

**LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION
2023**

Environment Article, Section 6-810(c)

Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission.
Maryland Department of the Environment

June 24, 2024



STATE OF MARYLAND Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

The Honorable Wes Moore
State House
100 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

June 24, 2024

The Honorable Bill Ferguson The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones President
Speaker
Senate of Maryland Maryland House of Delegates
State House, H-107 State House, H-101
Annapolis Maryland 21401 Annapolis Maryland 21401

Dear Governor Moore, President Ferguson, and Speaker Jones:

On behalf of the Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission (Commission), please accept this letter as the Commission's Annual Report for calendar year 2023, as required by Environment Article, § 6-810(c), Annotated Code of Maryland. The Commission, established under Environment Article Title 6, Subtitle 8, advises the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the legislature, and the Governor regarding lead poisoning prevention in Maryland, and specifically the Reduction of Lead Risk in Housing Law. Please refer to the enclosed Addendum which includes the agendas and minutes for the Commission meetings during 2023.

During the 2023 Legislative Session, the Commission monitored several bills:

- **HB0079/SB0296-Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023:** The bill established the Whole-Home Repairs Program in the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide grants to certain local administering agencies for the purposes of ensuring that owner-occupied and rental units are free of habitability concerns; improving coordination across home repairs programs; increasing retention in workforce development programs; and establishing the Whole-Home Repairs Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund. This bill was similar to the Pennsylvania Whole House law passed in 2022. Neither the House nor the Senate bill made it out of the Legislative Committee.
- **HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2024):** The supplemental budget included \$1.5 million dollars in additional funding for the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (LPPP) at MDE.
- **HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental**

Licensure: This bill requires a landlord to submit to the clerk of the court evidence of compliance with local rental property licensure requirements when filing “failure to pay rent” case in Maryland court proceedings. Both versions of the 2023 bill were approved by the Governor.

- **HB0169/SB0144 (2022 HB0108/SB0524) - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing:** The 2022 version of this bill, HB0108/SB0524, was approved by the legislature but vetoed by Governor Hogan. This bill was an energy efficiency bill that would guide investment to ensure that low-income families received the appropriate level of investment based on their contribution to empower funds and would ensure that energy efficiency happens. The bill required the creation of a commission to look at the whole house approach. Both versions of the 2023 bill were approved by the Governor.

During the 2023 Reporting Period the Commission meetings included the following Presentations/Presenters:

- **Maryland Department of Health (MDH) - Environmental Public Health Tracking:** Dr. Clifford Mitchell, Bureau Director for MDH and Commission member, presented the Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Program Portal. The EPHT Program and this data portal is part of the National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Tracking aims to protect communities by providing federal, state, and local agencies with useful environmental and health data that can be used to plan, implement, and evaluate public health actions to prevent and manage environmentally-related diseases, such as lead exposure.
- **MDE - Environmental Justice Presentation:** Caitlin Eversmier, former Special Assistant to the MDE Secretary on Environmental Justice, presented to the Commission the MDE Environmental Justice Screening Tool (EJ Screening Tool). The EJ Screening Tool allows users to identify potential overburdened communities based on established criteria. The EJ Screening Tool is intended to enhance agency compliance, oversight, monitoring, and to enhance communication and outreach in areas with permitting activities in overburdened or underserved communities. The tool uses Maryland census data to enable users to better understand the nature and number of environmental stressors and potential disparities in communities.
- **Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD) - Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Grant:** Katherine Taylor, Director of the BC-DHCD Lead Hazard Reduction Program, updated the Commission on its HUD grant, noting production increases but delays in fund spending due to staffing and eligibility issues.
- **Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) Enforcement - Tracking of Lead Violation Notices:** Camille Burke, former Director of the BCHD LPPP, presented on the Lead Violation Notice process in Baltimore City. Included was an overview of the authority of BCHD to issue violation notices, enforced compliance, and requirements to clear the violation notice.
- **MDE – LPPP Updates:** Dr. Frederick Banks, Program Manager for MDE’s LPPP, provided an update to the Commission on LPPP operations including, the increased

efficiency in permit turnaround for Lead Paint Service Providers using the on-line Lead Rental Certification and Accreditation database when applying for accreditation. Dr. Banks pledged to increase oversight of the LPPP's presence in the community through more site visits and increased visibility.

- **HB1110 Updates - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level:** Tyler Abbott, Director of Land and Materials Administration at MDE, presented to the Commission an action plan for the implementation of HB1110 which passed in 2022. The bill lowered the lead “reference level” to 3.5 micrograms per deciliter (ug/dL) on provisions of law that initiate lead case management, notification, and lead risk reduction requirements under the state’s lead poisoning prevention laws.
- **MDE - Water Supply Program - Testing for Lead in Drinking Water - Public and Nonpublic Schools:** Tim Rule, Division Chief for MDE’s Water Supply Program, presented to the Commission a summary of results, as of May 1, 2023, on the testing outcomes for lead in schools in Maryland required under Maryland law (Chapter 386, 2017). Mr. Rule also provided an overview of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, Section 2107.
- **Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates:** Representatives from the MDE, Childhood LPPP, Health and Surveillance Section presented preliminary data to the Commission for the 2022 Annual Childhood Lead Surveillance Report. The presentation highlighted data for calendar year 2021, including the number of children aged 0-72 months tested for lead and the number of children aged 0-72 months reported to have a blood lead level ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ for calendar years 2020-2021.
- **American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter - Echo Program Outcomes and Quality Improvement Data Presentation:** Dr. Paul Rogers, Commission member, presented to the Commission information on the Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) Project. Project ECHO is a telementoring program designed to create communities of learners by bringing together health care providers and experts in topical areas using didactic and case-based presentations, fostering an “all learn, all teach” approach. Dr. Rogers' presentation highlighted the steps taken to create a community of health care professionals, lessons acquired from a community of learners, barriers for the community of learners, and lessons for the Commission.
- **MDH – Report from Counties on the Success of Case Management Efforts:** Dr. Clifford Mitchell provided a funding progress report to the Commission on lead case management outcomes achieved by local health departments. The health departments were asked to provide feedback including specific examples of how the counties utilized funding to promote lead education, raise lead awareness, and emphasize the importance of lead testing.
- **Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) – Lead Grant Programs:** Jack Daniels, Deputy Director for MD-DHCD and Commission member, provided a summary on the lead grant/loan program. MD-DHCD is actively using a one-stop approach to tap into different programs and funding sources for green, healthy, and safe homes, focusing on lead abatement and related repairs. In the last fiscal year, MD-DHCD allocated \$1.8 million for 41 projects across Maryland. MD-DHCD is collaborating with MDH's Environmental Health Bureau to enhance outreach.
- **Proposed EPA Rule Changes - Dust Lead Hazard and Lead Dust Clearance**

Standards: Catherine Lee, Director of Client Services for the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI), presented proposed changes to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Dust Lead Hazard and Lead Dust Clearance Standards. The presentation provided background and highlighted EPA justification for new rulemaking; proposed changes to dust lead hazard standards; what impacted entities need to know; and key considerations by EPA for public comments.

- **Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) – Childhood LPPP Annual Report:** Camile Burke, Director of BCHD’s Childhood LPPP, presented to the Commission on the lead surveillance outcomes and initiatives for calendar years 2020-2022 for Baltimore City. The presentation covered the following: Social Determinants of Health; Elements of a Healthy Community; Lead Poisoning Data by calendar years 2020-2022, COVID-19 Impact on Blood Lead Testing; Post COVID-19 Impacts; Case Management Challenges; Outreach; Partners; Point of Care Testing.
- **MD-DHCD/GHHI- Lead Task Force:** Robyne Chaconas, Deputy Director for MD-DHCD, gave an overview on the Green and Healthy Homes Task Force which was created under HB169 to address energy efficiency and conservation for low-income households. The bill set energy savings targets, modified the Empower Program, and created the Green and Healthy Task Force. Responsibilities include tracking resources, addressing barriers, engaging stakeholders, and adhering to reporting requirements. Notably, the task force emphasizes a holistic "whole home" approach, considering critical repairs before energy efficiency.
- **EPA’s National Update on GLO (Get the Lead Out) and Proposed Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI):** Bill Richardson, Section Chief for EPA, presented to the Commission highlights on the following EPA initiatives: EPA Lead Service Line Technical Assistance Overview; GLO Program Goals: Deliver Direct TA to Communities, Build State Capacity, Share Lessons Nationally; GLO Center Direct TA Process; GLO Community Identification & Selection; LCRI National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Proposal; LCRI Key Provisions; and LRCI Next Steps.
- **MDE - Case Management and Environmental Investigation at New Lead Reference Level 3.5 ug/dL:** Dr. Frederick Banks discussed the potential increase in cases for children, aged 0-72 months, identified with blood lead levels between 3.5-4.9ug/dL for which medical and environmental case management will become effective January 1, 2024. According to Dr. Banks, MDE has implemented strategies to address public needs. Collaborating with MDH, MDE has finalized a letter to notify physicians, clinics, and labs about the elevated blood lead level change. Collaboration with local health departments aims to prioritize referrals and strategies for hazard identification in homes.

During the 2023 Reporting Period the Commission created the following subcommittee:

- **Environmental Investigation (EI) Subcommittee:** The Commission created a subcommittee to evaluate the EI process for children, aged 0-72 months, that are identified with a blood lead level at or above 5ug/dL. The subcommittee included Commission members; Paula Montgomery, Susan Kleinhammer and Barbara Moore. Representatives from state and local agencies included: Camille Burke, Dr. Frederick Banks, and Jonathan Klanderud, Chief LPPP Compliance Division. Tasks

included; reviewing the internal processes for EIs at the current blood lead reference value of 5ug/dL, the use of HUD guidelines, Chapter 16, as part of an EI, the use of an environmental questionnaire to determine testing needs and reporting findings to families and property owners, and the legal ability to share documentation with other case managers throughout the state. As a result of the meeting the following action items were created: A decision tree was created based on the EI regulations; the subcommittee created a draft report of findings to simplify the findings of the EI, and the draft EI reporting document included explanations of the findings and lead source-specific fact sheets for medical environmental case managers to help eliminate potential sources of lead; the subcommittee also consulted with MDE's Office of Attorney General to determine the legal process to provide copies of the report on the EI outcomes to share with case managers.

During the 2023 Legislative Session, the Commission provided letters of support, certificates and awards as follows:

- **Commission Awards:** Yearly, the Commission aims to recognize excellence, innovation, and leadership from within the Lead Poisoning Prevention community. The Commission members voted amongst the nominees previously submitted and the following nominees received an award:
 - Manjula Paul, Nurse Consultant for the Maryland State Department of Education's Division of Early Childhood/Office of Child Care and Commission member, received the Outstanding Child Health Environmental Advocate Award 2023
 - Letesha White, Administrative Specialist II for MDE's LPPP received the Outstanding Advocate Award 2023
 - Paula Montgomery, Lead Outreach and Education Coordinator for MDE's LPPP and Commission member, received the Special Recognition Award 2023

During the 2023 Legislative Session, the Commission had the following membership updates and changes:

- **Representative of Local Government:** Effective June 1, 2023 Mary Beth Haller resigned as Commissioner. Nicole Hart from BC-DHCD was nominated to fill this position.
- **MD-DHCD recommended Thelonious Williams replace Jack Daniels as Commissioner:** A letter was received on December 4, 2023 accepting the recommendation and appointing Thelonious Willilams as the new Commissioner.

We appreciate the opportunity to update you on the Commission's work over the past year. We look forward to continuing our work to further the Commission's vision of a Maryland in which all children are protected from the harmful effects of lead exposure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula T. Montgomery". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paula T. Montgomery
MDE Representative
Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

Enclosed Addendum

Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission

Annual Report 2023

Addendum

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

January 5, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes – November 2022 & December 2022
- Next Month Topic Reminder for Lead Commission Calendar February 2023:
 - DHCD – Lead Grant Programs
 - HABC Baltimore City Housing – HUD Grant Program
 - Legislation
- Old Business
 - Commissioner Membership Renewal Updates
- New Business
 - Commission Reporting Calendar 2023
 - Commission Meeting Calendar for 2023
 - MDE Annual Report Review for the governor 2022
 - Legislation
- Pending Legislative Action Dates
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment)
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health)
 - **Maryland DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community) Development
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department)
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter)
 - **HABC** (Housing Authority of Baltimore City)
 - **Baltimore City DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development)
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care)
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration)
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative)
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates

The next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION February 2, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes – January 2023
- Old Business
 - Next Meeting Reminder (see last Agenda item below)
 - 2023 Lead Commission Calendar for final approval
 - Attendance Report 2022
- New Business
 - Introduction of MDE Secretary
 - HB0079 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023 (Delegate Stewart)
 - MDH EPHT- Environmental Public Health Tracking (Cliff Mitchell)
 - MDE Environmental Justice Presentation (Caitlin Eversmier)
 - BCHD Update On the City's Tracking of Lead Violation Notices (Camille Burke)
 - MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
- Legislation/Pending Legislative Action Dates
 - Members of the Legislation Subcommittee
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katheryn Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department) Mary Beth Haller
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
 - **Other Agency Updates:**
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 03/02/23 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m which includes the Agenda items below
 - Introduction and Commitment of Governor Wes Moore
 - HB1110 Updates - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level (Tyler Abbott)
 - Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates (Tyler Abbott)
 - Subcommittee Updates on Environmental Investigations
 - MDE – Compliance and Enforcement.

