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November 17, 2025

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Barbara Ferrer, Ph.D., M.P.H., M.Ed.
Director

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION OF LEAD POISONIING PREVENTIION WEEK IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY: ENSURING RESIDENTS ARE LEAD-AWARE (ITEM 2, BOARD AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2024)

Background

This report is the 12-month report requested in the September 24, 2024 motion by the Board, directing the Department of Public Health (Public Health) to develop lead-related health education materials and presentations that are linguistically accessible in the County's top five languages, with readiness to interpret into more languages as needed; address short and long-term symptoms and effects of lead on individuals across the age spectrum, special considerations for older adults and individuals with disabilities, lead poisoning prevention, actions post lead exposure, such as nutrition; information on identifying signs of lead exposure illness in pets and next steps; and intentionally engage residents in outreach and engagement activities.

The motion also directed Public Health to collaborate with school districts, such as Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD), Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, Baldwin Park School District, El Monte City School District, and Pomona Unified School District to provide health education information regarding lead exposure and actions post-exposure for TK-12 school-aged children. It additionally called on Public Health to collaborate with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and applicable parent and student groups, to promote Lead Poisoning Prevention Week and provide ongoing health education regarding impact of lead on health and post exposure care. Furthermore, Public Health was directed to collaborate with Los Angeles County

Department of Health Services (DHS) to make health education materials visibly available at relevant County facilities, including hospitals and clinics; engage County employed and contracted medical providers with educational material and the need to screen young children; and report back at six and twelve months on the number of individuals actively engaged regarding lead, noting how they were reached, whether it was a school setting and by Supervisorial District.

Reporting Period Update

This report covers the period of March 2025 through October 2025. Public Health completed 135 outreach events from March through October 2025. These events included resource tables/health fairs, presentations/workshops, and health care provider visits. Public Health typically participates in outreach events by invitation. Through these events, Public Health was able to engage with 3,421 Los Angeles County community members to raise awareness of lead poisoning, exposure prevention measures, lead-safe practices, and promote blood lead screening during the reporting period.

Hosting resource tables remains Public Health's most active and effective outreach throughout Los Angeles County. 37.03% (50 out of 135) of the outreach activities completed from March to October 2025 were resource tables. Public Health also hosted resource tables during the blood lead testing events held in the aftermath of the Eaton and Palisades fires in January. These combined efforts enabled Public Health to reach 3,059 people – 89.41% of the total reached countywide. Public Health was also able to provide 20 workshops throughout the County, reaching 163 people.

At the virtual Exide Medical Providers Summit, Public Health provided a lead education presentation to medical providers serving residents impacted by the Exide Battery Plant. Cities impacted are spread across Supervisorial Districts 1 (East Los Angeles and parts of Boyle Heights) and 4 (Vernon, Commerce, Maywood, Huntington Park, and Bell).

From March to October 2025, Public Health was able to complete 46 provider visits.

Tables 1 and 2 demonstrate the number of each type of outreach completed and number of people reached by Public Health's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) in each Supervisorial District from March to October 2025.

TABLE 1. Number of each type of outreach done by CLPPP per supervisorial district in Los Angeles County, March – October 2025

Outreach Type	# of Outreach Activities by District						Countywide Totals
	SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4	SD5	ALL	
Blood Lead Testing Events	N/A	N/A	5	N/A	13	N/A	18
Presentation/Workshop	4	16	0	0	0	0	20
Provider Visit	12	15	4	9	6	N/A	46
Resource Table/Health Fair	19	14	4	7	6	N/A	50
Exide Medical Providers Lead Education Virtual Summit	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	1
Total	35	45	13	16	25	1	135

TABLE 2. Number of people reached by type of event per supervisorial district in Los Angeles County, March – October 2025

Outreach Type	# People Reached per Outreach Type					Total Reached Countywide
	SD1	SD2	SD3	SD4	SD5	
Blood Lead Testing Events	N/A	N/A	152	N/A	1132	1284
Presentation/Workshop	71	92	0	0	0	163
Provider Visit	33	41	4	93	8	179
Resource Table/Health Fair	1073	412	107	115	68	1775
Exide Medical Providers Lead Education Virtual Summit						20
Total	177	545	263	208	1208	3421

Table 3. Summary of Provider Visits completed by Clinic Type from March to October 2025

Clinic Type	# of Provider Visits
County clinic (DPH/DHS)	4
Non-county clinic	42

Table 3 is a summary of where Public Health was able to complete provider visits, conduct education and provide health education materials.

