

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2024

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week

October 20-26, 2024

Bright futures begin lead-free



Get the facts



Get your child tested



Get your home tested

What's Happening

Lead Week 2024

Each year our nation celebrates lead poisoning prevention! Every day our parents and families are working around the clock to protect our children from lead poisoning.

The 2024 theme is "Bright futures begin lead-free" because we all want bright futures for our children and communities. There will be many events happening across the Great Lakes. Check out the messaging below:

1. Get the Facts
2. Get Your Child Tested
3. Get Your Home Tested

Community Events

Bring your family to the Trunk or Treat!

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24TH 5-7PM

SECOM PARKING LOT
1545 BUCHANAN AVE SW | GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49507

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!
GAMES, PRIZES, SWEETS & TREATS
AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Family voices in Action

Veteran lead mom “Leann Howell” was appointed to the Ohio Lead Advisory Council (OLAC) as a Representative of the Public in 2024. OLAC assists in the ongoing development and implementation of the Ohio Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. On October 9, 2024, OLAC will hold its next quarterly meeting from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The meetings, which are open to the public, are held at the State Library of Ohio in Columbus. Dr. Theodore I Lidsky will be presenting “Why Schools Typically Fail Lead Poisoned Children,” which will contain important information that parents of children with a medical diagnosis of lead poisoning *need to know in order to navigate the special education system*. If you can't attend in person, you can call in (audio only) 1 614-721-2972, Phone Conference ID: 230 765 671# **Future meetings will be held on January 8, April 2, and July 2, 2025.**



At the National Lead and Healthy Homes Conference, held in Savannah, GA on August 22, 2024, Leann discussed portions from her upcoming book, *Becoming Unleaded: Identified then Abandoned*, about her son's lead poisoning journey from his diagnosis at 9 months through his high school graduation. She addressed how the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) assists children with a history of lead poisoning. Leann will be delivering the keynote address at the Life without Lead Summit on October 24, 2024, in Pittsburgh, PA.



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Family voices in Action



Shy McElroy is the Director of Community Organizing at Cole Lead Safe and Healthy Home program and has been forever impacted by lead poisoning. Due to lead poisoning, her son has had learning disabilities. Shy continues to fight for our kids in Milwaukee and beyond! In October, she had the opportunity to introduce President Joe Biden in Milwaukee, who spoke about his support of lead poisoning prevention. She also shared her own personal story! The President shared his support for lead service pipe replacement dollars and ensuring safe drinking water for all.

Watch the full inspiring video on YouTube [here!](#)

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Get Funded



The GLEN Family Subcommittee congratulates and highlights one of the many families and family organizations working tirelessly to eradicate the lead poisoning crisis within the communities where they live, work, and play.

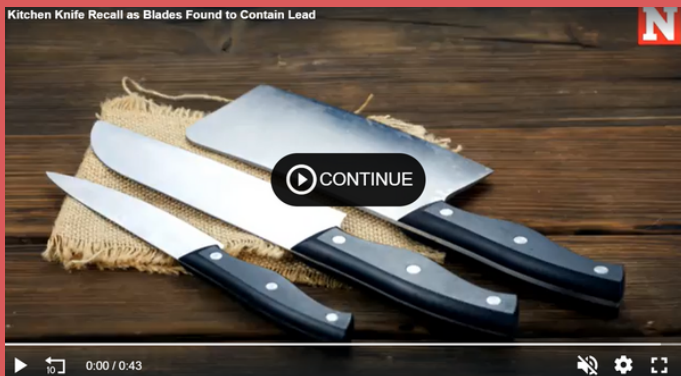
In October 2024, C.C.O.A.L received a grant from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) for 175,000. This award will allow C.C.O.A.L to broaden its services citywide instead of just one neighborhood. With this grant, we will:

- Increase the number of residents receiving lead education, including a two-hour intensive and interactive lead education program.
- Increase C.C.O.A.L attendance at community health fairs and events.
- Train an additional ten (10) community residents to become paid Community Education Navigators and receive honorarium payments equivalent to the work being done.
- Increase community conversation forums held in the city.
- Increase direct wrap-around services to the Cleveland, Ohio residents.

CONGRATULATIONS C.C.O.A.L!

www.ccoalcle.com

Lead Alert!



[Source](#)

Newsweek reported via a video that Black Forge Knives has recalled some of its knives due to lead being found in the knives. A range of their knives were found to have elevated levels of lead. Knives produced by **Pakistan**-based Black Forge Knives that were first recalled by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (**FDA**) in April 2024 have now been given a Class II risk definition (newsweek, 2024).

Join Us

We invite you to join our space and voice your ideas to end childhood lead poisoning around the Great Lakes.

This meeting space is available to help bring support and conversation around advocacy and policy strategies, learn from one another's experiences, celebrate lead education week, and so much more.

Date: Second Monday every month
Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM EST.

Contact: Meli Garcia, Co-Chair Ecology Center (734) 245-3447, melissag@ecocenter.org

Robin Brown, Co-Chair C.C.O.A.L (216)220-6925 office, projectinfo216@gmail.com

Join Us:
bit.ly/leadparentgroup



Family Activities in your corner!

Are you looking for a way to talk to your little ones about lead? Check out this Maze you can do with your little one.

Kids Activity Sheet | Module 1

Lead Awareness in Indian Country: Keeping our Children Healthy!

UNDERSTANDING LEAD

Maze Fun

Lead is a metal that might be in paint in your house and is not good for our body. Make your way through the maze and learn 6 actions you can take to keep your family healthy.

START

Leave dirty shoes at the door

Eat healthy foods

Wash toys, pacifiers and bottles

Use cold water for cooking and drinking

Wash hands with soap and water

Clean your room

FINISH