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

March 2, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes – February 2023
- Old Business
 - Next Meeting Reminder (see the last Agenda item below for the list of upcoming items)
 - Commission Membership Recommendation - Parent of a Lead Poisoned Child
- New Business
 - Introduction and Commitment of Governor Wes Moore
 - Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development
 - HB1110 Updates - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level (Tyler Abbott)
 - Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates (Tyler Abbott)
 - Subcommittee Updates on Environmental Investigations (Paula Montgomery/Tyler Abbott)
 - MDE – Compliance and Enforcement (Fred Banks)
 - Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Legislation/Pending Legislative Action Dates
 - HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure
 - HB0079/SB0296 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023
 - HB0169/SB0144 - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing
 - HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2024)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department) Mary Beth Haller
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 05/04/23 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m which includes the Agenda items below:
 - Introduction to Secretary Laura Herrera Scott of the Maryland Department of Health
 - MDE Update on Water Safety (Christina Ardito, Georgella Samu)
 - Daycare Discussion Progress (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Findings on Environmental Investigations Subcommittee: Inconsistencies with Lead Testing
 - Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program (Ruth Ann Norton)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

May 4, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid

Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Introduction to Deputy Secretary, Dr. Nilesh Kalyanaraman of the Maryland Department of Health (Cliff Mitchell)
- Approval of Minutes – March 2023
- Old Business
 - Motion to vote on Commission Meeting every other month (Commissioners)
 - MDE Update on Water Safety (Christina Ardito, Georgella Samu, Tim Rule)
 - Update on the Re-engagement and Igniting of Community Outreach and Social Media Efforts (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Status of MDH Merging Immunization Certificate With Lead Screening Certificate (Ruth Ann Norton)
- New Business
 - Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates (Tyler Abbott/Fred Banks/Shamola Dye)
 - Presentation - Subcommittee on Environmental Investigations (Paula Montgomery)
 - Daycare Discussion Progress (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates (Adam Skolnik, Anna Davis)
 - HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure
 - HB0079/SB0296 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023
 - HB0169/SB0144 - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing
 - HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2024)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department) Mary Beth Haller
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, June 1, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - Introduction to Secretary Marcia Fudge, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development
 - Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)
 - MDH – report from counties (success of case management efforts) (Cliff Mitchell)
 - BC-DHCD - HUD Grant Program (Katheryn Taylor)
 - Asthma Awareness Month: Intersection of Lead with Healthy Homes & Work done on Joint Programs of Lead and Asthma (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Recap of Legislation and Impacts of Budget or Legislation (Ruth Ann Norton)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

Thursday, June 1, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
 - Introduction to Secretary Marcia Fudge, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 - Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development
- Approval of Minutes – May 4, 2023
- Old Business
 - Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote
 - Update on the Re-engagement and Igniting of Community Outreach and Social Media Efforts (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Daycare Discussion Progress (Ruth Ann Norton)
- New Business
 - Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)
 - MDAAP Echo Program Outcomes and Quality Improvement Data Presentation (Paul Rogers)
 - MDH – report from counties (success of case management efforts) (Cliff Mitchell)
 - Asthma Awareness Month: Intersection of Lead with Healthy Homes & Work done on Joint Programs of Lead and Asthma (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Recap of Legislation and Impacts of Budget or Legislation (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department) Mary Beth Haller
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, September 7, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below.
 - MDE – Compliance and Enforcement (MDE reports run on state FY July 1 to June 30) (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - MDH Lead Screening (Fred Banks/Shamola Dye)
 - MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
 - Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Nominations due 09/15/23 & Votes due 09/22/23

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Virtual

Approved Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
- Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2023
- MDH Updates - (MDH Subha Chandar)
 - Public Health Tracking Portal
 - Lead Testing Form
 - Revised Regulations
- Old Business
 - Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Paula Montgomery)
 - Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions (Paula Montgomery)
 - 09/15/23: Nominations due
 - 09/22/23: Votes due
 - 10/05/23: Announce award and recognition recipients
- New Business
 - MDE
 - Compliance and Enforcement (MDE reports run on state FY July 1 to June 30) (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23 (Paula Montgomery)
 - MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
 - GHHI
 - Proposed EPA Rule Changes (Catherine Lee)
 - Report on the the Commission work done over the summer (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment) Paula Montgomery
 - DLHS & DLCL Changes - EPA Lead Workgroup - Update
 - MDH (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - MDAAP (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - MSDE/OCC (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - MIA (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - MD-DHCD (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - BC-DHCD (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor
 - BCHD (Baltimore City Health Department) Mary Beth Haller
 - GHHI (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- FYI
 - Requested handouts from June’s meeting: New Lead Level and Lead Palm Card Multiple Languages
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 10/05/23, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development (Tentative)
 - Introduction to Secretary Marcia Fudge, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (Tentative)
 - Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation
 - Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23
 - BCHD – CLPPP Fiscal Year Report (Camile Burke)
 - BC-DHCD - Hud Grant Program (Katheryn Taylor)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

October 5, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
- Approval of Minutes – September 2023
- Old Business
 - Status of Commissioner Membership Renewals
 - Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation
 - Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment)
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health)
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter)
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care)
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration)
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development)
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development)
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department)
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative)
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday 11/02/23, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - MSDE/OOC (Manjula Paul)
 - BCHD – CLPPP Fiscal Year Report (Camile Burke)
 - MDE Childhood Lead Registry Report

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

December 7, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Final Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
- Approval of Minutes – November 2023
- Old & New Business
 - Update on the Green and Healthy Homes Task Force and how it relates to Lead (MD-DHCD, Deputy Director, Robyne Chaconas)
 - EPA's National Update on GLO (Get the Lead Out) (Assistant Administrator, Radhika Fox, EPA Office of Water)
 - MDE Secretary Meeting Update (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Commission Member Representation (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Delegate Dalya Attar (House Member)
 - Senator Jill Carter (Senate Member)
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact on Lead Poisoning Prevention - EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunities (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Baltimore City DHCD Updates on Lead Hazard Remediation Funding (Nicole Hart)
 - 2024 Plan for Case Management & Environmental Investigation for moving to 3.5 ug/dl (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - 2024 Commission Reporting Calendar (All Commissioners)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Nicole Hart, Katherine Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 01/04/24, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - 2024 Commission Meeting Calendar Discussion/Motion to vote (Commissioners)
 - 2024 Commission Reporting Calendar (Commissioners)
 - MDE Annual Report Review for the governor (Paula Montgomery/Wendy Phillips)
 - Legislation (Subcommittee)
 - Update on the CDC Grant (BCHD-Baltimore City Health Department: (TBD Camille Burke to provide new Director's name)

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION November 2, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Agenda

- Welcome, Introductions, Opening Remarks
- Approval of Minutes – October 2023
- New Business
 - BCHD – CLPPP Fiscal Year Report (Camile Burke)
 - MDE Childhood Lead Registry Report 2021 (Fred Banks / Shamola Dye)
- Agency Hot Topics/Current Events
 - **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Tyler Abbott
 - **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell
 - **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers
 - **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul
 - **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration) Benita Cooper
 - **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels
 - **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor
 - **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke
 - **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton
- Commissioner Comments and Updates
- Public Comments and Updates
- Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, December 7, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:
 - Commission Reporting Calendar for upcoming year (All Commissioners)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

January 5, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Approved Meeting Minutes

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 230105
- Draft Minutes 221103
- Draft Minutes 221201
- Membership
- Reporting Calendar 2023
- Meeting Schedule 2023
- LPPC Annual Report CY2022

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with welcome and introductions and, on behalf of the Commission, thanked Governor Hogan for his work on behalf of the children of Maryland in advancing universal blood lead testing and his support during his term. Ruth Ann informed the Commission that she is going to invite the new Governor to speak to the Commission in the February or March meeting to say a few words regarding his commitment to lead. Additionally, Ruth Ann informed the Commission about an upcoming Town Hall Meeting on January 9, 2023 for the transition from the Hogan administration to the Moore administration for funding around healthy housing. Ruth Ann encouraged everyone who has time to contribute ideas or to participate in the Town Hall meeting.

Members Present:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jacob Benzaquen | Mary Beth Haller | Manjula Paul |
| Benita Cooper | Cliff Mitchell | Christina Peusch |
| Jack Daniels | Paula Montgomery | Paul Rogers |
| Anna Davis | Barbara Moore | Adam Skolnik |
| Susan Kleinhammer | Ruth Ann Norton | |

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar Senator Jill Carter

Guests Present:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tyler Abbott-MDE | Shamola Dye-MDE | Tiffeny Price-MDH |
| Frederick Banks-MDE | Eamon Flynn-MDH | Tim Rule-MDE |
| Thea Becton-HUD | Paulette Hammon-Public | Kylan Simpson-MDH |
| Camille Burke-BCHD | Darlene Israel-MDH | Stephanie Staats-HUD |
| Walter Clews-AmeriSpec | Dawn Joy-AMA | Wes Stewart-GHHI |
| Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE | Jonathan Klanderud-MDE | Katherine Taylor-BCHD |
| Chris Corzine-OAG | Wendy Phillips-MDE | Khalia Young-No boundaries Coalition |
| William Doyle-HCHD | Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE | |

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Paul Rogers to accept the November 3, 2022 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

A motion was made by Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Paul Rogers to accept the December 1, 2022 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Commissioner Membership Renewal Updates:** Wendy Phillips informed the Commission that membership appointments for all Commissioners are now current. The term date for 5 Commissioners will end September 2023 and Ms. Phillips will send reminders out this summer for those Commissioners to reapply. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that Tisha Edwards will be the point of contact with the Governor's Office for reappointments and asked Barbara Moore to send a letter to the Secretary of Appointments and the new Secretary of the Environment regarding the membership vacancies still remaining in the Commission and ask for recommendations to fill the positions.

New Business:

- **BD-DHCD – HUD Grant Program:** Katherine Taylor provided an update on the HUD Grant Program indicating that DB-DHCD has been doing unit production so far which has been increasing with each quarter. DB-DHCD is also having a lot of staffing issues which has really impacted how much the department can do, but it has made some progress in regards to getting unit production done. DB-DHCD is expecting to have more contractors on board with them and is looking for those opportunities to use the grant money. Cliff Mitchell recommended to Ms. Taylor that tailored materials be distributed to health care providers to help them inform families about lead abatement resources available to them.
- **Legislation:**
 - **HB0079-Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023:** Ruth Ann Norton informed the Commission about HB0079 that will be introduced by Delegate Vaughn Stewart. This bill addresses the whole house and will be similar to the guideline work of the Green and Healthy Homes initiative that was supported by the Philadelphia Energy Authority and then adopted into Pennsylvania law. Ruth Ann would like to ask Delegate Stewart to attend the February meeting in order to present this bill.
 - **HB0169/SB0144 (2022 HB0108/SB0524) - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing:** HB0108/SB0524 was approved by the legislature but vetoed by Governor Hogan. This bill is an energy efficiency bill that will guide investment to ensure that low-income families are getting the appropriate level of investment based on their contribution to empower funds and to ensure that energy efficiency happens. The bill calls for a commission that will look at the whole house approach.
- **Joint Statement/Resolution:** Cliff Mitchell recommended having the Lead Commission, The Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council, and the Commission on Environmental Justice think about comprehensive approaches to intersections of issues such as: health and housing that cross from the statewide integrated health improvement strategy; looking at maternal and child health, opioids, diabetes, community development, climate, health equity, in terms of health and housing, disparities, and the relationship between them; and other various issues. Cliff recommends compiling a joint statement or a joint resolution related to the integration of health and housing as it relates to children's health and to community health. Ruth Ann and Camille Burke volunteered to work with Dr. Mitchell on this statement.
- **Commission Reporting Calendar 2023:** Wendy Phillips discussed with the Commissioners the possible dates, times, and topics for updates and reports to be discussed during the calendar year. Members who have any edits, comments or additions to this report were asked to send them to Ms. Phillips.
 - **Unit Production Quarterly Updates:** Ruth Ann Norton asked that Departments that have issues of unit production and dollars provide quarterly updates to include: funds available, who the funds are available to, and the units done to date. For example Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) could discuss mapping that would be able to be crosswalked against where there are children under six, where there are lead levels being reported, and where there are dollars going against that and age of housing. This could also be a mapping of who has lead resources across the state, whether it's Baltimore County, Baltimore City, or others. GHHI volunteered to compile a resource mapping of what programs also support both lead, hazard control, source control, and water and a

tracking of equity and where dollars are going, who they're going to, and how the agency is moving in that direction. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.