Table 4 is a summary of the number of outreach events, the number of people reached, and the number of materials distributed by district. Public Health distributed 30,549 materials, averaging ten (10) lead-related health education materials per person. The primary health education materials, which convey key messages on lead poisoning prevention, are often distributed in a packet with supplemental materials available for attendees to select.

Health education materials distributed include:

- Lead 101: Protect Your Child from Lead [Bilingual Brochure]
- Blood Lead Testing: Getting Your Child Tested for Lead [Bilingual Brochure]
- Nutrition: Well Fed = Less Lead [Bilingual Brochure]
- Sources: Making Your Home Lead-Safe for Your Child [Brochure] OR Check for Lead In and Around Your Home [Bilingual Flyer / Checklist]
- Sources: Tips for Toys [Flyer]
- Best Practices: Protect Your Family from Lead on the Job [Card]

The most popular supplemental health education materials distributed on sources of lead poisoning were:

- Traditional Remedies, Cosmetics & Others [Flyer]
- Lead in Traditional Ceramic Dishware [Brochure]
- Lead in Tap Water [Bilingual Flyer]
- Keep Your Newborn Safe from Lead [Bilingual Brochure]
- Baby Food Safety [Bilingual Flyer]
- Warning! Lead in Candy [Poster]
- Dust and Dirt with Lead Can Hurt [Bookmark]
- Lead Air Pollution [Flyer]
- Protect Your Child from Lead in Dirt [Card]
- Protect Your Child from Lead in Paint [Card]

TABLE 4. Summary Table of number of people reached, and number of materials distributed by district in Los Angeles County

District	Outreach Activities	Individuals Reached	Materials Distributed
SD1	35	1177	7803
SD2	45	545	7442
SD3	13	263	2430
SD4	16	208	4646
SD5	25	1208	8228
ALL (Virtual)	1	20	N/A
Countywide	135	3421	30549

The most frequent type of audience reached during outreach events was parents and families (totaling 81 events; 60% of outreach events). This is followed by healthcare providers and staff at 47 events and community residents and the general public at 41 events (34.8% and 30.3%, respectively). Public Health was able to engage with more property owners and tenants within the County during this time period as a result of the Wildfire Response Blood Lead Testing Events. Of the 71 outreach events completed by Public Health from September 2024 to February 2025, Public Health engaged with property owners at 4 events (5.6%), and with tenants at 11 events (15.5%). For the current reporting period (March to October), Public Health was able to engage with property owners at 23 events (17.03%), and Tenants at 24 events (17.8%). Table 5 stratifies the number of events reaching each audience type during this period.

Table 5. Number of events where audience types were reached from March to September 2025

Audience Type	# of Events where Audience Type was reached
Parents & Families	81
Community Residents/General Public	41
Pregnant Teens & Adults	29
Tenants	24
Healthcare Providers & Staff	47
Childcare Providers	23

Property Owners	23
Contractors/Construction Industry	0
Other Government Agency	0

Barriers to Outreach

With increased activity from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents beginning in June 2025, Public Health experienced a decrease in invitations to Resource Table/Health Fair outreach events. For the safety of community members, two of the resource table events scheduled in July were postponed to the Fall, and one presentation/workshop on July 11 was originally set to occur in person but was moved to a virtual platform. Additionally, Public Health had to cut short a blood lead testing event in Pasadena, CA on June 21 when the hosting community organization abruptly ended the event due to the presence of ICE agents in the neighborhood.

On May 13, 2025, Public Health provided a lead education presentation during SPA 6's Beads and Bonding workshop and reached 25 expecting families. Public Health then hosted a Lead 101 Workshop on July 31, 2025, expecting a similar turnout. However, there were only 6 participants who attended the scheduled presentation, likely in part to the on-going and escalating ICE activity nearby.

