

Lead, Radon, Healthy Homes Program Semi-Annual Meeting

Relocation Protocol Development LHD Perspective Stratford Health Department

By:

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Agenda

- * Stratford Lead Initiatives
- * Background
- * Case Overview
 - * Partnerships
 - * Relocation
 - * Protocols
- * Lessons Learned
- * Status Updates

Quality Improvement Initiative

- * **Risk assessments for all cases 5V-14V**

- * Visual
- * Dust wipes
- * Questionnaire
- * Education

- * If dust wipes elevated, retest done after wet cleaning completed

- * **Goal:**

- * 5V-9V decrease below 5V within 6 months
- * 10V-14V decrease below 5V within 12 months



Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8) Initiative

- * **Risk assessments for pre-1978 S8 properties with children under the age of 6**
 - * Visual
 - * Dust wipes
 - * Questionnaire
 - * Education



Our goal is to perform assessments for 10% S8 properties per year.



Background of Case

- * **March 2016:** Case was shared with Trumbull HD (13V)
 - * Trumbull residence was post-1978, no obvious lead hazards
- * **April 2016:** SHD performed a limited risk assessment at Grandma's
 - * Levels not actionable, but recommended wet cleaning
- * **July 2016:** Child's level increased to 18V
 - * Additional dust wipes and soil samples taken at Grandma's
 - * Dust wipes elevated, soil okay
 - * Advised wet cleaning
- * **September 2016:** Child moved to Grandma's in Stratford
 - * BLL continuously decreased over time (8V)
 - * Difficulty with retesting on time
- * **July 2017:** Child's level spiked to 46V

Case Overview



Berni



back soon!

Tue, Jul 25, 9:27 AM

What do you know about our relocation plan and budget. We have a child in the hospital with a 46 getting chelation. Potential discharge tomorrow. We are calling Kim regarding who is responsible for cost and at what point can child go back

Let's touch base when I get back. I may leave early. Does the child live in owned or rented unit? With whom? Have we been out before? I'll let you know if I can get leave to get back



Berni



before? I'll let you know if I can get leave to get back

Child lives in rental. Yes we've been there and done risk assessments and dust wipes. Potential issue with helping grandfather work outside on steps which were not tested in the past. Grandparents home but his family lives there too. We will be discussing with Kim soon and we are trying to get out to the house today to at least see what is going on. Other grandmother is in Norwalk older home and is having work done. Called Stratford housing and they do not do emergency housing

What We Knew

- * 3 year old child admitted to hospital for emergency chelation following a BLL of 46.
- * Child had become full-time tenant of Grandparents Stratford home (prior had been living in Trumbull).
- * Rented, single family home, pre 1978, history of positive lead
- * Had been following child (level had been decreasing).
- * Homeless woman and 3 year old child had become occupants, as well as others. Landlord not necessarily aware of who was living there. Mom pregnant.
- * History of hand to mouth behavior.
- * Time outdoors, helped Grandpa fix concrete wall in backyard.

Immediate Actions

- * Could the child return to residence once released from hospital?
- * SHD environmental staff began immediate inspection to determine risk factors and exposure possibilities.
- * SHD nurse began interview with parent.
- * Tried to determine access to alternative, temp housing.
- * Contacted Mayor, CAO, Town Attorney re: possible relocation.
- * Contacted landlord.



Partners

- * CT DPH
- * State Lab
- * Norwalk Health Department
- * Yale Lead Program
- * Bridgeport Hospital
- * Mayor's Office
- * Town Attorney
- * Physician
- * Multiple SHD staff
- * Child's family



Relocation

- * Unsafe to return to home following chelation until interim measures could be put into place.
- * Norwalk inspected family residence, dust wipe samples rushed. Not okay for other reasons.
- * Readied relocation documents
 - * What we had – Hotel Relocation Agreement (outdated), Relationship with local hotel
 - * Missing – Residential relocation policy/procedures
- * Worked with CT DPH for guidance (CT General Statutes) and Town Attorney for approval of process and paperwork.

Interim Measures

Family relocated to hotel until:

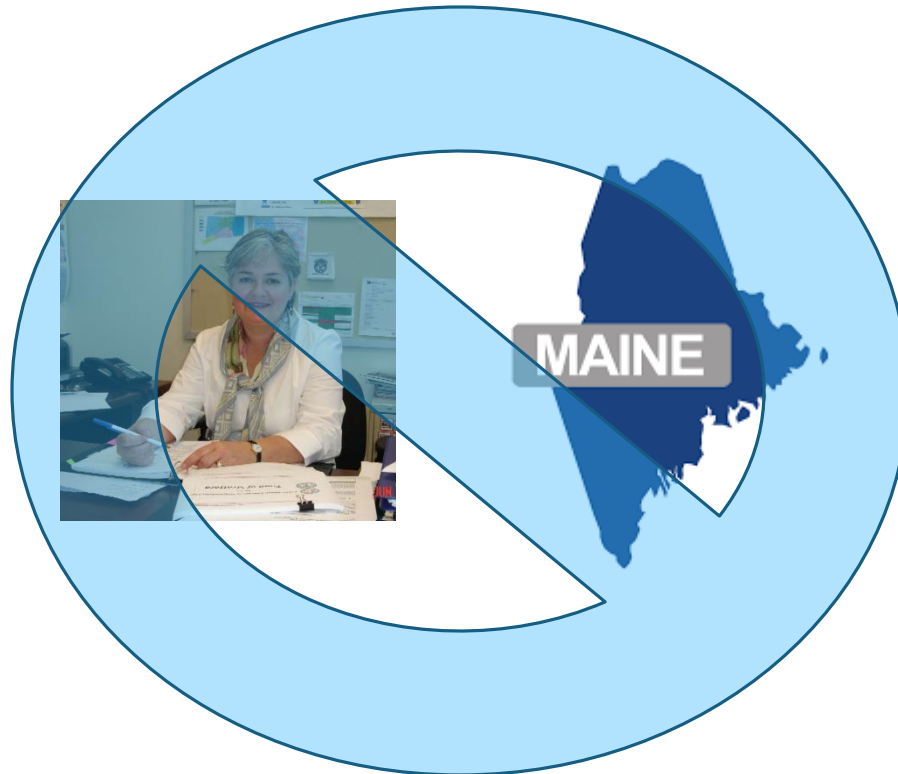
- * Cleaning
- * Covering defective/chewable surfaces
- * No backyard
- * Closed windows
- * Removal of mat on front porch
- * Verification of all interim measures
- * Signed agreement of understanding



After 24 hours at hotel, child was able to return to home.

Lessons Learned

Never let your boss go to Maine...



Lessons Learned

- * Just when you thought you had all the SOP's in the world, YOU DON'T!
- * Partnerships are key!
- * Foster good working relationships with staff – be a team!
- * Be hands-on and build relationships with families
- * People lead complicated lives:
 - * Finances
 - * Personal relationships
 - * Understanding/motivation to act
- * Persistence with following up on children, retesting

Status Updates

- * Child's ZPP is decreasing
 - * Sign that interim measures are working and no new exposures
- * Abatement plan is almost ready for approval
 - * Relocation plan from property owner outstanding
 - * Relocation may again fall on SHD
 - * BUT now we have a plan!



QUESTIONS?

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