- **Available Public Mapping of Lead Data, Health Equity, and Environmental Health Tracking:** Ruth Ann Norton asked MDH and MDE to present during the February meeting on the topic of Available Public Mapping of Lead Data, Health Equity, and Environmental Health Tracking. The item was added to the calendar for the February meeting. Cliff Mitchell provided the Environmental Public Health tracking portal at the following link: <https://maps.health.maryland.gov/ephtportal/> Tyler Abbot provided the link to the EJ tracking portal at the following link: <https://mdewin64.mde.state.md.us/EJ/>. Both agreed to present in February.
- **Lead and Water Quarterly Update:** Ruth Ann Norton suggested that a quarterly update for lead and water be added to the calendar in order to regularly get the current status and updates on new opportunities to support lead, hazard control, and lead source exposure through other programs. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.
- **Statewide Community Efforts Quarterly Update:** Ruth Ann Norton suggested that there be a quarterly update to highlight good community efforts across the state that are happening or highlighting nurses or case managers or community organizations. This item was added to the calendar to be scheduled for future dates.
- **Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) Update On the City's Tracking of Lead Violation Notices:** Ruth Ann Norton asked that Mary Beth Haller and Camille Burke provide an update and status at the February meeting on how the City of Baltimore is tracking lead violation notices and the status on how it is doing. This meeting was added to the 2023 reporting calendar.
- **HB1110 - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level:** Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbot to report on HB1110 at the March meeting which was added to the reporting calendar.
- **Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report:** Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbot to report on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report at the March meeting which was added to the reporting calendar.
- **Subcommittee Findings on Inconsistencies With Lead Testing in Homes:** Barbara Moore recommended that due to report inconsistencies, the Commission take a look at what is being tested in the homes. Ruth Ann Norton asked Tyler Abbott to create a subcommittee to investigate this issue and report their findings in March. Susan Kleinhammer volunteered to be on the subcommittee. This item was added to the reporting calendar for March.
- **Public Lead Assessment Webinar:** Ruth Ann Norton recommended a possible public webinar sponsored by MDE and the Commission to inform the public about lead assessments and what is involved with an assessment. This item was added to the reporting calendar as "to be determined."
- **Commission Meeting Calendar for 2023:** Wendy Phillips provided the Commission with the dates for the upcoming Lead Commission Meetings for the 2023 calendar year. Christina Peusch pointed out a mistake in the May date which should read May 4, 2023 not May 11, 2023. M. Phillips made this correction. The information is posted on the Lead Commission website at <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/Land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPCommission.aspx>
- **Permitting Process:** Susan Kleinhammer indicated that she would like the Commission to revisit the topic of the permitting process especially in the City of Baltimore. Specifically about requiring some documentation of lead training by contractors pulling permits. She also would like the Commission to proceed with talking to the Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) to discuss its effort to help get contractors lead trained who are working in pre-1978 properties. The goal would be to get better compliance and to prevent children in remodeling and renovation activities from having unnecessary exposures to lead. Ruth Ann Norton asked Wendy Phillips to facilitate the below meetings
 - **Baltimore City Permitting Process:** This meeting would be to discuss permitting process issues and compile an update report to be given to the Commission of the findings. The meeting should include Ruth Ann Norton, Susan Kleinhammer, Katherine Taylor, Mary Beth Haller.
 - **Pre-Meeting MHIC/Commissioner:** This meeting would be a pre meeting in order to prep MHIC for the Commission meeting. The meeting should include Ruth Ann Norton, Susan Kleinhammer, Adam Skolnik, and MHIC and should take place prior to MHIC meeting with the entire Lead Commission.
 - **Commission Meeting with MHIC:** This meeting would be to discuss efforts to get pre-1798 property contractors lead trained.
- **MDE Annual Report Review for the governor 2022:** Yearly, the Lead Commission is to report to the Governor a summation of the Commission meetings during the calendar year. A copy of the report was provided to the

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Tyler Abbott reported the following items:
 - Secretary Tablada has retired and Suzanne Dorsey will be acting secretary until a new secretary is appointed.
 - MDE will provide a few more reports in the near future regarding HB1110 as well as the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Cliff Mitchell informed the Commission about the following items:
 - MDH has received a substantial grant from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and also discussed its current status and how the grant money will be used.
 - MDH is collaborating with MDH regarding the development of a dashboard for healthcare providers related to lead poisoning testing, lead testing, and follow-up. Shamola Dye the epidemiologist for the lead registry and MDH's epidemiology staff will be working on a provider dashboard and will be reporting to the Commission the developments.
 - During the month of January, MDH will be having another quarterly meeting with all of the lead case managers across the state with MDE to talk about lead poisoning activities, and prevention activities.
 - During the Health Officer Roundtable, the week of January 9, Dr. Mitchell will be presenting to the health officers an update on lead poisoning prevention and associated activities.
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter): Paul Rogers reported that he had a meeting through the Echo program. During the case discussion there were lots of questions and a lot of frustration the pediatricians are feeling with all the paperwork to fill out on lead poisoning related issues. Dr. Rogers invited Dr. Mitchell to MDAAP's next meeting on February 1, 2023 at noon to provide some answers to the questions that were raised.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): No updates were provided.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): No updates were provided.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development): Jack Daniels reported that MD-DHCD's acting secretary is Owen McAvoy and also that it is currently having some staffing issues that have caused delays and it is trying to resolve.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): No updates were provided.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke reported the following:
 - BCHD recently received the list of everything that's been demolished in Baltimore City in the past two years and is in the process of going through its violations and vacant and boarded list and comparing it to that demolished list to hopefully reduce the violation list.
 - BCHD is closer towards publishing the new lead abatement regulations which will be finalized soon.
- **HABC** (Housing Authority of Baltimore City): Ruth Ann Norton indicated that she will call Dan Abrams from HABC to see if he can periodically update the Commission on their process with lead.
- **GHHI** (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative): Ruth Ann Norton and Wes Stewart reported the following items:
 - GHHI has a new case manager, Angela Perry Hall, who will be joining the Commission Meeting in February.
 - GHHI, with some EPA funding, had a community meeting on lead and water and will have an additional meeting soon on air quality.
 - There is substantial funding coming from the inflation reduction from the infrastructure bill to the State of Maryland, the Commission may want to look at how those funds are going to be distributed.
 - GHHI is seeking referrals of families and low-income homes in Baltimore that could use funds to raise the standard of their housing condition including upgrades in owners' home or property owners who could benefit from having these funds from the 1k health homes. If anyone is interested in having GHHI come and talk to any of your groups or if you want more information regarding this topic please contact info@ghhi.org or gwstewart@ghhi.org.
 - GHHI is looking to expand its contractor pool.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

- Barbara Moore wanted the Commission to know that a lot of the government agencies are not receiving emails from Mount Washington. Mount Washington is trying to work through the issue.

Public Comments and Updates:

No comments or updates were provided.

Reminder for February Reporting:

- MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
- Legislation
- Mapping Lead Data and Health Equity - MDE/MDH

Adjournment:

The meeting ended at approximately 11 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

The next Lead Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023 via Google Meet, from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

February 2, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Approved Meeting Minutes

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 230202
- Draft Minutes 230105
- MDE Lead Commission Calendar 2023
- LPPC Attendance 2022
- Legislative Bills -
HB36.HB79.HB169.SB100.SB144
- EJ & MDE
- 2023 CEB Violation Prez_
- FYI Email - Fw_ [EXTERNAL] [Leadnet]
\$150.0 million dollars for childhood lead poisoning prevention
- Lead Factsheets and XRF Factsheet - Spanish translation

Opening Welcome and Introductions:

Ruth Ann Norton called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with welcome and introductions.

Members Present:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jacob Benzaquen | Mary Beth Haller | Manjula Paul |
| Benita Cooper | Cliff Mitchell | Christina Peusch |
| Jack Daniels | Paula Montgomery | Paul Rogers |
| Anna Davis | Barbara Moore | Adam Skolnik |
| Susan Kleinhammer | Ruth Ann Norton | |

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar Senator Jill Carter

Guests Present:

| | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Frederick Banks-MDE | Shamola Dye-MDE | Wendy Phillips-MDE |
| Thea Becton-HUD | Caitlin Eversmier-MDE | Tiffany Price-MDH |
| Janice Besecker-MDH | Eamon Flynn-MDH | Tim Rule-MDE |
| Aku Boatema-MDH | Steven Homola-BCDHCD | Candace Scott-MDH |
| Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE | Darlene Israel-MDH | Stephanie Staats-HUD |
| Camille Burke-BCHD | Dawn Joy-AMA | Wes Stewart-GHHI |
| Chris Corzine-OAG | Myron Mason-MSDE | Chris White-ARC |
| Lori DeLester-Public | Serena McIlwain-MDE | |
| William Doyle-HCHD | Jo Anne Murray-MSDE | |

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Mary Beth Haller to accept the January 5, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Next Meeting Reminder:** Thursday, 03/02/23 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m which includes the Agenda items below.
 - Introduction and Commitment of Governor Wes Moore
 - Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development
 - HB1110 Updates - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level (Tyler Abbott)
 - Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates (Tyler Abbott)
 - Subcommittee Updates on Environmental Investigations (Paula Montgomery/Tyler Abbott)
 - MDE – Compliance and Enforcement (Paula Montgomery)
 - Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program (Ruth Anne Norton)
- **2023 Lead Commission Calendar for final approval:** The Commission discussed the 2023 calendar and updated it by adding “Dashboard of Unit Production on Lead Hazard Control” with the date to be determined. Ruth Anne Norton suggested that item be added with the intention to create a comprehensive report from the Commission, such as a living document, that will report on the activities around lead poisoning prevention and lead hazard control that is transparent to the public such as the number of federal, state, or local public dollars, being used for lead hazard control efforts. The report could also highlight the efforts of other agencies such as MDH, DHCD, and MDE. The report would be a benefit to child advocates, educators, rental property owners, etc. Jacob Benzaquen, Cliff Mitchell, and Paula Montgomery volunteered to contribute to this process. Ruth Ann Norton indicated that she will reach out to those that volunteered to discuss the matter further.
- **Attendance Report 2022:** Ruth Anne Norton reported that she made efforts to reach out to Delegate Attar and Senator Carter to discuss representation from the legislature in the Lead Commission. Wendy Phillips provided the Commissioners and Guests the report and briefly discussed the results.

New Business:

- **Introduction of MDE Secretary:** Ruth Anne Norton introduced Serena Mcllwain, Secretary of MDE. Secretary Mcllwain introduced herself, expressed her excitement to work with the Commission and offered her support.
- **MDH EPHT- Environmental Public Health Tracking:** Prior to Cliff Mitchell’s scheduled presentation, he announced that the report discussed at the December 2022 Commission meeting, during MDH’s Evaluation of Universal Testing and Updates on Home Visits, is been released and posted to the MDH website: [Childhood Blood Lead Testing in Maryland: Evaluation and Recommendations](#). Following this update, Dr. Mitchell conducted his presentation and provided the Commission a link to the [Environmental Public Health Tracking Portal](#) which provides data about lead and is important to environmental public health and medicine as a reliable source of information that can be used to carry out primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention of lead poisoning. The goal of this tracking portal is to make environmental health data publicly available for action. Dr. Mitchell gave a live demonstration on how to use the portal and navigate the different pages of information.
- **MDE Environmental Justice Presentation:** Caitlin Eversmier conducted her presentation which was previously sent to the Commission as an attachment called “EJ & MDE”. During her presentation she provided the Commission a link to the [EJ Screening Tool](#). MDE administers regulatory and infrastructure programs to protect and restore the environment for the health and well-being of all Maryland. MDE strives to implement programs that reduce existing environmental inequities and that avoid the creation of new inequities in communities who are overburdened or underserved that may have Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns. The MDE EJ Screening Tool allows users to identify potential EJ or overburdened communities. The EJ Screening Tool is intended to enhance agency compliance, oversight, monitoring, and to enhance communication and outreach in areas with permitting activities in EJ or overburdened communities, or underserved communities. The tool uses Maryland census data to enable users to better understand the nature and number of environmental stressors and potential disparities in communities. EJ aims to ensure fair treatment and equality for all Marylanders. Ms. Eversmier gave a brief powerpoint presentation, previously provided to the Commission, which included the internal environmental justice policy and legislation. Ms. Eversmier also demonstrated how to use the tool.
- **BCHD Update On the City’s Tracking of Lead Violation Notices:** Camille Burke gave a powerpoint presentation, previously provided to the Commission titled “2023 CEB Violation Prez_”, which highlighted the following topics: definition of Lead Violation Notice; actions that trigger violation notices; the process of sending violation notices and the next steps; non-Compliance; re-Inspection; passing the inspection; and list of staff and contact information.

