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Cayuga County Health Department Launches ‘No Home For Lead’ Campaign

The Cayuga County Health Department is excited to announce the launch of the “No Home For Lead” campaign. The “No Home For Lead” campaign supported by the Health Department’s Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program aims to create awareness around lead poisoning, reduce lead exposure in homes, and highlight that lead poisoning is 100% preventable.

“Childhood lead poisoning continues to be a significant public health problem in Cayuga County,” said Kathleen Cuddy, Cayuga County Public Health Director. “The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program will help us improve the environments that children live in by reducing lead exposure.”

Lead paint was deemed dangerous to children and banned by the federal government in 1978. Homes built prior to the ban have an increased risk of containing lead paint. In Cayuga County, three out of four homes were built before 1978. The most common source of exposure in homes is lead-based paint and the lead dust that is created as it ages.

Children aged six and younger are most at-risk for lead poisoning due to their growing bodies, as well as developmental behaviors, such as putting hands or objects in their mouth. If a child becomes poisoned by lead, it can cause problems with their child's growth, behavior, and ability to learn. The good news is there are ways to protect your kids from the dangerous effects of lead.

If you are expecting a baby or have children 0 to 6 years old living in or visiting your home, contact the Cayuga County Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) to request a FREE home lead risk assessment. During an assessment, the CLPPP team will test chipping and peeling paint and teach you how to help protect you and your family from being exposed to lead. We will also provide household cleaning items to help your home become lead safe.

For more information on a NO-COST home assessment or lead testing for your child, contact the Cayuga County Health Department at 315-253-1560 or visit the No Home For Lead website at www.cayugacounty.us/NHFL.
