

# Lead is Poisoning Your Children

Fact Sheet for the 7<sup>th</sup> Council District



45%

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

1/8

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, a 7<sup>th</sup> District **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.



## Hayworth Properties, LLC, a **Model Landlord**

Hayworth Properties, LLC fully supports the lead paint disclosure ordinance and complies with the lead-safe certification process for all their properties. They believe in making their properties safe for children.



## Lead Safe Technicians, an **Expert Business**

Lead Safe Technicians, LLC, at 1508 W. Seybert St., is an EPA-certified lead inspection company with two years of experience conducting lead dust and water sampling as well as educating the public about lead poisoning through workshops and seminars.



*"It's an epidemic"*

"I've tested hundreds of properties, and have seen a lot of situations where landlords don't know how important it is to cover chipping, flaking and cracking paing, and [how] to actually eliminate it. Testing is really important to actually know what's in your property, and it helps with prevention."

—Darryl Shine, owner and senior technician of Lead Safe Technicians

## 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 7th 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 7 City Council member, Maria Quinones Sanchez, and ask her to make sure every rental unit is lead-safe for babies, at 215-686-3448.



**“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, 7th District Parent**

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