- **MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs:** Jack Daniels provided the following updates:
 - MD-DHCD has an MOU with Baltimore City DHCD which is going well.
 - MD-DHCD has 20 deals that it has funded for around \$150,000.
 - MD-DHCD is getting about two submissions a week which are prioritized by working with its underwriting staff to validate and verify in order to move forward with the approvals.
 - MD-DHCD has committed five of its healthy homes for healthy kids projects for around \$500,000
 - MD-DHCD has a pipeline of 12 deals that are waiting for approval.
 - MD-DHCD recently received committee approval for one of those deals and it is working on the accommodation/relocation portion of the project.
 - MD-DHCD has another scope of work that has come in. Currently, its lead inspectors are reviewing the work to make sure it's acceptable to go to the committee.
 - MD-DHCD received about four applications, one of which was not able to move forward because there was no lead in the house.
 - MD-DHCD has done around \$4 million dollars in its other repair programs: Accessible Homes for Seniors, the traditional whole home, critical repair program (MHRP), and Indoor Plumbing Program.
 - The HAF WholeHome Critical Repairs Grant program has seen 410 applications encumbered during this fiscal year accounting for \$4.1 million dollars that was from July 1 to December 31. MD-DHCD is looking internally within its executive management in order to increase funding for the program. By the end of the month, MD-DHCD will have enough applications to spend out the whole \$10 million dollars. The program will end at the end of the calendar year 2026.
 - MD-DHCD has another initiative in Baltimore City called the Homeownership Works (HOW) program which is a pilot program. MD-DHCD has concentrated on two areas of the Pilot Program; Johnson Square in Baltimore City and the Pine Street Community in Cambridge. MD-DHCD is working closely with Habitat for Humanity Choptank in Pine Street and ReBUILD Metro in Johnson Square. There is current legislation in session to increase funding for this Pilot Program as MD-DHCD is becoming a national model for addressing property value gaps.
 - MD-DHCD has a pipeline roughly of about 15 deals in Johnson Square. Three of those deals have been approved. Four are currently in the process of getting final approval and getting commitment. The other eight deals are pending. MD-DHCD is waiting on the customer to be able to get the contractor to come and give a qualified bid in Cambridge.
 - In the Pine Street area MD-DHCD has 12 deals that are in the beginning stages. Once MD-DHCD gets its participation agreement finalized, it should have most of those deals committed and done, however one of those deals fell through which was the deal through healthy homes for healthy kids.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Action Dates

- [HB0079/SB0296 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023](#): Ruth Anne Norton gave a brief overview of HB79/SB296. The bill was introduced by Delegate Vaughn Stewart of Montgomery County and would be replicating the Pennsylvania Whole House law that was passed last year. The state of Pennsylvania put together a fund out of money from the American Rescue Plan. Pennsylvania put the \$125 million dollars into a fund for housing for environmental health under the American Rescue Plan with the intention to pilot a whole house approach.
- [HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill \(Fiscal Year 2024\)](#): Wes Stewart gave an overview of this supplemental budget bill that will include \$1.5 million dollars in additional funding for the Lead Poisoning Prevention Fund at the Maryland Department of the Environment.
- [HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure](#): Adam Skolnik gave an overview of this bill which requires landlords to have licenses if the landlords are going to use “fail to pay rent” cases in rent court. The Maryland Multi-Housing Association supports this bill with some amendments. Adam Skolnik will forward to Wendy Phillips the amendments that MMHA is suggesting to be shared with the Commission.
- [HB0169/SB0144 - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing](#): Ruth Anne Norton reminded the Commission that during the 2022 legislative session, this bill was approved by the legislature but vetoed by Governor Hogan. This bill is being reintroduced in the 2023 session and is an energy efficiency bill that will guide investment to ensure that energy efficiency happens and that low-income families are getting the appropriate level of investment based on their contribution to “Empower” funds which is a utility fund that provides funding back to the public for energy efficiency and weatherization. The bill calls for a Commission that will look at the whole house approach. This bill has an impact on lead in that, like HB79, HB169/SB144 calls for the alignment of dollars into the fund. The general non low-income fund from utilities has about \$130 million dollars in it for the general public which is fully spent out

in many ways for the public. Low-income communities actually contribute around \$49 million dollars a year into the fund. Low-income communities only received back \$28 million dollars a year which creates an inequity of expenditure and guidance. HB169/SB144 would effectively correct that inequity. Chair Norton indicated that she will share GHHI's testimony with the Commission. This bill would provide guidance for the Department of Housing and Community Development about priority expenditure to the lowest income communities. The bill will also establish a task force that will look at an align/grade/coordinate process. The Maryland Matters newspaper recently published an article regarding this bill. Chair Norton indicated that she will share that article with the Commission. The bill sponsor in the House is Delegate Lorig Charkoudian from Montgomery County. The bill sponsor in the Senate is the Chair of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, Senator Brian Feldman. The Senate hearing was on January 31, 2023. The Commission supports this bill which will likely get passed again by the legislature.

Agency/Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Paula Montgomery stated that the FDA has announced that it has draft guidance. There will be a webinar on that guidance on March 2, 2023 at 10:00am for the industry on action levels for lead in baby food as a response to the zero tolerance initiative as well as goals to reduce dietary exposure to contaminants while maintaining nutritious foods. Additionally, the CDC has identified a cream that the Vietnamese population is using for eczema. According to the FDA the threshold limit is 10 parts, per million. The cream in question is over 7,000 parts per million. There was an advisory that went out to Locals about the cream.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): No updates provided.
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Paul Rogers indicated that MDAAP just completed its fifth session in which Cliff Mitchell participated.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): No updates provided.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): No updates provided.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development): No updates provided.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): No updates provided.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): No updates provided.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative): No updates provided.

Commissioner Comments and Updates: No updates provided.

Public Comments and Updates: No updates provided.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Jacob Benzaquen to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paula Montgomery. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

March 2, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Google Meet

Approved Meeting Minutes

Documents Distributed:

- Lead Commission Distributed Meeting Material Cover Page
- Final Agenda 230302
- Draft Minutes 230202
- Lead Poisoning Prevention Compliance Numbers FY 23 through Q2
- HB00036 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure_MMHA Suggested Amendments
- HB00036_DLS_FN
- HB00036FirstRead

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen

Benita Cooper

Jack Daniels

Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer

Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery

Barbara Moore

Ruth Ann Norton

Manjula Paul

Paul Rogers

Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar

Senator Jill Carter

Mary Beth Haller

Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE

Frederick Banks-MDE

Akua Boatema-MDH

Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE

Camille Burke-BCHD

Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE

Chris Corzine-OAG

Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD

William Doyle-HCHD

Colleen Duval-GHHI

Eamon Flynn-MDH

Steven Homola-BCDHCD

Darlene Israel-MDH

Dawn Joy-AMA

Jonathan Klanderud-MDE

Wendy Phillips-MDE

Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE

Tiffany Price-MDH

Tim Rule-MDE

Candace Scott-MDH

Anastasia Solano-MDE

Kevin Stanley-MDE

Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD

Chris White-ARC

Opening Welcome and Introductions: Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. with welcome and introductions.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Anna Davis, seconded by Paul Rogers to accept the February 2, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

- **Opening Remarks and Acknowledgements:** Chair Norton thanked the MDE Secretary, Serena McIlwain for taking the time to visit at the last Commission meeting despite the technical difficulties. Chair Norton also expressed an interest to have Secretary McIlwain participate in person at MDE in a future Commission meeting, and also invite Secretary Laura Herrera Scott of the Maryland Department of Health to join the meeting.
- **Commission Meeting Schedule:** Chair Norton proposed that the Commission meeting schedule be modified to convene every other month, resulting in a total of six meetings per year instead of nine (January, March, May, July, September, November). This recommendation aims to streamline the meeting frequency for increased efficiency. During discussions, two members of the Commission expressed their support for this proposal.
- **Joint Commissions:** Dr. Cliff Mitchell has proposed that the three Commissions, namely the Children's Environmental Health Protection Advisory Council, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission, and the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities, occasionally convene jointly in order to strategize collaboratively and be viewed as a cohesive entity rather than distinct commissions. This recommendation aims to promote a unified approach and enhance the effectiveness of their collective efforts in addressing critical environmental and public health issues.
- **Change in Upcoming Commission Meeting Dates:** Chair Norton proposed the cancellation of the April Commission meeting in order to honor the members and guests who will be celebrating the upcoming holiday. The recommendation was to reconvene the Commission meeting in May. Furthermore, Chair Norton suggested that the Commission consider holding a voluntary meeting in June to coincide with Healthy Homes Awareness Month, which would be open to those who are available to attend. Additionally, there is a possibility of having Marcia Fudge, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development join the June meeting. A motion was made by Ruth Ann Norton and seconded by Anna Davis to cancel the meeting for April and hold a meeting in June. All present Commissioners were in favor and the motion was passed.
- **Applying for Grants:** Chair Norton, with the concurrence of the Commission, proposed that a formal letter be sent on behalf of the Commission to the Secretaries of Health, Environment, and Housing. The letter would request that, in its agencies grant applications, the Secretaries prioritize initiatives related to lead prevention awareness, particularly with regard to blood poisoning, as well as efforts to address lead paint hazards and enhance contractor capacity building. Chair Norton provided a link regarding grants for those who may be interested. The link is titled: Environmental Justice Grants, Funding and Technical Assistance <https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/environmental-justice-grants-funding-and-technical-assistance>
- **Re-engagement and Igniting of Community Outreach and Social Media:** Chair Norton proposed a collaborative effort among multiple organizations to develop an action plan with a primary focus on education and outreach. To facilitate this, Coleen Duval will coordinate with the volunteers to schedule a meeting. The volunteers involved in this initiative are Ruth Ann Norton, Paula Montgomery, Jacob Benzaquen, Rena Boss-Victoria, Barbara Moore, Susan Kleinhammer, Anna Davis, and Chris White. Additionally, Anna Davis suggested that the group also collaborate in providing resources for families who may not be aware of their eligibility to apply for financial benefits in cases where their child has been affected by lead poisoning or is experiencing its effects. Chair Norton indicated that she will provide an update at the Commission meeting in May.

Old Business:

- **Commission Membership Recommendation - Parent of a Lead Poisoned Child:** Chair, Norton acknowledged receiving a nomination for a parent of a lead poisoned child and requested others to forward any additional nominations as the Commission is starting to move forward with recommendation.

