

Lead is Poisoning Your Children

Fact Sheet for the 10th Council District  public citizens for children + youth

45%

of all children **have been appropriately screened for lead poisoning.**

1/25

children in some parts of the District **suffer from lead poisoning*.**

62%

of Philadelphia children **are exposed to toxic lead in rental housing.**

Erica Miller, **Parent**

Erica Miller's twin two-year-old sons were poisoned in their Section 8 PHA rental home in District 7. Her sons' blood lead levels were two and three times higher than the minimum threshold for poisoning. Lead poisoning has likely caused her sons' stunted growth, potty training issues, speech delays, difficulties communication and behavioral problems.



Ken Weinstein, President, Philly Office Retail, **Model Landlord**

Ken Weinstein has more than 30 years experience in real estate development and property management. He doesn't want to see children in Philadelphia harmed by lead and is in favor of the City doing all it reasonably can to protect children from encountering lead hazards in rental units.

Approved Renovations, LLC a 10th District **Expert Business**

Approved Renovations, LLC, at 3500 Dows Rd., is an EPA-certified lead inspection and remediation company with many years of experience conducting lead dust sampling and removing lead hazards from homes.



"I've seen too many babies harmed"

"Some landlords and parents alike don't realize that lead poisoning is still a sizable problem and that chipping and peeling paint is the major source of poisoning. That's why it's critical to test properties to help prevent children from being hurt."

—Vince Hogan, owner of Approved Renovations, LLC

Lead Hazard Remediation Can Yield \$3 for Every \$1 Spent

Beyond direct protection of children, experts estimate that each dollar invested in lead paint hazard control provides significant returns to taxpayers by avoiding government spending on healthcare and special education and boosts the lifetime earnings of children who otherwise would have stunted potential due to lead poisoning.

The Current Lead Law Is Unenforceable

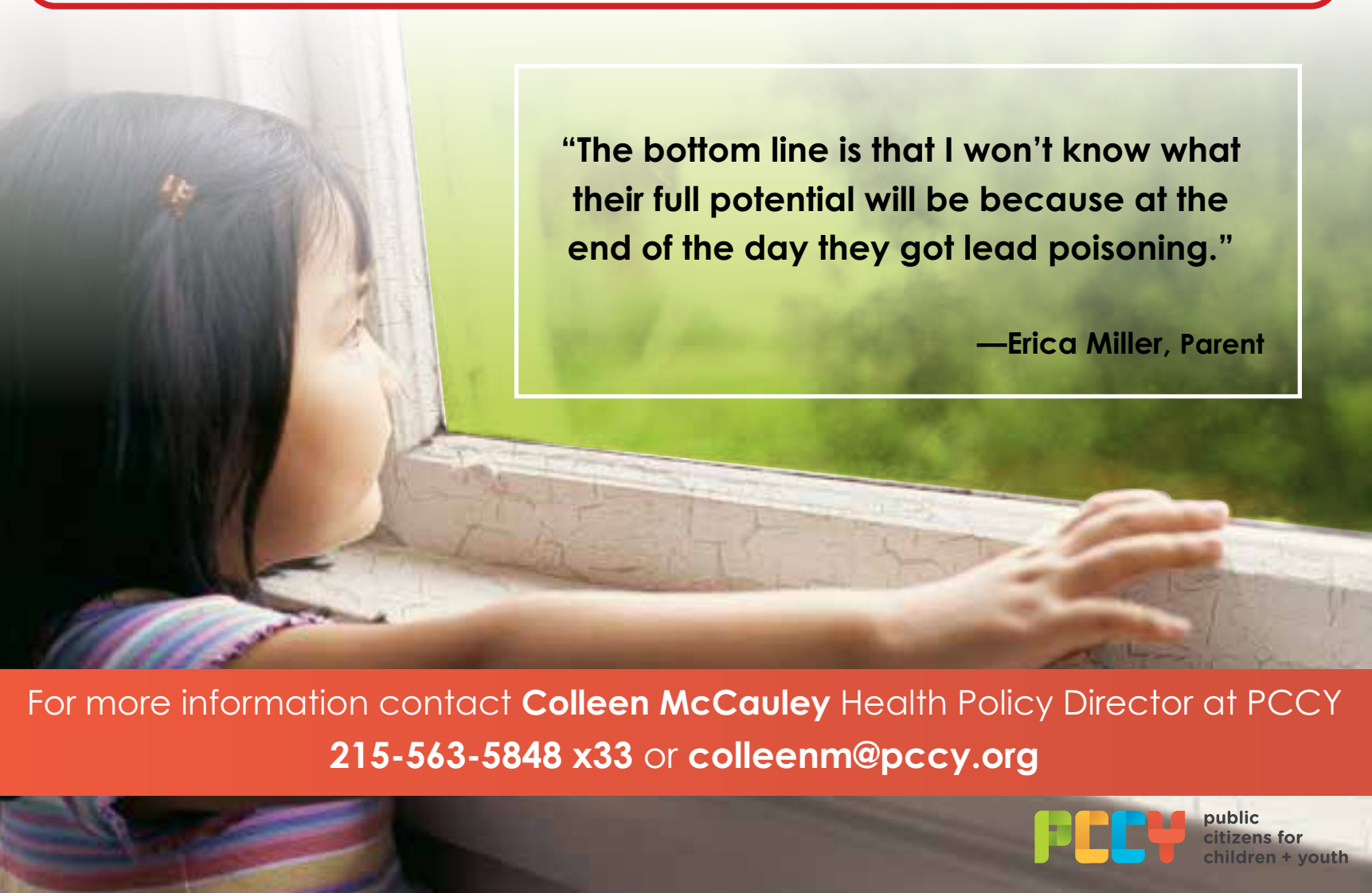
Too many landlords are not complying with the current law. Only a quarter of all rental units in the City covered by the current law are in compliance. That's because the law is largely unenforceable since there is no record of tenants' ages at the time of new occupancy to identify which pre-1978 rental properties need to be in compliance with the law.

Making the Lead Law Universal Will Protect 10th District Babies

To address the law's shortcomings, the Mayor's advisory group on lead poisoning recommended requiring all pre-1978 rental properties to comply, including Section 8 and Philadelphia Housing Authority units. Bill #180936, passed out of Council's Health Committee on March 19, includes this requirement.

Call Your Council Member

Please call your District 10 City Council member, Brian O'Neill, and ask him to make sure every rental unit is lead-safe for babies, at 215-686-3422.



“The bottom line is that I won't know what their full potential will be because at the end of the day they got lead poisoning.”

—Erica Miller, Parent

For more information contact **Colleen McCauley** Health Policy Director at PCCY
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