Table 6 compares the number of standard resource table/health fair outreach events Public Health was able to complete, demonstrating a 45% decrease compared to June-August 2024.

Table 6. Number of Resource Table/Health Fair outreach events completed in June to August 2024 versus June to August 2025.

	# of Resource Table/Health Fair	
Month	**2024**	**2025**
June	6	7
July	5	0
August	9	4
Total	20	11

Outreach Spotlights

<u>Wildfire Response in collaboration with Public Health's Office of Environmental Justice and Climate Health (OEJCH)</u>

In response to the destructive wildfires in Altadena and the Pacific Palisades, Public Health provided blood lead testing to nearly 1,800 individuals. Beginning in March, impacted residents were able to call the CLPPP hotline to schedule a blood lead test at a Quest Diagnostics collection site or to attend one of the community events and have their blood drawn there. There were 18 community events from March to July 2025. Health education and lead safety resources were provided both over the phone and at blood lead testing events.

Table 7 summarizes the number of blood lead tests that were completed as a result of these efforts. About 0.5% of those tested had a result of ≥3.5 µg/dL (clinically significant threshold). The ten individuals who tested above 3.5 µg/dL were adults ages 41-79. Public Health provided case management to most of these individuals but were unable to reach and engage two. The reported potential sources of lead exposure Public Health was able to ascertain from the individuals reached for case management included having a family member who works construction and brings lead-contaminated dust into the home, previous work as a stained-glass craftsman, using firearms, and traveling to a foreign country and consuming foods containing spices flagged to have lead.

Table 8 summarizes the number of Wildfire Response community events, the number of individuals reached, and the materials distributed.

Table 7. Summary of Blood Lead Tests completed from March to August 2025 – Wildfire Response.

	Blood Lead Test Completed	# of Children	# of Adults	Results ≥3.5 µg/dL	Results <3.5 µg/dL
CLPPP Hotline	626	87	539	3	623
OEJCH Community Events (March-July)	1190	105	1085	7	1183
Total	**1816**	**192**	**1624**	**10**	**1806**

Table 8. Summary of Outreach Events conducted for communities impacted by the wildfires – number of people reached, and number of materials distributed.

	SD3 (Pacific Palisades)	SD5 (Eaton Canyon)	Total
Outreach Events	5	13	**18**
# People Reached	152	1132	**1284**
Materials Distributed	1278	5717	**6995**

Digital Campaign

Beginning April 9, 2025, Public Health launched a digital campaign that promoted lead poisoning prevention and encouraged wildfire-impacted residents to receive free blood lead testing at a community event or through calling the CLPPP hotline to schedule one at their local Quest Diagnostics. The digital campaign ran until May 14, 2025, with one post a week. Table 9 gives an overview of the 6-week digital campaign where Public Health reached 102,387 people.

Table 9. Summary of April-May 2025 digital campaign's reach

Date Completed	Views	Reach	Link Clicks
Post 1 – April 9, 2025	27,220	7,537	323
Post 2 – April 16, 2025	31,603	8,838	338
Post 3 – April 23, 2025	28,088	8,104	370
Post 4 – April 30, 2025	29,659	8,465	264
Post 5 – May 7, 2025	88,066	35,062	840
Post 6 – May 14, 2025	87,566	42,846	814
Total	**292,222**	**102,387**	**2,949**

Outreach with Education Agencies

- **Mexican American Opportunity Foundation (MAOF)**
  On April 25, 2025, Public Health attended a roundtable hosted by MAOF, an agency that provides early childhood education services to network and discuss potential lead poisoning prevention interventions with other community-based organizations.
- **Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Conference**
  On June 6, 2025, Public Health hosted a resource table at a conference by LACOE to provide them with copies of health education materials their Head Start agencies could order and share with their families as well as discuss options for collaboration, including but not limited to childcare provider workshops and parent presentations.

- **Children's Institute**
  Children's Institute has connected with Public Health to bring a similar workshop to the parent meetings held at their 12 sites across Supervisorial District 2 and 1 site located in Supervisorial District 1. Public Health provided 10–15-minute presentations during Children's Institute's Parent Meetings throughout October. This collaboration provided Public Health with the opportunity to introduce the importance of lead poisoning prevention and promote the Lead Week Well Fed = Less Lead Resource Fair at the SPA 6 Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Public Health to the Children's Institute families with children 0-5 years.