New Business:

- **Invitations to Upcoming Commission Meetings:** Chair Norton indicated that invitations to attend a future Commission meeting for Governor Wes Moore, Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development, Secretary Laura Herrera Scott of the Maryland Department of Health, and Secretary Marcia Fudge of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development are forthcoming.
- **HB1110 Updates - Environment - Lead Poisoning Prevention - Elevated Blood Lead Level (Tyler Abbott):** Tyler Abbott, Director of Land and Materials Administration at MDE, provided a PowerPoint presentation. Material of the presentation was provided in advance to the guests and members of the Commission. The presentation highlighted MDE's mission, background of HB1110, and MDE's findings and recommendations.
- **Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates:** Tyler Abbott reported that there were unforeseen challenges with the selected contractor for data input, resulting in delays. As a result, MDE is currently in the process of inputting the remaining few thousand cases. It is anticipated that all data will be entered and analyzed by the end of March, with the report expected to be ready for review and sharing with the Commission by mid-April.
- **Subcommittee Updates on Environmental Investigations:** Paula Montgomery informed the Commission that the Subcommittee met on February 23. The Subcommittee members included Paula Montgomery, Susan Kleinhammer, Barbara Moore, Camille Burke, Fred Banks, and Jonathan Klanderud. The discussions focused on various topics, including the internal processes for environmental investigations at the current blood lead reference value of 5 micrograms per deciliter, the use of HUD guidelines Chapter 16 as part of environmental investigations in Maryland, the use of an environmental questionnaire to determine testing needs and reporting findings to families and property owners, simplifying the report of findings for better understanding, outreach and education to families of identified children, and the legal ability to share documentation with other case managers throughout the state. The action items undertaken by the Subcommittee included creating a decision tree based on regulations for the Environmental Investigation process to be presented during the May Commission meeting, ensuring agencies adhere to Maryland regulations, creating a draft document to provide families and property owners with clear explanations of report findings, creating and disseminating source-specific fact sheets for medical environmental case managers to help eliminate potential sources of environmental hazards, and contacting MDE's Office of Attorney General to determine if the report of findings can be shared with other case managers outside the statute.
- **MDE – Compliance and Enforcement:** Fred Banks updated the Commission on Compliance and Enforcement. It was reported that the day-to-day operations and accreditations from third-party inspectors have increased, although there have been some issues with the new LRCA. The general public is becoming more familiar with the system, and staff are actively answering questions and seeking feedback for improvement. The number of applications for registrations has significantly increased from Fiscal Year 22 to Fiscal Year 23, which is seen as positive. However, inspections have slightly decreased due to limited staff and violation numbers appear to be down slightly. Penalties collected have slightly increased. Additionally, MDE intends to increase its presence in the community through more site visits and increased visibility.

- **Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program:** Ruth Ann Norton indicated that do date she has not yet received the transition report from the Moore Administration and she will share this at the May meeting.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Action Dates

- HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure
 - Adam Skolnik reported that he expects that this bill will be passed.
- HB0079/SB0296 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023
 - Chair Norton reported that this bill was heard in the House and the Senate and is currently on hold and may not pass this legislative session.
- HB0169/SB0144 - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing
 - Chair Norton reminded the Committee that this bill passed during the 2022 legislative session but it was vetoed by Governor Hogan. Chair Norton reported that it is currently progressing through the committees.
- HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2024)

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): No updates were provided.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Candace Scott reported that there will be an Asthma Summit held on May 18, 2023. The event is expected to be an all day event hosted at Howard Community College.
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter): Dr. Paul Rogers reported that MDAAP had its succession on its Echo lead training program for the providers in Maryland. All of the lectures are online at the MDAAP website. If anyone is interested they can access the lectures.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care): Manjula Paul requested an update on OCC’s request to MDH regarding the merging of the immunization certificate and the lead screening certificate into one form. GHHI will follow-up with MDH and provide an update at the May meeting. Additionally, Ms. Paul requested that MDE perform water testing in the licensed childcare programs by using the same approach that was done with the MSDE public school programs for its child care programs.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): No updates were provided.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development): Jack Daniels reported that MD-DHCD re-released its rebranding/redesign of its critical repair programs and also reported that two deals that were mentioned in the February meeting have been approved.
- **BC- DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): Katherine Taylor reported updates which included the following: The period of performance was able to be extended for one of the grants in order to accommodate for the hold on work during covid. BC-DHCD has been proactively working towards increasing its intake over the past few months. This includes reaching out to local organizations such as Jude Heights, Social East Partnership, Bon Secours, and others, and creating Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to streamline the application process. BC-DHCD has posted its contractor bid through the procurement office and is actively seeking additional contractors. The deadline for bid submissions is March 15, 2023.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camile Burke reported that BCHD is starting its spring testing tour with Saint Vincent de Paul in order to figure out who and what needs to be tested including follow ups with all of the kids that are being tested. Also, Sue Kleinhammer hosted BCHD at BCHD’s facility yesterday in order to give a refresher training.

- **GHHI (Green and Healthy Homes Initiative):** Chair Norton reported that GHHI recently hired a new social and digital media employee to work with its communication office and it will be publishing out monthly newsletters. Chair Norton reported that if any of the Commission agencies are interested in having its work highlighted in the newsletter to please contact Beth Bingham who is the Director of Communications at GHHI at bbingham@ghhi.org. During June, GHHI will host a round table with EPA focusing on lead, contractor development, and the Justice 40 Initiative. Additionally, in March, GHHI is hosting a national Decarbonization Electrification Conference.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

- **Letter to Governor and Secretary of Education:** Chair Norton has made a recommendation that she and Manjula Paul work together to draft a formal letter on behalf of the Commission addressed to both the Governor and the Secretary of Education. The letter will emphasize the critical need to allocate funding for child care and respectfully request supplementary financial support for child care services in the forthcoming state budget.
- **Permitting Process:** During the Commission meeting held on January 5, 2023, Commissioner Susan Kleinhammer expressed her desire for the Commission to revisit the topic of the permitting process. Commissioner Kleinhammer has concerns that this important matter is not receiving sufficient attention. In response to her request, Chair Norton recommended the formation of a Subcommittee to further discuss this issue, with Commissioner Kleinhammer being appointed as the chair of the Subcommittee to facilitate progress. Adam Skolnik volunteered to be on the Subcommittee.

Public Comments and Updates: No Comments or updates reported.

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 05/04/23 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m which includes the Agenda items below:

- Motion to vote on Commission Meeting every other month (All)
- Update on the Re-engagement and Igniting of Community Outreach and Social Media Efforts (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Status of MDH Merging Immunization Certificate With Lead Screening Certificate (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Findings on Environmental Investigations Subcommittee: Inconsistencies with Lead Testing (Paula Montgomery)
- Introduction and Commitment of Governor Wes Moore
- Introduction to Secretary Laura Herrera Scott of the Maryland Department of Health
- Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates (Tyler Abbott)
- MDE Update on Water Safety (Christina Ardito, Georgella Samu, Tim Rule)
- Daycare Discussion Progress (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program (Ruth Ann Norton)

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Jacob Benzaquen to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Paula Montgomery. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

Thursday, May 4, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen
Jack Daniels
Mary Beth Haller
Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore
Ruth Ann Norton
Manjula Paul

Paul Rogers
Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar
Senator Jill Carter

Benita Cooper
Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer
Christina Peusch

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE
Frederick Banks-MDE
Chevelle Bash-GHHI
Thea Becton-HUD
Akua Boatema-MDH
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Camille Burke-BCHD
Subha Chandar-MDH
Shamola Dye-MDE
Eamon Flynn-MDH

Angela Hall-Public
Jason Harding-BCDHCD
Steven Homola-BCDHCD
Darlene Israel-MDH
Alexia Jones-GHHI
Dawn Joy-AMA
Nilesh Kalyanaraman-MDH
Comfort Kissi-GHHI
Jonathan Klanderud-MDE
Wendy Phillips-MDE

DeShanette Ponzon-Brown-MDE
Victor Powell-HUD
Tiffany Price-MDH
Tim Rule-MDE
Candace Scott-MDH
Tiana Sheppard-GHHI
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 230504
- Draft Minutes 230302
- WSA Update
- LPPP_Lead Commission_Mtg 5.4.2023
- LCSubcomitteDesisionTree_2023

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. with welcome and introductions. Dr. Cliff Mitchell gave a brief introduction of Deputy Secretary, Dr. Nilesh Kalyanaraman of the Maryland Department of Health. Dr. Kalyanaraman gave a brief overview of the role of MDH, its goals, challenges, and current status.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Adam Skolnik to accept the March 2, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Asthma Awareness Month: Chair Norton reminded the commission that this month of May is Asthma Awareness Month and announced that there is an upcoming Summit on May 18, 2023 at Howard County and encouraged Commission participation.

Healthy Homes Awareness Month: Chair Norton reminded the commission that the month of June is Healthy Homes Awareness Month. Many surrounding agencies will be hosting many events and activities. GHHI is planning to host a Community Town Hall Round Table with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Governor's Office.

HUD Grants: Chair Norton reminded the Commission that applications for the Lead Hazard Control Grants are due on June 14, 2023 and encouraged people to submit an application.

State Supplemental Budget: Chair Norton informed the Commission that additional funding to MDE was restored. Legal services, case management, and outreach services will now be restored through this \$500K additional supplemental funding.

Old Business:

- **Commission Meeting Schedule:** During the March 2023 meeting, Chair Norton suggested modifying the Commission meeting schedule to occur every other month, reducing the number of meetings from nine to six per year. The proposed months for these meetings would be January, March, May, July, September, and November. The purpose of this change is to enhance efficiency by streamlining the meeting frequency. The Commission further discussed this proposal. During the discussion, Mary Beth Haller emphasized the importance of convening meetings during the legislative session. She highlighted the necessity of maintaining regular meetings during this period. She also put forth a suggestion to include a standing item on the Agenda for a meeting vote. This vote would determine whether the Commission should convene in the following month or not. Additionally, Dr. Mitchell reminded the Commission about his previous recommendation to hold a joint commission meeting annually in either June or October. He reiterated the benefits and value of such a meeting. Chair Norton suggested further discussions during the June meeting.
- **MDE Update on Water Safety:** Tim Rule provided a PowerPoint presentation on Water Safety School Testing. Material from the presentation was provided in advance to the guests and members of the Commission in the document titled "WSA Update". The presentation highlighted the summary of results as of May 1, 2023 and Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act, Section 2107.
- **Status of MDH Merging Immunization Certificate With Lead Screening Certificate:** Dr. Mitchell reported that he is very interested in discussion efforts with the Immunization Program and MDE but it

would be a complicated and long discussion due to the statutory requirements for Immunization records. Dr. Mitchell will work to plan for a future discussion.

- **Update on the Re-engagement and Igniting of Community Outreach and Social Media Efforts:** This item has been tabled for the June meeting.

New Business:

- **Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance Report Updates:** Shamola Dye, Fred Banks, and Rena Boss–Victoria provided a PowerPoint presentation on Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance. Material from the presentation was provided in advance to the guests and members of the Commission in the document titled “LPPP_Lead Commission_Mtg 5.4.2023”. The presentation highlighted the calendar year 2021 preliminary statistical report, the number of children 0–72 months tested for lead and the number reported to have blood lead level $\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$:CY 2000–2021, the percent of children 0–72 months of age lead tested and identified with a blood lead level of 5–9 $\mu\text{g/dL}$: CY 2000–2021, state of the state childhood lead poisoning, and blood lead levels 5 to 9.9 $\mu\text{g/dL}$, and over 10 $\mu\text{g/dL}$, (Ages 0-6 Years Old) for Maryland 2020 and 2021 by zip code.
- **Presentation - Subcommittee on Environmental Investigations:** At the January meeting, Barbara Moore recommended that due to report inconsistencies, the Commission take a look at what is being tested in the homes. A subcommittee to investigate this issue was created. Paula Montgomery provided a PowerPoint presentation on findings from the Subcommittee regarding these environmental investigations. Material from the presentation was provided in advance to the guests and members of the Commission in the document titled “LCSubcommitteeDecisionTree_2023”. The presentation highlighted the following: members of the Subcommittee; discussions that took place mostly centered on internal processes; action items and assignments; decision tree; investigation process; supplement to report findings; Maryland law on reporting blood lead levels; how to share the information with health care providers; and ongoing outcomes.
- **Daycare Discussion Progress:** This item has been tabled for the June meeting.
- **Review Transition Reports relating to MDE Lead Program:** This item has been tabled for the June meeting. Chair Norton asked that MDE identify things that came from the transition team to the department that may be being addressed by the lead program and give the Commission a synopsis at the June meeting.

