



# ***Get the Lead Out!* 2017 Fact Sheet**

## **About the *Get the Lead Out!* program.**

### **What is the *Get the Lead Out!* program?**

- The *Get the Lead Out!* Lead-Hazard Control Program is a targeted effort to fix lead-based paint hazards in homes in Grand Rapids. Its primary goal is to keep children in the city safe from lead poisoning by remediating lead-based paint from homes at a low or even no cost to qualifying homeowners and landlords. The program started in 2004.

### **Who's involved:**

- *Get the Lead Out!* is a program of the City of Grand Rapids in collaboration with the Kent County Health Department, the Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, LINC, and the Rental Property Owners Association.

### **How it's funded:**

- Principle funding for the program comes from competitive grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, which is matched with other local and federal funding.

### **Funding amounts since the program's inception:**

- Since 2004, more than \$18.9 million in funding has been provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. Current funding in the amount of \$2.9 million lasts through October 2019.

### **What homeowners can receive:**

- Qualifying homeowners are eligible for zero-percent interest “matching” loans, up to \$16,000, to help make their homes lead-safe. If payments are made on time and the child continues to reside in the home, 50 percent of the cost of repairs will be forgiven.
- If a lead poisoned child lives in the home, the program will make up to \$20,000 worth of repairs and repayment will be deferred and forgiven if the child continues to reside in the home.

### **What landlords can receive:**

- Rental property owners are eligible for grants of up to \$14,000 for the first unit repaired and \$4,000 for additional units in the same building.

### **How the process works:**

- The homeowner or landlord completes a simple intake form.
- A more detailed application is then completed. Assistance with completing the application is available.
- Once an application is approved, a state-certified risk assessor performs an inspection to determine lead hazards in the home and, if needed, develops a plan to remove lead-based hazards from the home.
- Then, state-licensed contractors perform the work on the home.

### **Where to go for more information:**

- More information is at [www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org](http://www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org).
- For questions, please contact the City of Grand Rapids at (616) 456-3030 or the Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan at (616) 241-3300. For assistance in Spanish, call (616) 632-7049.

### **Results and benefits of the program:**

- *Get the Lead Out!* has made 1,452 homes in Grand Rapids lead-safe since its inception in 2004 (as of 4/17/17).
- The program has played an instrumental part in the 83 percent reduction in childhood lead poisoning in Grand Rapids in the past 10 years.
- In 2004, the year home repairs began, 2,666 children 0-5 years of age were identified with elevated blood lead levels ( $\geq 5.0$  ug/dL) in the city of Grand Rapids.
- In 2015, just 465 children tested above that level in Grand Rapids, an 83 percent reduction.

- The program has had a direct and profound impact on improving health outcomes of children.
- The program also helps the local economy by hiring local contractors and inspectors to do the work.
- The program helps to improve properties and their values with repairs such as new windows, fresh paint or siding.

### **How homeowners can apply:**

Applications for the program are available at the following locations:

- City Hall, 300 Monroe Ave NW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor
- Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE
- Healthy Homes Coalition, 1545 Buchanan Ave SW (upstairs)
- Most Grand Rapids neighborhood associations
- Online at [www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org](http://www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org)

There is assistance available to help with completing the application. Contact Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan for help and information at (616) 241-3300.

### **How landlords can apply:**

Applications for the program are available at the following locations:

- City Hall, 300 Monroe Ave NW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor
- Rental Property Owners Association, 1459 Michigan St NE
- Kent County Health Department, 700 Fuller Ave NE
- Healthy Homes Coalition, 1545 Buchanan Ave SW (upstairs)
- Most Grand Rapids neighborhood associations
- Online at [www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org](http://www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org)

There is assistance available to help with completing the application. Contact the Rental Property Owners Association for help and information at (616) 454-3385.

### **About the *Get the Lead Out!* Program**

The *Get the Lead Out!* lead-hazard control program is a targeted effort to fix lead-based paint hazards in homes in Grand Rapids. It is part of the larger efforts of the *Get the Lead Out!* Collaborative, which also focuses on getting children tested and connected to health care services, educating the public and advocating for common-sense laws and policies to protect children. The *Get the Lead Out!* lead-hazard control program is led by the City of Grand Rapids in collaboration with the Kent County Health Department, the Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, LINC, and the Rental Property Owners Association. The primary funder is the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). More at [www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org](http://www.GetTheLeadOutGR.org).

### **Get the Lead Out! partners:**

# **Get the Lead Out!** Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning Through Partnership



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