

Believe in a Healthy Newark Healthy Homes Impact Team

Addressing Childhood Asthma and Lead Exposure in Newark's Fairmount Heights and Clinton Hill Neighborhoods

Co-Chairs

Rhonda Lewis
Executive Director
Greater Newark LISC

Stephanie Greenwood
Program Officer
Victoria Foundation

BELIEVE IN A HEALTHY NEWARK - HEALTHY HOMES IMPACT TEAM

The Healthy Homes Impact Team works through schools, childcare centers and health care providers to connect with families and promote home health to –

- Raise awareness and provide education about early detection and prevention of lead poisoning and mitigation of asthma triggers
- Provides families with resources and refer them to available services
- Identifies advocacy issues, using data and the voice of families, to inform policy change



BELIEVE IN A HEALTHY NEWARK - HEALTHY HOMES IMPACT TEAM

What we need to know about Asthma and Lead!

- Asthma affects about twice as many children in Newark as in the surrounding county
- Nearly two-thirds of NJ children ages 0-4 with asthma do not have an asthma treatment plan
- Asthma-related problems are a leading cause of absenteeism from school for pre-K through 3rd grade



BELIEVE IN A HEALTHY NEWARK - HEALTHY HOMES IMPACT TEAM

What we need to know about Asthma and Lead!

- Even low levels of lead exposure can lead to:
 - Permanent brain damage
 - Lower IQ and hyperactivity
 - Behavior and critical judgment problems
- Lead poisoning is preventable **but** mostly irreversible

BELIEVE IN A HEALTHY NEWARK - HEALTHY HOMES IMPACT TEAM

CURRENT PROJECTS

Prevent Lead Exposure

Partnering with La Casa Don Pedro to:

- Remediation/weatherization for 40 families
- Provide case management for children with EBL 3+
- Door-to-door outreach and conduct healthy homes assessments
- Distribute household cleaning kits, mattress covers, etc
- Community presentations with tips for a *Healthy Home*

Reduce Asthma-related Absenteeism

Partnering with Rutgers School of Nursing to:

- Provide community education on asthma triggers and importance of preventative care
- Work with neighborhood schools and early childhood programs create asthma management plans
- Provide case management for families with children who have poorly managed asthma

BELIEVE IN A HEALTHY NEWARK - HEALTHY HOMES IMPACT TEAM

Our Partners



United Way of Essex and West Hudson