Legislation/Pending Legislative Outcome & Action Dates (Adam Skolnik, Wes Stewart)

- HB0036/SB0100 - Real Property – Actions to Repossess – Proof of Rental Licensure: This bill passed.
- HB0079/SB0296 - Housing and Community Development - Whole-Home Repairs Act of 2023: This bill did not pass.
- HB0169/SB0144 - Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs - Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing: This bill passed.
- HB0200/SB0181 - Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2024): This bill passed.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events:

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment): Fred Banks reported that MDE is still working through a few of its big cases that involve a number of infractions. The Lead Program also hired Kevin Stanley, the new Unit Chief for its accreditation oversight unit and is still working to fill other vacancies.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health): Candace Scott reminded the Commissioners that the Asthma Summit will take place on May 18, 2023 at the Howard County Health Department and registration is live.
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter): Paul Rogers reported that MDAAP just finished its echo program. MDAAP had a special training program for pediatricians across the state, and MDAAP is now pulling together the outcome data and quality improvement data. Dr. Rogers volunteered to present this data at the June meeting.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul reported that MSDE/OCC is actively promoting lead testing and vaccination as the academic year is coming to an end and the New Year approaches. Parents are preparing their necessary forms to visit the healthcare providers' offices, and MSDE/OCC is urging them to complete lead screening. However, there is significant resistance from parents due to the additional step of going to the lab for blood testing. Noncompliance with the testing leads to citations for child care providers. Despite the resistance, MSDE/OCC is persistently advocating for testing by providing information and support.
- **MIA** (Maryland Insurance Administration): No updates at this time.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development): No updates at this time.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development): No updates at this time.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department) Camille Burke reported that Mary Beth Haller's first day as interim Commissioner was May 1, 2023. The comment period for the new regulations in Baltimore City has ended. The new regulations were posted on BCHD's website on April 24, and the information was available for 30 days. If anyone has any comments, please share them with Camille Burke, who will include them before BCHD finalizes the regulations.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) No updates at this time.

Commissioner Comments and Updates: No comments or updates at this time.

Public Comments and Updates: No comments or updates at this time.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Manjula Paul. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, June 1, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Introduction to Secretary Marcia Fudge, of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Introduction to Secretary Jacob Day of the Department of Housing & Community Development
- Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Wendy Phillips)
- MDH – report from counties (success of case management efforts) (Cliff Mitchell)
- BC-DHCD - HUD Grant Program (Katheryn Taylor)
- Asthma Awareness Month: Intersection of Lead with Healthy Homes & Work done on Joint Programs of Lead and Asthma (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Recap of Legislation and Impacts of Budget or Legislation (Ruth Ann Norton)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION

June 1, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting

Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jacob Benzaquen | Paula Montgomery | Christina Peusch |
| Anna Davis | Barbara Moore | Paul Rogers |
| Susan Kleinhammer | Ruth Ann Norton | Adam Skolnik |
| Cliff Mitchell | Manjula Paul | |

Members Absent:

| | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Delegate Dalya Attar | Benita Cooper |
| Senator Jill Carter | Jack Daniels |

Guests Present:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Tyler Abbott-MDE | Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD | Tim Rule-MDE |
| Frederick Banks-MDE | Steven Homola-BC-DHCD | Candace Scott-MDH |
| Chevelle Bash-GHHI | Darlene Israel-MDH | Stephanie Staats-HUD |
| Janice Besecker-MDH | Alexia Jones-GHHI | Kevin Stanley-MDE |
| Akua Boatema-MDH | Dawn Joy-AMA | George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI |
| Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE | Comfort Kissi-GHHI | Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD |
| Chris Corzine-OAG | Wade McCord-MDE | Chris White-AR |
| William Doyle-HCHD | Wendy Phillips-MDE | |
| Shamola Dye-MDE | Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD | |

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda
- Draft Minutes
- ECHO Summary for MD LPPCommittee - Final

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

HUD Lead Hazard Control Grants: Chair Norton reminded the Commission that the HUD lead hazard control grants are due Jun 14, 2023.

National Healthy Homes Month: The Commission was reminded that the National Healthy Homes Month will begin during the month of June 2023.

New Commission Members:

- A Parent of a Lead-Poisoned Child has been nominated and will be applying for a Commissioner position.
- Representative of Local Government: Effective June 1, 2023 Mary Beth Haller resigned as Commissioner. Nicole Hart from the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development has been nominated to fill this position.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Dr. Cliff Mitchell, seconded by Barbara Moore to accept the May 4, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote:** Chair Norton has tabled this item until the September meeting where it will be further discussed.

New Business:

- **Commissioner membership:** Membership renewals are due before September 30, 2023 for the following Commissioners: Jack Daniels, Benita Cooper, Jacob Benzaquen, Barbara Moore, and Anna Davis.
- **MDAAP Echo Program Outcomes and Quality Improvement Data Presentation:** Dr. Paul Rogers gave a presentation on the Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes (ECHO) program. The presentation highlighted the goals, steps taken to create a community of learners in Maryland, lessons acquired from a community of learners, QI lessons acquired from a community of learners, barriers for the community of learners, and lessons for the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission. A copy of the slide presentation titled, “ECHO Summary for MD LPPCommittee - Final” was provided to the Commission prior to the meeting.
- **MDH – report from counties (success of case management efforts):** MDH distributed approximately \$380,000 to local health departments to support case management activities through funding from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Dr. Mitchell presented a draft progress report during the meeting, and also provided feedback that MDH had received from various Maryland counties. This feedback included specific examples of how the counties utilized the allocated funds to promote education, raise awareness, and emphasize the importance of lead testing. Dr. Mitchell indicated that the report will be available to the Commission when the final report is complete. Will Doyle, from the Howard County Health Department shared his feedback and experience and stated that the communications team from Howard County Health Department developed materials in multiple languages highlighting the threat of lead in spices that will help them reach at-risk families. Mr. Doyle indicated that he will share these resources with the Commission.
- **Child Daycare Regulation Review Subcommittee:** Paula Montgomery suggested the Commission create a Child Daycare Regulation Review Subcommittee in which the Office of Child Care’s attorney’s work with MDE’s attorneys to update the regulations for daycare providers. Christina Peusch indicated that she would like to be included in this Subcommittee.

- **Asthma Awareness Month: Intersection of Lead with Healthy Homes and Work done on Joint Programs of Lead and Asthma:** Dr. Mitchell and Candace Scott gave a brief recap of the success of the Summit which took place on May 18, 2023. There were approximately 65 attendees in person and 50 online. Dr. Mitchell also shared some of the takeaways from this Summit.
- **Recap of Lead funding for Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (BC-DHCD):** Nicole Hart from BC-DHCD informed the Commission that the organization currently holds two HUD grants totaling approximately 13 million dollars. As of May 31, 2023, the organization is in the process of managing around 212 houses from the beginning to the end of the pipeline. BC-DHCD is actively engaging with duty centers and conducting outreach activities to promote its lead work. Additionally, once BC-DHCD establishes neighborhood sub cabinets, it will expand its outreach efforts to encompass all of its lead programs. The organization is committed to reaching out to the community through multiple channels to effectively communicate its initiatives and objectives.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment):** Tyler Abbott shared that the lawsuit between TTI and its non-accredited contractor consultant is advancing. The incident in question occurred when lead paint chips were spread across a neighborhood in Baltimore due to power washing.
- **MDH (Maryland Department of Health)** Cliff Mitchell shared that MDH is collaborating with MDE to display lead-related information at a census tract level on its public portal. This will enable MDH to examine lead levels and lead testing rates across the state, specifically at the census tract level. The release of this information is expected in either July or August.
- **BC-DHCD (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development)** Katherine Taylor shared that BC-DHCD recently received a list from The Health Department of elevated blood lead levels of children in Baltimore City. BC-DHCD is expected to receive a full list covering five years and is currently planning to take proactive steps to assist all those families and initiate necessary actions to address their needs effectively.
- **GHHI (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative)** Wes Stewart shared that Healthy Housing Month was productive with multiple activities: Climate and Healthy Homes webinar; Healthy Homes and Mental Health; Power in the Park in Montgomery County; lead contractor training; property owner training, lead outreach event in Laurel, AFRAM Juneteenth Celebration at Druid Hill Park; 3 Baltimore County library events; and other community events throughout the month.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dr. Mitchell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Barbara Moore. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, September 7, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote (Ruth Ann)
- Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September (Paula Montgomery)
- Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Nominations due 09/15/23 & Votes due 09/22/23 (Paula Montgomery)
- MDH Updates: (MDH Subha/Eamon)
 - The public availability of census tract-level data for Lead on the new Environmental Public Health Tracking portal
 - Updated Lead Testing Form 4620, available as either a [printable](#) or [fillable](#) PDF
 - Revised regulations, which are printed in the Maryland Register
- MDE
 - Compliance and Enforcement (MDE reports run on state FY July 1 to June 30) (Jonathan Klanderud)
 - DLHS & DLCL Changes - EPA Lead Workgroup - Update (Paula Montgomery)
- MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs (Jack Daniels)
- Report on the the Commission work done over the summer (Ruth Ann Norton)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION September 7, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Virtual Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen
Benita Cooper
Jack Daniels
Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer
Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore
Ruth Ann Norton

Manjula Paul
Christina Peusch
Paul Rogers

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar
Senator Jill Carter

Cliff Mitchell
Adam Skolnik

Guests Present:

Frederick Banks-MDE
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Camille Burke-BCHD
Subha Chandar-MDH
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG
Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD
William Doyle-HCHD
Shamola Dye-MDE

Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE
Jason Harding-BC-DHCD
Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD
Dawn Joy-AMA
Samantha Keane-MDE
Jonathan Klanderud-MDE
Catherine Lee
Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE

Nekia Randall
Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Tim Rule-MDE
Candace Scott-MDH
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD
Kira Videan-MDE
Chris White-AR

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 230907
- Draft Minutes 230601
- MDH Highlights_Lead Commission 9_7_2023.pptx
- MDH Blood Lead Testing Certificate 2023
- MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership
- Awards & Recognition Description.230821
- Lead Poisoning Prevention Chart FY '22 and FY '23 combined
- Proposed EPA Changes Lead Hazard Dust 2023
- NewLeadLevel
- Lead Palm Card Multiple languages

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Ruth Ann Norton discussed the return of the Commission after a summer break, with a focus on the upcoming National Lead Poisoning Prevention Awareness Week. She highlighted the launch of the green and healthy homes task force, aiming to address environmental health and climate-related hazards for children and seniors. She also emphasized the significance of federal funding, particularly the \$27 billion from the EPA, for cleaning up lead hazards in low-income housing across the country. Chair Norton also mentioned recent lead-related cases in Baltimore that underscored the need for improved interagency responses, better standards for landlords and contractors, and more effective communication. She expressed concerns about landlords relocating families to potentially harmful properties and are working on solutions. She also stressed the importance of the commission being committed to improving services for affected families while looking for ways to prevent such situations from recurring.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Anna Davis, seconded by Jacob Benzaquen to accept the June 1, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Commission Meeting Schedule/Motion to vote:** Chair Norton withdrew this item to discuss for the remainder of the 2023 year and asked that it be tabled this until 2024.
- **Commissioner membership updates and renewals due in September:** Paula Montgomery reminded the Commissioners whose membership expires at the end of September 2023 to renew their membership using the online system from the Governor's Appointments Office: [Commissioner Reappointment Application Instructions & Online Application Submittal](#). Expirations are four years from the effective date of the statutory staggering date. Wendy Phillips previously provided an updated list of all current memberships and vacancies with its expirations dates which can also be found on the Lead Commission website under [MDE Membership Positions](#).
- **Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions:** Paula Montgomery reminded the Commission about the yearly Awards and Recognition. An award will be presented for each of the three categories during the month of lead week in October. Wendy Phillips will circulate the nomination form and ask for recommendations by September 15, 2023. The Commissioners vote for their choice of recipients amongst the list of nominees submitted by September 22, 2023. During the October 05, 2023 meeting, the Commission will announce the recipients of the awards.

New Business:

- **MDH Updates:** Subha Chandar gave a presentation which highlighted the mission and vision of the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration; the [Public Health Tracking Portal](#); MDH Lead Testing Form which is available online as a [printable version](#) and a [fillable PDF](#); and the Revised Regulations. A copy of the slide presentation was provided to the Commission prior to the meeting.
- **Compliance and Enforcement (MDE reports run on state FY July 1 to June 30):** Jonathan Klanderud presented MDE's Annual Reports and Compliance numbers comparing FY22 and FY23. A copy of the information was previously provided to the Commission. Jonathan also provided a link to the Lead Rental Certification and Accreditation database ([LRCA database](#)). This database provides tenants the opportunity to look for certificates online and deter fraudulent certificates.
- Paula Montgomery reminded the Commission that a Subcommittee on Inconsistencies with Lead Testing in Homes met a few months ago and provided the Commission with their findings. She mentioned that the current law reads that MDE can share any case information with the health departments, however if anyone including providers wants any case information on the child that they don't already have, they would have to have their own type of HIPPA Release Form signed off by the tenants. Paula provided a sample of what the form could look like.
- **Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23:** Paula Montgomery reported that MDE has been meeting with GHHI and MDH on a regular basis. There has been a plan of action developed that will occur during lead week. MDE will be sharing a draft outline of the outreach events and press events that will be occurring during lead week.

