



Did You Know?

- Exposure to lead-based paint can be harmful to children and adults.
- 24 million homes in the U.S. have peeling or chipping lead-based paint or high levels of lead in dust, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 500,000 children ages 1 to 5 in the U.S. 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 San Diego Housing Commission’s (SDHC) “Home Safe Home” Program.
- To submit a pre-application form for lead testing, visit SDHC’s website at www.sdhc.org. Go to the Affordable Housing section, click on Housing Rehabilitation, then “Home Safe Home” Program.

Contact: (619) 578-7521



“Home Safe Home” Protects Families

SDHC’s “Home Safe Home” Program is available to families in homes with children under 6 years old.

Primary outreach efforts 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 multifamily structures. An additional \$5,000 per project will be made available for multifamily projects to control lead hazards in common areas.

In addition, in 2010, SDHC purchased noninvasive, portable Lead Care II blood analyzers that easily detect blood-lead levels. The blood analyzers require only a small pinprick to a child’s finger and provide results within three minutes.

With these blood analyzers, SDHC collaborates with the Environmental Health Coalition and La Maestra Community Health Centers to conduct blood testing events in the community.



Children who test positive are 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.



“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 SDHC’s “Home Safe Home” program.



Visit SDHC’s website for more information at: www.sdhc.org



SDHC's "Home Safe Home" Program

SDHC's "Home Safe Home" Program is funded by the Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control Federal Grant Program from HUD, totaling \$22.47 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 SDHC's Real Estate Division oversees the "Home Safe Home" program.



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SDHC's "Home Safe Home" Partners

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

City of San Diego Environmental Services Department

County of San Diego Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Environmental Health Coalition

La Maestra Community Health Centers



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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 impact 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