

# **Community Advisory Group (CAG)**

## **for the**

# **Omaha Lead Site**

**Education Subcommittee**  
**Summary Notes from August 30, 2004 Meeting**  
**MFG, Inc. Office**

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Sue Casteel, Jonah Deppe, Connie Determan, Trent Erickson, Katy Spellerberg, and Vernon Waldren met to discuss an education and outreach plan.

As a result of an action item from the August 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, a lead display was created by MFG, Inc. The display consisted of three parts: lead sources, lead educational materials, and lead educational materials for children. Citing a difference between educational and promotional materials, Mr. Vernon requested that the title of two of the parts be called “Lead Educational and Promotional Materials” and “Lead Educational and Promotional Materials for Children”.

The group suggested that additional materials be added to the display (if they are able to be located) including an old window, tea leaves from Mexico, a bottle of dirt, a bean pot, a lead bullet, solder, rose or plant fertilizer, a computer, candles with metal wicks, imported crayons, pool cue chalk, and a lead pipe. It was also suggested that materials discussing the Omaha Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Program be requested from Ms. Marian Todd.

Ms. Deppe asked how lead education would be distributed throughout the community. She described how ClearCorps used a door-to-door system where trained workers would go to a residence and identify potential lead sources, workers would then educate the occupants of the residence on the hazards, and then the residence would be remediated. This would all occur in a single visit to the residence.

Mr. Waldren and Mr. Erickson discussed a project that Douglas/Sarpy County Extension was undertaking with Habitat for Humanity and Holy Name Church. The project consisted of landscaping residential yards to reduce lead exposures from soil to people and to encourage water conservation. Mr. Waldren and Mr. Erickson cited that this project also included lead education.

The draft educational program submitted to the education subcommittee by Mr. Waldren was discussed. Ms. Determan explained that this program was a draft that should be submitted to other subcommittees for their input. The group concurred with Ms. Determan. Ms. Deppe asked if focus groups should be addressed as part of the program. Mr. Waldren stated that focus groups were not included as part of the program because focus groups determine if there is an issue at a site and it has already been established there is a lead issue in Omaha. Ms. Deppe stated that a logic model, such as that used by ATSDR, should be used as part of the education program. Ms. Casteel suggested educating the CAG about use of a logic model by presenting an example of this

to the CAG, and then the CAG could decide whether or not to use a logic model. The group concurred with Ms. Casteel.

Funding issues were discussed. Mr. Waldren explained that the draft educational program addressed needs within the Omaha Lead Site and not funding. Ms. Casteel stated that EPA may be ready to distribute more funds for an education program once a program is submitted to the agency. Ms. Deppe stated that Governor Johanns wants the state matching funds to go to health education as part of a comprehensive remediation plan for the Omaha Lead Site. Mr. Waldren asked how to proceed with the educational program. Ms. Determan suggested conducting a survey to target populations to educate on lead. Ms. Determan also stressed providing more “user friendly” information to the community. Ms. Deppe suggested asking social service agencies to help develop materials. Mr. Waldren recommended targeting neighborhood associations within the Omaha Lead Site. Ms. Deppe suggested contacting Diedre Andrews in order to get north Omaha neighborhoods involved in the program.

Mr. Waldren then asked if an action plan should be included in the draft educational program. Ms. Determan suggested developing informational materials for the community and making contacts within the community. She stated that Rebecca Valdez is interested in helping with an educational program. Ms. Casteel said that ATSDR could have materials customized for the Omaha Lead Site developed and the educational subcommittee could distribute the materials. Ms. Casteel added that a toll-free hotline was not going to be implemented by ATSDR for the Omaha Lead Site. However, the ATSDR Atlanta office would take calls for the Omaha Lead Site and provide messages to Ms. Casteel for her to answer.

The group agreed to provide comments on the draft educational program to Mr. Waldren by September 7, 2004.

The next education subcommittee meeting will be held on September, 14, 2004, at 1:00pm at Mr. Waldren’s office located at 8015 W. Center Road. ATSDR health education personnel from Atlanta, Georgia will participate in the meeting by conference call.