- **MD-DHCD – Lead Grant Programs:** Jack Daniels provided information about the efforts made to expand the resources at DHCD to address the issue of lead. DHCD is actively using a One-Stop approach to tap into different programs and funding sources for green, healthy, and safe homes, focusing on lead abatement and related repairs. In the last fiscal year, they allocated \$1.8 million for 41 projects across Maryland's 24 jurisdictions. DHCD is collaborating with MDH's Environmental Health Bureau to enhance outreach, especially with local health departments and vendors. They aim to engage local hospitals and pediatricians in active conversations regarding elevated lead levels and potential resources available to families. DHCD is working on speeding up the approval process and addressing relocation challenges for large projects. They launched the Whole Home HAF Critical Repair program in January 2022, committing \$10 million to various projects statewide. DHCD also initiated the Homeownership Works program, with funds allocated to communities in Baltimore and Cambridge. They are working closely with Habitat for Humanity and managing multiple funding sources to address critical repairs despite staffing challenges.
- **Proposed EPA Rule Changes:** Catherine Lee provided a presentation on the Proposed Changes to EPA Dust Lead Hazard and Lead Dust Clearance Standards. The presentation provided some background and highlighted, EPA justification for new rulemaking; proposed changes to dust lead hazard standards; what impacted entities need to know; and key considerations by EPA for public comments. EPA is seeking out public comments that can be submitted online on the [regulations.gov website](https://www.regulations.gov).
- **DLHS & DLCL Changes - EPA Lead Workgroup:** Paula Montgomery reported to the Commission that MDE has assembled a workgroup, including commission members and outside experts with access to lab analysis, to review proposed rule changes. The workgroup will provide substantive comments to the EPA by October 2, focusing on data analysis rather than simple agreement or disagreement. They are evaluating if current lab analysis at NLAB Laboratories can reach the required detection limit and what instrumentation might be needed if not. The workgroup is also considering the impact on affected properties. The EPA is seeking scientifically-based, data-driven comments to assess health-based standards. If the rule is approved, there's a two-year period for EPA-accredited programs to implement or update regulations.
- **Report on the Commission work done over the summer:** Chair Norton reported that efforts were made to align MHIC work with Maryland lead laws by integrating licensure and training requirements. Additionally, an investigation addressed the recurring issue of insufficient funding for childcare and other spaces, particularly in the context of climate and electrification initiatives, where childcare tends to be a lower priority.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDH (Maryland Department of Health)** Candace Scott reported that MDH launched the registration for the Lead and Healthy Home Workshop that it will have during lead week which is October 25th. MDH has a press conference on Monday October 23 and MDH is still working through the logistics. MDH is also partnering with Baltimore City.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

Chair Norton announced that Camille Burke was promoted to Deputy Chief of Staff at the Baltimore City Public Health Department and offered congratulations.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 10/05/23, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation
- Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23
- BC-DHCD - Hud Grant Program (Katheryn Taylor)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION October 5, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Benita Cooper

Jack Daniels

Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer

Cliff Mitchell

Paula Montgomery

Barbara Moore

Ruth Ann Norton

Manjula Paul

Christina Peusch

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar

Jacob Benzaquen

Senator Jill Carter

Paul Rogers

Adam Skolnik

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE

Frederick Banks-MDE

Chevelle Bash-GHHI

Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE

Camille Burke-BCHD

Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE

Chris Corzine-OAG

Samantha Jacobs-Cribbs-HCHD

Devon Dodson-MDE

Shamola Dye-MDE

Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE

Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD

Angela Hall-GHHI

Jason Harding-BC-DHCD

Steven Homola-BC-DHCD

Darlene Israel-MDH

Dawn Joy-AMA

Comfort Kissi-GHHI

Wade McCord-MDE

Wendy Phillips-MDE

Maria Prawirodihardjo-MSDE

Tim Rule-MDE

Candace Scott-MDH

Tiana Sheppard-GHHI

Anastasia Solano-MDE

Kevin Stanley-MDE

George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI

Chris White-AR

Latesha White-MDE

Documents Distributed:

Final Agenda 231005

Draft Minutes 230927

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:33 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Ruth Ann Norton welcomed everyone to the October 23 meeting of the Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission, highlighting Children's Environmental Health Month and National Lead Awareness Month. She expressed interest in filling commissioner slots, updating the strategic plan, and presenting to legislative committees in January. She emphasized the need to address the spike in lead cases and improve coordination, compliance standards, and support. Chair Norton thanked various agencies and discussed the goal of reducing the need for pediatric hospitals. She also noted the opportunity for lead removal in housing through funding related to greenhouse gas proposals as well as mentioned the importance of funding for childcare and strategic planning. Finally, she requested an update on the annual report's status

from Paula Montgomery. Lastly Chair Norton requested from Wendy Phillips, the Lead Commission Members' attendance record as she works to try and reach out to the appointed members of the legislature to encourage participation.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Paula Montgomery, seconded by Anna Davis to accept the September 7, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old Business:

- **Status of Commissioner Membership Renewals:** Wendy Phillips asked for and was given an update from the Commission Members regarding their status of reapplying for their appointment.
- **Lead Commission Awards and Recognitions Announcement and Awards Presentation:** Yearly, the Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission aims to recognize excellence, innovation, and leadership from within the Lead Poisoning Prevention community. The Commission members voted amongst the nominees previously submitted and the following nominees received an award:
 - Manjula Paul was awarded with the Outstanding Child Health Environmental Advocate Award 2023
 - Lateisha White was awarded Outstanding Advocate Award 2023
 - Paula Montgomery was awarded Special Recognition Award 2023
- **Lead Poison Prevention Week 10/22/23 - 10/28/23:**
 - Chevelle Bash from GHHI and her team are actively coordinating a series of events and social media campaigns to raise awareness about Poison Awareness Week. They have collaborated with various organizations, including the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Baltimore City Health Department, to plan activities such as press conferences, presentations at schools, clinic days, and workshops aimed at educating the community about lead poisoning prevention. They are also finalizing details for resource fairs and property owner training events to take place later in the week. She discussed the details of the schedule for the week.
 - Paula Montgomery discussed MDE's regular meetings with state partners and GHHI to coordinate activities during "Lead Week," highlighting the success of these meetings for outreach and education efforts. She suggested continuing these meetings on a quarterly basis. Paula also mentioned Maryland's Lead Paint Abatement Service Provider Program, which regulates around 4,000 service providers and contractors in the state. Additionally, she mentioned upcoming forums in October and November and various outreach events throughout September and October.
 - Cliff Mitchell from MDH explained that they are examining their programs with a focus on health equity and addressing disparities in their services. They assessed their home visiting program for asthma last year and are currently evaluating their Lead Home visiting program and the Environmental Health Bureau's lead abatement program. Their goal is to ensure that children at the highest risk receive lead abatement services, emphasizing a continued focus on this issue in their future efforts.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDE** (Maryland Department of the Environment) Fred Banks gave a brief status of the Annual Report and indicated that the 2022 report should be done by the end of October 2023 and then the 2023 report should be ready by mid-February. He plans to ask Jonathan Klanderud to provide an enforcement report in upcoming Commission meetings. Rena Boss-Victoria added that there have been continuing conversations and discussions with MDE's Office of Attorney General in regard to MDE's continued issues and potential real barriers, related to MDE's lab reporting compliance.
- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Cliff Mitchell mentioned that MDH has collaborated with the Johns Hopkins Preventive Medicine Residency Program and the Baltimore City Health Department to create a program where residents visit physician offices. During these visits, they provide a brief 15-20 minute overview of MDH's home visiting program, lead testing, and services related to lead abatement offered through DHCD and the Children's Health Insurance Program. The goal is to raise awareness of these services within the primary care community. MDH plans to work with Medicaid and MDE to identify potential providers for these visits and may use a few healthcare providers as test subjects to evaluate the effectiveness of this outreach effort. Barbara Moore volunteered to be the first test subject.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Manjula Paul informed the Commission that the newly revised Lead form is working well and is more simple and clear.
- **MD-DHCD** (Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development) Jack Daniels explained that MD-DHCD is collaborating closely with MDH and Medicaid to improve outreach, increase the number of applications, and generate more interest in their programs.

This is aimed at enabling MD-DHCD to focus on its core function of facilitating lead abatement and related services. They've already had several meetings to identify actionable steps to boost enrollment and services. MD-DHCD is also working with a family mentioned in the previous meeting, having received their application and coordinating a property visit to finalize the scope of work. Additionally, they are finalizing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with local weatherization agencies to allocate four million dollars towards addressing critical repairs that have hindered energy projects, aligning with their goal to improve homes' energy efficiency, reduce utility bills, and enhance livability.

- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Camille Burke mentioned that Baltimore City has changed its testing strategy to encompass more than just immunizations. They are now working with organizations like Saint Vincent De Paul Head Start and conducting a testing tour by visiting various locations. This new approach has led to a partnership with the Y Head Start, facilitated in part by Saint Vincent de Paul's efforts to spread the word.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative) Ruth Ann Norton reported that GHHI has been actively working to promote the Lead Safe Kids Act, which is set to be introduced in the Senate and Congress. This act aims to enhance safety standards in public housing. Additionally, GHHI, along with MDE and other organizations, has submitted comments on the EPA's proposal to lower Dust-lead standards. This change would impose stricter regulations on contractors, property owners, and agencies in relation to lead contamination. Wes Stewart asked that MDE update the Commission on its Lead In Water funding for the different jurisdictions.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, November 2, 2023, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- 1) BCHD – CLPPP Fiscal Year Report (Camile Burke)
- 2) MDE Childhood Lead Registry Report (Fred Banks / Shamola Dye)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION November 7, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jacob Benzaquen | Cliff Mitchell | Christina Peusch |
| Benita Cooper | Paula Montgomery | Paul Rogers |
| Jack Daniels | Barbara Moore | Adam Skolnik |
| Anna Davis | Ruth Ann Norton | |
| Susan Kleinhammer | Manjula Paul | |

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar Senator Jill Carter

Guests Present:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Frederick Banks-MDE | Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD | Wade McCord-MDE |
| Chevelle Bash-GHHI | Angela Hall-GHHI | Wendy Phillips-MDE |
| Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE | Jason Harding-BC-DHCD | Nekia Randall-Public |
| Camille Burke-BCHD | Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD | Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD |
| Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE | Steven Homola-BC-DHCD | Tim Rule-MDE |
| Chris Corzine-OAG | Darlene Israel-MDH | Candace Scott-MDH |
| William Doyle-HCHD | Samantha Keane-MDE | George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI |
| Shamola Dye-MDE | Comfort Kissi-GHHI | Katherine Taylor-BC-DHCD |
| Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE | Jacqueline Kozari-MDH | Chris White-AR |

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 231102
- Draft Minutes 231005
- 2023 Lead Commission Prez

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Chair, Ruth Ann Norton, called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Opening Remarks, Acknowledgements, and Other Discussions:

Chair Norton welcomed everyone to the November 7 meeting of the Maryland Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission. Chair Norton highlighted the following items:

- Progress is being made on replacing the current Commissioner representatives of the House and Senate.
- New standards are forthcoming to de-lead the gasoline used in jet aircraft used for commercial transport. The article “Regulations for Lead Emissions from Aircraft” is available in the following link: <https://www.epa.gov/regulations-emissions-vehicles-and-engines/regulations-lead-emissions-aircraft>.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently put out a health alert and recall on WanaBana Apple Cinnamon Fruit Puree Pouches. The article “FDA Advises Parents and Caregivers Not to Buy or Feed WanaBana Apple Cinnamon Fruit Puree Pouches to Toddlers and Young Children Because of Elevated Lead Levels” is available in the following link: <https://www.fda.gov/food/alerts-advisories-safety-information/fda-advises-parents-and-caregivers-not-buy-or-feed-wanabana-apple-cinnamon-fruit-puree-pouches>.
- The Journal of American Medicine for JAMA published the article “Lead Exposure Might Cause More Deaths, IQ Loss Than Expected” is available in the following link: <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/article-abstract/2809890#:~:text=Exposure%20to%20lead%20through,countries'%20blood%20lead%20level%20estimates>

