

LEAD SAFE CLEVELAND COALITION

Lead Safe Home Fund

The Public-Private Solution to Prevent
Lead Poisoning in Cleveland

OUR ASK IS SIMPLE. INVEST IN THE LEAD SAFE HOME FUND TO PROTECT CLEVELAND'S CHILDREN.

Cleveland has a lead poisoning crisis. Yet, this crisis has a clear fix, a proven and effective remedy: remediate our homes. We know what needs to be done. We need the collective will to do it.

LEAD POISONING AND THE HOUSING SOLUTION

Lead exposure, at even low levels, can damage a developing brain and cause lifelong, often irreversible, problems affecting education, behavior, and health. There is no safe blood level of lead, yet over 25% of Cleveland children test positive for lead prior to kindergarten.

Lead-based paint and leaded dust are the primary causes of lead poisoning in Ohio. In Cleveland, more than 90% of the housing stock was built before 1978, the year residential lead-based paint was outlawed.

Lead poisoning is a public health crisis with a housing solution. If we create lead safe homes, we can prevent lead poisoning from ever happening. It has been done in other communities – it is time for Cleveland to act.

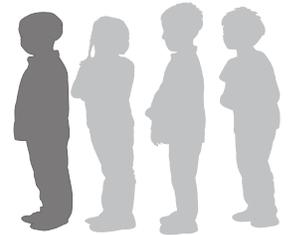
OHIO'S FIRST LEAD SAFE HOME FUND

The Fund is a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership. It will support effective, enforceable, and equitable solutions to lead poisoning by providing necessary support for eligible property owners and families. It will achieve these solutions through two critical, interrelated functions. The first is a spectrum of lead safe home loans and grants. The second is a resource center to provide system navigation, workforce development, and resident services.

The Lead Safe Home Fund will:

- **Focus on prevention.** The Fund will proactively improve housing conditions so children do not ingest or inhale lead hazards in or around the home.
- **Be strategic.** Loans from both mission-driven capital and low-cost private capital will be available to eligible property owners with varying levels of need. Grants will be available as an incentive for compliance with preventive measures.
- **Coordinate services and public education.** The Fund will support a one-stop-shop Lead Safe Resource Center to serve families, property owners, and the broader community on all things related to lead poisoning prevention.
- **Train and develop the workforce.** The Fund will offer training courses and certifications to build a workforce of lead safety professionals.
- **Be flexible and responsive.** The Fund will appropriately target and maximize resources through an expert, third-party administrator.
- **Complement the Lead Safe Certificate system.** The City of Cleveland adopted a groundbreaking policy to require pre-1978 rental units to proactively achieve lead safe status. The Fund will complete a carrot-and-stick approach that not only holds property owners accountable but provides the resources and incentives to make compliance feasible.
- **Leverage investments from all sectors.** Lead poisoning affects everyone, so we all – the private sector, philanthropy, corporate partners, health systems, the public sector, and more – need to take responsibility for addressing it.

Over **25%**
of Cleveland children
test positive for lead
prior to kindergarten.



We need to act now. There is no time to spare.

Every day that we delay making smart investments puts our children at risk of lead poisoning.

IMPACT OF YOUR INVESTMENT

No one thrives when Cleveland's children cannot reach their potential.

No one thrives if businesses are ready to leave or are reluctant to come to Cleveland because our housing stock is unhealthy and growing worse.

Creating lead safe homes is effective AND cost efficient. After Rochester, NY implemented a similar lead safe certificate system and encouraged the use of interim controls, lead poisoning rates decreased by nearly 85% within 10 years.

Lead poisoning prevention promises benefits that far exceed its cost. Much of this return-on-investment results from the avoidance of the long-term consequences of lead poisoning over the course of childhood, adolescent development, and adulthood. For children born this year alone, lead exposure will cost Ohio nearly \$3 billion in reduced productivity, premature mortality, added healthcare, education, criminal justice, and social assistance costs.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Fund will operate through two preliminary phases: the Pilot Period and the Full Compliance Cycle. The Pilot Period spans approximately three and a half years and encompasses the ramp-up toward the Lead Safe Certificate requirement and its first implementation cycle. The Full Compliance Cycle is the subsequent two-year period of system maturation.

Elements of the Lead Safe Home Fund	Type of Investment	Five-Year Budget	Potential Investors
LEAD SAFE RESOURCE CENTER			
Operational Hub	Grant	\$5.4 million	Corporate, Large Retailers, Healthcare, Philanthropy, Large Contractors, Building Trades and Unions, Child Welfare
Workforce Development	Grant	\$1 million	Corporate, Building Trades and Unions, Construction, Philanthropy, Public
LEAD SAFE HOME LOANS AND GRANTS			
Loans and Grants Administration	Grant	\$8 million	Public, Philanthropy, Corporate
Lead Safe Certificate Incentives	Grant	\$5 million	Public, Philanthropy, Corporate
Interim Control Grants	Grant	\$40 million	Public, Philanthropy, Healthcare
Guarantee and First Loss Capital	PRI/Other	\$8 million	Public, Philanthropy, CDFIs
Mission-Driven Capital	PRI/Other	\$21 million	Private/High net worth individuals, Healthcare, Corporate
Bank and Other Financial Institutions Capital	Loans	\$11 million	Banks and Lenders, Corporate
TOTAL ESTIMATED FIVE-YEAR BUDGET: \$99.4 million			

ABOUT THE LEAD SAFE CLEVELAND COALITION

The Lead Safe Cleveland Coalition is an inclusive public-private partnership founded to address lead poisoning through a comprehensive, preventive, and long-term approach. This approach protects Cleveland's children by merging smart, adaptable public policies; knowledgeable agencies willing to collaborate; proven community programs; and public and private sector accountability. Today, the Coalition has over 300 participants and seven working committees, and continues to grow.

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