Lead Week 2025

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (Lead Week) campaign was observed throughout California from October 19 to 25, 2026. This year, the focus was on nutrition's role in preventing lead poisoning. During this campaign, Public Health aimed to empower parents and caregivers of children ages 1-6 to offer healthy meals and snacks, when possible, by highlighting the importance of a well-balanced diet in protecting children and their families from lead exposure.

Last year, Public Health hosted two resource fairs – one in Service Planning Area (SPA) 3 and one in SPA 6. This year, Public Health was able to expand their Lead Week events to include other areas in Los Angeles County, prioritizing areas with higher incidences of lead poisoning and hosting a total of four events during the week.

Public Health hosted three Lead Resource Fairs at the Public Health centers located in Pomona (SPA 3), Watts/Willowbrook (SPA 6), and Inglewood (SPA 8). Public Health also hosted information booths at a health center in SPA 7 East LA. The goal is to continue to add more Lead Week events in the future to further include other high incidence areas within LA County.

- Monday, October 20, 2025
  - Well Fed = Less Lead Information Booths (SPA 7)
    - East LA Health Center
      - 133 North Sunol Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90063
    - 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
  - Well Fed = Less Lead Resource Fair (SPA 6)
    - Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Public Health
      - 11833 Wilmington Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90059
    - 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
- Thursday, October 23, 2025
  - Well Fed = Less Lead Resource Fair (SPA 3)

        - Pomona Wellness Community
            - 750 S Park Ave, Pomona, CA 91766
        - 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Friday, October 24, 2025
    - Well Fed = Less Lead Resource Fair (SPA 8)
        - Curtis Tucker Center for Community Wellness
            - 123 W Manchester Blvd, Inglewood, CA 90301
        - 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Different agencies were invited to provide community members with resources on oral health, mental health, local resources, nutrition, childcare services, and more. Blood Lead Testing was offered at all events.

Table 9 is a summary of the number of people reached at the different Well Fed = Less Lead events during the week as well as the materials distributed. These events were promoted in-person through door-to-door efforts, during other community events and presentations, as well as on Public Health social media accounts. Table 10 is a summary of the impressions made on social media.

Table 9. Summary of people reached and materials distributed during Lead Week 2025.

Date	Lead Week Event	SD	People Reached	Materials Distributed
10/20/25	SPA 7 Info Booths	SD 1	51	150
10/22/25	SPA 6 Health Fair	SD 2	49	150
10/23/25	SPA 3 Resource Fair	SD 1	72	240
10/24/25	SPA 8 Health Fair	SD 2	128	270
		Total	300	810

Table 10. Summary of social media reach of post sharing Lead Week 2025 events

	Instagram	Facebook	Twitter/X
10/17/2025	8687 Views 47 Likes 8 Shares 11 Saves	2221 Views 8 Likes 2 Shares 1 Save	4903 Impressions 20 Engagements 3 Likes 1 Reshare

Lead Health Education Materials

- Existing Lead Poisoning Prevention Presentations have been expanded to include information for individuals across the age spectrum and pets. Presentations have been translated to be linguistically accessible in the County's top 5 languages, with readiness to interpret into more languages as needed.

Materials are currently available in English, Spanish, Chinese (Traditional and Simplified), Korean and Tagalog

- Flyers (e.g., Tips for Toys and Traditional Remedies, Cosmetics) have been translated to Chinese (simplified and traditional), Armenian, and Tagalog.
- Public Health has developed a series of lead health education materials that focus on nutrition's role in lead poisoning prevention from a more culturally accessible approach. These include a list of more culturally familiar foods rich in vitamin C, iron, and calcium and a recipe using some of these foods. The series will begin with cuisines from Ecuador, China, Burma, Vietnam, Mexico, and the Philippines and will be translated in the appropriate languages. These materials were piloted during Lead Week 2025, with a plan to expand to include other cultures' cuisines.

This memo comprises the final report in response to the aforementioned Board motion.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me.

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