



## Did You Know?

- Exposure to lead-based paint can be harmful to children and adults.
- 75% of the homes built before 1979 contain some lead-based paint.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 310,000 children have blood-lead levels above safe limits.



## The Dangers of Lead

Lead-based paint is a major source of lead poisoning for children and can affect adults. Even low levels of lead in children can result in stunted mental and physical development, learning disorders, and behavior problems. Lead can even cause abnormal fetal development in pregnant women.

You might have lead in and around your home without knowing it because you cannot see, taste or smell lead. Lead is most commonly found on exterior-painted surfaces, interior woodwork, doors, and windows. The greatest threat is breathing or ingesting dust from lead-based paint as it chips or deteriorates over time.



## What Should You Do?

- If you think a potential hazard exists, you should test your home and family for lead through the “Home Safe Home” Program of the San Diego Housing Commission.
  - To submit a pre-application form for lead testing, visit the San Diego Housing Commission’s Web site at [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org). Go to the Real Estate section, click on Housing Rehabilitation, then “Home Safe Home” Program.
- Contact: (619) 578-7521



# “Home Safe Home” Protects Families

The “Home Safe Home” Program of the San Diego Housing Commission is available to families in homes with children under 6 years old.

Primary outreach efforts will focus on high-risk target areas that include the communities of:

- City Heights
- Logan Heights
- Linda Vista
- Sherman Heights

“Home Safe Home” conducts lead remediation in homes that were built before 1979. Maximum grant amounts are:

- \$10,000 for single-family structures.
- \$5,000 per unit for multi-family structures. An additional \$5,000 per project will be made available for multi-family projects to control lead hazards in common areas.

In addition, blood testing for the presence of lead in children is organized at select schools and communities by the Environmental Health Coalition. Testing is conducted by La Maestra Community Health Center.

A portable blood analyzer is used, which involves a small pinprick to your child’s finger.

The test results are immediate—within three minutes, families are notified. Children who test positive will be referred for further medical evaluation. In addition families are provided with information on how to eliminate lead hazards, are offered a free home inspection, and are encouraged to sign-up for the “Home Safe Home” Program.

The blood analyzers were purchased by the San Diego Housing Commission through the “Home Safe Home” Program.



# “Healthy Homes” Protects Families

The “Healthy Homes” component of “Home Safe Home” assists in keeping your home safe from health hazards such as:

- Pests
- Electrical Dangers
- Fire
- Mold and moisture
- Poor indoor air quality that can cause Asthma/allergies
- Debris and unsafe conditions that can cause unintentional injuries



**Home Lead Removal**

Families can apply for grants and other funding to eliminate health and safety problems in the home. They will be screened for eligibility by the “Home Safe Home” Program of the San Diego Housing Commission.



*Visit the San Diego Housing Commission Web site for more information at:  
[www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org)*



# “Home Safe Home” San Diego Housing Commission

The “Home Safe Home” Program of the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) is funded by the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Federal Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) totaling \$22.4 million since 2002, including:

- \$2.48 million in 2012 for home lead remediation and blood lead-level testing for children.

Of this, \$180,000 will be used for Healthy Homes assessments.

The Rehabilitation Unit of the Real Estate Department of the San Diego Housing Commission oversees the “Home Safe Home” program.



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## San Diego Housing Commission “Home Safe Home” Partners

U.S. Department of Housing & Urban  
Development (HUD)

Campeños Unidos

City of San Diego Environmental  
Services Department

County of San Diego Childhood Lead  
Poisoning Prevention Program

Environmental Health Coalition

La Maestra Community Health Center

Maximizing Access to Advance our  
Communities (MAAC)

Richard Heath and Associates



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Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and help improve the lives of more than 125,000 individuals in the City of San Diego annually.

San Diego Housing Commission 1122 Broadway, Suite 300 San Diego, CA 92101 [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org)