**SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE ABOUT LEAD POISONING AND HOUSING REHAB FUNDING INFORMATION**

**Media Contacts**

Local Health Department

Contact person and phone number

E-mail address

**Correct Lead Hazards in Your Home with Housing Rehab Funds**

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is October 25-31, 2015

From 2012-2014, nearly 15,000 children under age 6 living in Wisconsin have blood lead levels high enough to cause significant damage to their health. Major sources of lead exposure among Wisconsin children are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust found in homes built before 1978.

Despite the continued presence of lead in the environment, lead poisoning is entirely preventable. “In (health department jurisdiction) in the last three years, there were (number) children under age six, or (data visualization like “one in ten children tested”), that have lead in their bodies that could interfere with their development,” said (name here), health officer for (jurisdiction) Health Department. “We are concerned about their health and their future.”

To increase awareness of childhood lead poisoning prevention, the (health department name), along with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, is participating in National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (NLPPW), October 25 to 31.

This year's NLPPW theme, "Lead-Free Kids for a Healthy Future," underscores the importance of testing your home, testing your child, and learning how to prevent lead poisoning’s serious health effects.

In observance of NLPPW, add details about local NLPPW activities. **[Include this paragraph if you are doing activities locally to observe CLPP Week. If not, take out the paragraph.]**

Funding to fix lead hazards and for other rehab projects in homes is available through the Wisconsin Community Development Block Grant - Small Cities housing program. For more information, visit the [Division of Housing](http://www.doa.state.wi.us/Divisions/Housing/CDBG-Housing) website or call (local housing program name and their phone number).

Parents can reduce a child’s exposure to lead in many ways. Here are some simple things you can do to help protect your family:

1. **Look out for chipping paint in your home.** Use [lead-safe work practices](https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/hands-skills-training-transcripts.htm) or hire a lead-safe renovator when working on your home.
2. **Test your kids for lead.** Even if your young children seem healthy, ask your doctor to test them for lead.
3. **Learn the facts about lead.** Preventing lead exposure is easy, find out more by contacting us.

 We can provide you with helpful information about preventing childhood lead poisoning. Contact us at (insert phone number) or (website address). For more information, contact the Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 608-266-5817, go to the [*Lead-Safe Wisconsin*](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead) website, or call 1-800-424-LEAD.