed to work on creating an article for submittal by March 22, 2006 to appear in the April issue.

Ms. Waldren reported that the Omaha Home and Garden Show will be held February 9-12, 2006 and the Omaha Home and Builders Show will be held March 23-26, 2006. Mr. Waldren agreed to find out availability and pricing of booths.

Ms. Casteel stated that she is working with Ms. Leinenkugel to assemble educational packages and will bring a sample to show the Committee.

Ms. Stevens stated that pursuing the landlord association would be too difficult. Ms. Stevens stated that she will contact neighborhood associations instead.

Ms. Stevens reported that she spoke with Mr. Tom Pettigrew. Ms. Stevens reported that a paint-a-thon will be held April 29, 2006. Mr. Pettigrew shared with Ms. Stevens that Lead-Safe Work Practices will be used and that he would like to assist with Lead Week in any way. Ms. Thompson suggested posting signs in the yards of the paint-a-thon homes stating the Lead-Safe Work Practices are being implemented. Ms. Todd stated that the paint-a-thon could serve as an example for the community. Ms. Stevens stated that she would follow-up with Mr. Pettigrew.

Ms. Leinenkugel stated that she would look into the possibility of including inserts in insurance company mailings to Medicaid families.

The next Education Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 14, 2006 at 1:30 p.m. at the Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Office located at 8015 W. Center Road.