

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

October 20, 2026

**Proclaiming October 25-31, 2026 as Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week**

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP), established in 1991, is a multi-disciplinary team working to reduce childhood exposure to lead. CLPPP’s responsibilities include reducing the number of children exposed to lead, educating populations at risk on protecting children from lead exposures, tracking lead exposure countywide, managing cases of lead burdened children, developing community partnerships, identifying sources of lead, and maintaining full compliance with federal and State statutory and regulatory requirements. In addition, CLPPP runs a toll-free hotline, 1-800-LA-4-LEAD (1-800-524-5323), to answer questions or to give lead-related referrals, available to the public Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM.

Despite ongoing prevention efforts, lead exposure continues to affect children all throughout Los Angeles County, with the burden falling disproportionately on certain communities. Children living in lower-income communities and areas with older housing may face greater risks of exposure due to deteriorating lead-based paint, contaminated soil, and other non-housing sources. Disparities in access to routine blood lead testing can also affect whether lead exposure is identified early.

California regulations require blood lead testing at ages 1 and 2 (or under the age 6 if not previously tested) for children in publicly funded programs like Medi-Cal, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). A blood lead test should be provided

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to anyone from birth to 21 years old if they spend time at a have-1978 place with deteriorated paint or recently renovated or has other lead exposure risks. There are two types of blood tests that screen for lead: capillary (finger prick) and venous (through the vein). A venous blood lead test is the most accurate way to screen for lead.

Children younger than 6 years old and pregnant women are at higher risk of lead poisoning. Children absorb up to 50% of the lead they swallow, while adults absorb only 10%. Even small amounts of lead in the body can damage a child's brain and nervous system and adversely impact intelligence quotient (IQ), ability to pay attention, and academic achievement. Pregnant women exposed to lead may experience high blood pressure, miscarriage, or preterm labor, with its own risks of low birth weight and nervous system damage. Symptoms in children include, but are not limited to abdominal pain, loss of appetite, nausea and vomiting, headaches, fever, irritability, hyperactivity, and short attention span. However, lead poisoning can manifest differently in everyone and is often undetected as initial symptoms may not always be apparent. The only way to know if one has been lead-poisoned is by getting a blood lead test. It is recommended to ask a medical provider about a blood lead test if the child is 6 months to 6 years old.

Each year, the County celebrates Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week and recognizes CLPPP's efforts to promote healthy, lead-free environments for children. This year's Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week will take place on October 25-31, 2026, with the theme of "No amount of lead is safe for your child. Ask their healthcare provider for a blood lead test."

The goal of this campaign is to inform residents of the risks of lead exposure and how to protect their families:

- Get all children screened at 1 and 2 years of age, children younger than 6 who were not tested earlier, and anytime a child may have potentially been exposed to lead from consumer products or other sources.

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- Become familiar with potential sources of lead including lead brought home on family members' clothes and activities involving lead-containing materials.
- Keep your home clean and dust-free by wet mopping floors instead of dry sweeping, wiping surfaces with a wet cloth, and using a vacuum with a HEPA filter.
- Ensure lead-safe work practices in keeping your home's painted surfaces in good repair.

It is therefore vital that Los Angeles County take the necessary steps to promote safe environments and ensure that children who are at risk of lead poisoning are tested and provided with appropriate care.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Development Authority, provides lead paint hazard remediation services for eligible homes throughout the County – at no cost to property owners, landlords, or tenants – to create lead-safe homes for children. The Countywide lead-based paint hazard remediation program, Lead Free Homes LA (LFHLA), prioritizes the elimination of lead paint hazards in residential housing of low-income families with children who are already lead-burdened, children under the age of 6 and/or pregnant women, and homes in targeted communities that are overburdened with environmental hazards. Lead was a common component in paint used in homes before it was banned in 1978. The older homes in the County are at high risk of containing lead, and these communities are often occupied by low-income, minority residents. Lead in the home can be inhaled or ingested and enter the blood stream. Young children are most at risk for exposure to lead-based paint that chips, flakes, or becomes dust that settles on surfaces easily reached by young Angelenos. LA County residents can learn more about LFHLA and see if they qualify for lead paint hazard remediation at <https://www.leadfreehomesla.com>.

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In honor of Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, CLPPP will be using social media to educate residents about the sources of lead exposure, resources available for blood lead testing and lead hazard removal, CLPPP's hotline, and the CLPPP's website. CLPPP invites all County residents to follow the Los Angeles County Public Health social media accounts during the week to learn about the importance of getting children tested and preventing lead exposure. Families with children who have health insurance are highly recommended to reach out to their regular healthcare provider for a blood lead test. The Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) offers services to eligible LAUSD students and their siblings ages 1-18 (Special Education students through age 22); families may reach out to LAUSD at 213-202-7590 to request an appointment. St. John's Community Health may also offer free or low-cost blood lead tests – LA County residents are encouraged to contact St. John's Community Health at 323-541-1411 or visit <https://www.wellchild.org/> to find a clinic near them. Residents of areas affected by the Exide Battery Recycling Facility are encouraged to inquire with CLPPP's hotline (1-800-524-5323) for a free blood lead test through a partnership with Quest Diagnostics and Lead-Free Homes LA. Residents impacted by the Eaton Canyon and Palisades fires are also eligible for a free blood lead test from Quest Diagnostics through the end of 2026 and can call the CLPPP hotline to place a lab order and schedule an appointment.

LA County residents who are uninsured, or enrolled in Medicare, Medi-Cal (Medicaid) or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) may also inquire about blood lead testing Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM at the following Department of Health Services (DHS) clinics:

- Bellflower Health Center
  - 10005 Flower St., Bellflower, CA 90706
  - (562) 526-3000
- Edward R. Roybal Comprehensive Health Center
  - 245 S. Fetterly Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90022

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- (323) 362-1010
- El Monte Comprehensive Health Center
  - 10953 Ramona Blvd., El Monte, CA 91731
  - (626) 434-2500
- H. Claude Hudson Comprehensive Health Center
  - 2829 S Grand Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007
  - (213) 699-7000
- Harbor-UCLA Medical Center
  - 1000 W Carson St., Torrance, CA 90502
  - (424) 306-4000
- High Desert Regional Comprehensive Health Center
  - 335 East Avenue I, Lancaster, CA 93535
  - 661) 471-4000
- Hubert H. Humphrey Comprehensive Health Center
  - 5850 S Main St., Los Angeles, CA 90003
  - (323) 897-6000
- LA General Medical Center
  - 2051 Marengo St., Los Angeles, 90033
  - (323) 409-1000
- Martin Luther King Jr. Outpatient Center
  - 1670 E 120<sup>th</sup> St., Los Angeles, CA 90059
  - (424) 338-1000
- Mid-Valley Comprehensive Health Center
  - 7515 Van Nuys Blvd., Van Nuys, CA 91405
  - (818) 627-3000
- Olive View-UCLA Medical Center
  - 14445 Olive View Dr., Sylmar, CA 91342

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- (747) 210-3000

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Proclaim October 25-31, 2026, as “Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week” in the County of Los Angeles; urge all residents, public officials, and community organizations to take action to make all Los Angeles communities lead safe.
2. Encourage all residents, public officials, and community organizations to follow Public Health social media platforms, @lapublichealth on Instagram and X (formerly known as Twitter) and Los Angeles County Department of Public Health on Facebook, and share Lead Poisoning Prevention information and resources.
3. Encourage residents to screen all children 1 and 2 years of age (or if they are under the age of 6 and have not yet been tested), and anytime they are potentially exposed to lead from any potential source of lead.
4. Encourage residents to attend Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week events throughout LA County hosted by CLPPP and their partners. More information can be found on DPH’s social media platforms.
5. Encourage parents and caregivers of children ages 2-4 years old in the City of Quartz Hill and surrounding areas to attend Play and Explore on Monday, October 26, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Quartz Hill Library 5040 W Avenue M-2, Quartz Hill, CA 93536; CLPPP will have a resource table during the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Registration is available at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17418859>.
6. Encourage parents with and caregivers of children ages 0-3 years old in the City of Los Angeles and surrounding areas to attend Toddler Autumn Art on Monday, October 26, 2026 from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM at Willowbrook Library 11737 Wilmington, Los Angeles, CA, 90059; CLPPP will have a resource table during

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the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Learn more about the event at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17274489>.

7. Encourage parents and caregivers of children ages 0-5 years old in the City of Paramount and surrounding areas to attend Play & Explore on Tuesday, October 27, 2026 from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM at Paramount Library 16254 Colorado Ave., Paramount CA 90723; CLPPP will have a resource table during the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Registration is available at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17535876>.
8. Encourage promotoras serving LA County to attend a Lead Poisoning Prevention Training via Zoom on Wednesday, October 28, 2026, at 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM; CLPPP is collaborating with Visión y Compromiso to provide training to promotoras on the different sources of lead exposure, the effects of lead poisoning, best practices for prevention, the importance of lead screening, and how to be an advocate and resource for lead-burdened children in LA County and their families. Registration is available at <http://bit.ly/vyceventos>. For any questions, call Veronica Arciga at (323) 407-4816.
9. Encourage parents with and caregivers of children ages 0-18 months old in the unincorporated East Los Angeles and surrounding areas to attend Baby Storytime on Thursday, October 29, 2026 from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM at East Los Angeles Library 4837 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> St., Los Angeles, CA 90022; CLPPP will have a resource table during the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Registration is available at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17584282>.
10. Encourage parents with and caregivers of children ages 2-5 years old in of the City of Los Angeles and surrounding areas to attend Smarty Pants Storytime on Thursday, October 29, 2026, from 11:30 AM to 12:00 PM at Graham Library

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1900 E. Firestone Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90001; CLPPP will have a resource table during the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Registration is available at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17492011>.

11. Encourage parents and caregivers of children ages 2-5 years old in the City of Lynwood and surrounding areas to attend Smarty Pants Storytime on Friday, October 30, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Lynwood Library 11320 Bullis Rd, Lynwood, CA 90262; CLPPP will have a resource table during the program to provide education about the importance of lead screening and lead poisoning prevention. Registration is available at <https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/17536366>.

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