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Anna Davis, seconded by Adam Skolnik to accept the October 5, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **BCHD – CLPPP Fiscal Year Report:** Commissioner, Camile Burke presented on the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program. Commissioner Burke highlighted the following: Social Determinants of Health; Elements of a Healthy Community; Lead Poisoning Data by Fiscal Year; Average Time to Complete Initial Home Visit (Days); 2020-2022 Possible Sources of Lead Poisoning for Pre 1950 Rentals; COVID-19 Impact on Blood Lead Testing; Post COVID impact; Case Management Challenges; Outreach; Partners; Point of Care Testing; 2023 National Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Week; 2023 Healthy Homes Workshop Survey Highlights; and Moving Forward. The presentation was provided to the Commission titled “2023 Lead Commission Prez” prior to the meeting.
- **MDE Childhood Lead Registry Report 2021:**
 - Fred Banks presented on the Childhood Blood Lead Surveillance in Maryland Annual Report 2021. Highlights include the following: CY 21 Surveillance; Statistical Report; Reduction in Blood Lead Testing 2020 vs. 2021; Data Quality; Medical and Environmental Case Management in Maryland and Baltimore City; Sources of Lead; Lead Hazards Identified by Housing Type; Challenges and Opportunities; and Goals for Future Data Reporting.
 - Also, During the presentation Chris Corzine, from MDE’s Attorney General’s Office, indicated that the department does file the regulations with regard to scheduling environment investigations which includes the closure of a case. There are protocols set forth in regulation that the department follows. In those cases that are closed, the department is following the procedure it is required to do so before the case is closed. The Environmental Investigation Regulations are set forth in COMAR 26.16.08, with the scheduling governed by 26.16.08.05. The presentation will be provided on the MDE website in the near future which will be available to the public.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **MDH** (Maryland Department of Health) Commissioner, Dr. Cliff Mitchell updated the Commission with the following:
 - MDH is continuing to work on its equity assessment of the lead program across its various product lines and service lines including its home visiting program, and its collaboration with medicaid and DHCD. In this effort, MDH will collaborate with MDE.
 - MDH will be working with MDE on Outreach in addition to the Baltimore City Health Department.
 - MDH's preventive medicine resident is actively working on enhancing direct engagement with healthcare providers by detailing information on lead, asthma, and healthy homes to increase provider awareness.
 - MDH is allocating additional funding for a second year, utilizing the remaining balance from the \$500,000 received last year from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO). This funding will be directed to 13 local health departments currently not involved in MDH's Medicaid home visiting program, specifically to support case management activities. Each of these local health departments will receive approximately \$15,000 to bolster their case management efforts.
 - MDH is excited about collaborating with MDE for the implementation of HHLPS (Healthy Homes Lead Poisoning Surveillance System). The plan is to partner with MDE to encourage MDH's local health departments to enhance the connection between case management and prevention activities. Additionally, the collaboration aims to improve MDH's statewide visibility regarding case management activities.
- **MDAAP** (American Academy of Pediatrics, Maryland Chapter) Commissioner, Dr. Paul Rogers updated the Commission, mentioning his recent email exchanges with the head of California's lead poisoning prevention program. The discussions primarily focused on lead testing of water in schools. Further details about California's labeling process are expected to be provided soon.
- **MSDE/OCC** (Maryland State Department of Education/Office of Child Care) Commissioner Manjula Paul informed the Commission that she was thrilled to receive a message yesterday from Johns Hopkins, MSDE's collaborator in conducting parent surveys. Recently, Johns Hopkins conducted a survey involving parents of children in childcare programs. Although they anticipated 300 participants, the actual turnout was approximately 600 parents. One of the survey questions focused on late testing and the obstacles parents face in getting their children tested. Johns Hopkins has informed MSDE that the results are now available. Commissioner Paul will share the findings with the Commission once it is published.
- **BC-DHCD** (Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development) Katherine Taylor updated the Commission on BC-DHCD's efforts to prioritize vulnerable populations, specifically immigrants and refugees. The department is collaborating with the mayor's office to translate all materials and applications, ensuring better outreach to these groups. Additionally, BC-DHCD is working with various stakeholders known for their immigrant-friendly initiatives to establish trust within these populations, and the progress in this regard has been positive.
- **BCHD** (Baltimore City Health Department): Cambille Burke informed the Commission that BCHD is entering into a renewed partnership with the Maryland Homeschool Association (MHA), and they are currently exploring the details of this collaboration. MHA has initiated discussions with BCHD, expressing interest in engaging in conversations about lead. BCHD will keep the Commission informed about the outcomes of these discussions.
- **GHHI** (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative)
 - Wes Stewart reported that GHHI has a dedicated team for outreach and case management to assist individuals in accessing the state's and city's lead grant programs. This support extends to homeowners, rental property owners, and tenants. GHHI can guide them through the process of accessing lead grant programs and connect them with necessary resources. In Baltimore City, GHHI is open to receiving referrals. With \$2.5 million in ARP funding specifically allocated for lead houses in Baltimore City, GHHI is addressing not only lead hazards but also other healthy homes concerns, weatherization, and electrical issues. The focus is not just on making homes lead-safe but also on enhancing the family's long-term financial stability by addressing various hazards, structural defects, and supporting

weatherization efforts. GHHI has \$2.5 million in funding earmarked for direct use in addressing lead-related issues.

- Chair Norton mentioned that GHHI is collaborating with Hopkins on an injury prevention study. GHHI is actively seeking 300 families in Baltimore City and Baltimore County with children aged 7 and under to provide injury prevention measures. These measures may include replacing mini-blind cords, installing window guards, or adding grab bars, among other actions. It's important to recognize that injuries affect not only older adults but also children. In the context of any of GHHI's grants, whether focusing on asthma, injury prevention, or weatherization, GHHI constantly checks for lead in houses and addresses it as part of the remediation process. For an upcoming site visit with Fannie Mae, GHHI has identified a family through MDH dealing with asthma. GHHI initially worked on asthma-related issues and expanded their efforts to include broader prevention measures for the family.

Commissioner Comments and Updates:

Commissioner, Barbara Moore from Mt. Washington Pediatric Hospital (MWPH) updated the Commission that MWPH has had an increase in the number of children that have been referred to the clinic. Currently MWPH is up to 46 or 47 new referrals just since January. Baltimore City and the state have been quick and responsive when MWPH asks for reports to be sent to them. MWPH recently had a very complicated case with elevated lead levels and currently has another very complicated case with a child with very high lead levels.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Barbara Moore seconded by Cliff Mitchell to adjourn the meeting. All present Commissioners were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, 12/07/23, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- 2024 Commission Reporting Calendar (All Commissioners)
- MDE Secretary Meeting Update (Ruth Ann Norton)
- Commission Member Representation (Ruth Ann Norton)
 - Delegate Dalya Attar (House Member)
 - Senator Jill Carter (Senate Member)
- EPA's National Update on GLO (Get the Lead Out) (Assistant Administrator, Radhika Fox, EPA Office of Water)
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact on Lead Poisoning Prevention - EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunities (Ruth Ann Norton)
- 2024 Plan for Case Management & Environmental Investigation for moving to 3.5 ug/dl (Jonathan Klanderud)
- Update on the Green and Healthy Homes Task Force and how it relates to Lead (MD-DHCD, Deputy Director, Robyne Chaconas)
- Baltimore City DHCD Updates on Lead Hazard Remediation Funding (Nicole Hart)

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LEAD POISONING PREVENTION COMMISSION Thursday, December 7, 2023 · 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. · Hybrid Meeting Approved Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jacob Benzaquen
Benita Cooper
Jack Daniels
Anna Davis

Susan Kleinhammer
Paula Montgomery
Barbara Moore
Ruth Ann Norton

Christina Peusch
Paul Rogers
Adam Skolnik

Members Absent:

Delegate Dalya Attar
Senator Jill Carter

Cliff Mitchell
Manjula Paul

Guests Present:

Tyler Abbott-MDE
Adewole Adegborioye-MDE
Frederick Banks-MDE
Chevelle Bash-GHHI
Aku Boatema-MDH
Rena Boss-Victoria-MDE
Denifah Bun-Tejan-MDE
Robyne Chaconas-MD-DHCD
Stephanie Cobb-Williams-MDE
Chris Corzine-OAG
Karrie Crumlish
Leslie Delcid-MDE
Christopher Denbleyker-MDE
Devon Dodson-MDE
Marjorie D'Ambrosio-MDE

Attilah Edges-MDE
Sheneka Frasier-Kyer-MD-DHCD
Felicia Graves-MDE
David Griffin-MDE
Angela Hall-GHHI
Nicole Hart-BC-DHCD
Steven Homola-BC-DHCD
Christopher Johnson
Eunice Johnson
George Johnson
Dawn Joy
Samantha Keane-MDE
Jonathan Klanderud-MDE
Jacqueline Kozari-MDH
Wade McCord-MDE

Wendy Phillips-MDE
Tiffeny Price - MDH
Nekia Randall-Public
Bill Richardson-EPAR3
Jonathan Riddix-BC-DHCD
Andrew Roelke-MDE
Tim Rule-MDE
Aaron Sanzenbacher-MDE
Margret Schnitzer-BCHD
Anastasia Solano-MDE
Kevin Stanley-MDE
George (Wes) Stewart-GHHI
Kira Videan-MDE
Chris White-ARC

Documents Distributed:

- Final Agenda 231207
- Draft Minutes 231102
- MDE Lead Poisoning Prevention Commission Membership
- MDE LPPP 3.5 µg Commission Presentation
- MDE Lead Commission Reporting Calendar 2024
- MD Lead Assoc GLO and LCRI update Dec2023
- DHCD LHRP Lead Commission

Welcome and Introductions:

Commission Member, Paula Montgomery, called the meeting to order at 9:45 A.M. with welcome and introductions.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Adam Skolnik, seconded by Jack Daniels to accept the November 2, 2023 minutes as distributed. All present Commissioners were in favor; the minutes were approved.

Old & New Business:

- **Update on the Green and Healthy Homes Task Force and how it relates to Lead:** Deputy Director, Robyne Chaconas of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (MD-DHCD) gave a brief overview on the Green and Healthy Homes Task Force which highlighted the establishment of the task force through HB169 to address energy efficiency and conservation for low-income households. The bill set energy savings targets, modified the Empower Program, and created the Green and Healthy Task Force. The task force, active for three years, involves 15 members from diverse sectors, meeting monthly since August. Responsibilities include tracking resources, addressing barriers, engaging stakeholders, and adhering to reporting requirements. Notably, the task force emphasizes a holistic "whole home" approach, considering critical repairs before energy efficiency. The upcoming December meeting will mark the submission of the first progress report. Details are available on the DHCD website, with the next public meeting scheduled for mid-January.
- **EPA's National Update on GLO (Get the Lead Out) and Proposed lead and Copper Rule Improvements:** Drinking Water Section Chief, Bill Richardson, From the Environmental Protection Agency Region 3 gave a slide presentation which highlighted the following: EPA Lead Service Line Technical Assistance Overview; GLO Program Goals: Deliver Direct TA to Communities, Build State Capacity, Share Lessons Nationally; GLO Center Direct TA Process; GLO Community Identification & Selection; Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Proposal; LCRI Key Provisions; and LCRI Next Steps. The presentation can be seen in the December 2023 Meeting Materials on the Lead Commission Website: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPMeetingMaterials.aspx>. Three website links that were discussed are listed below:
 - EPA Region 3 Awards More Than \$240M for Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Upgrades in Maryland: <https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-region-3-awards-more-240m-clean-water-and-drinking-water-infrastructure-upgrades#:~:text=News%20Releases%3A-.EPA%20Region%203%20Awards%20More%20Than%20%24240M%20for%20Clean,Water%20Infrast,ucture%20Upgrades%20in%20Maryland&text=The%20U.S.%20Environmental%20Protection%20Age,ncy,drinking%20water%20across%20the%20state.>
 - National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Lead and Copper: Improvements (LCRI): <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/12/06/2023-26148/national-primary-drinking-water-regulations-for-lead-and-copper-improvements-lcri>
 - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants: <https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/climate-pollution-reduction-grants>
- **MDE Secretary Meeting Update and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact on Lead Poisoning Prevention - EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Opportunities:** Chair Ruth Ann Norton reported that discussions between GHHI and MDE focused on addressing high lead levels post-COVID. Concerns include funding, capacity, and support for MDE staff to manage hazards amid increased construction. GHHI emphasized the need for oversight and enforcement, particularly with potential funding opportunities through climate pollution reduction grants. Urging Maryland to join a coalition proposal with other states could secure substantial funding for lead reduction. The meeting also touched on climate efforts, decarbonization, and the possibility of MDE offering legal services to support families in the future, with the MDE Secretary expressing receptiveness to lead reduction initiatives.
- **Baltimore City DHCD Updates on Lead Hazard Remediation Funding:** Nicole Hart gave a slide presentation which highlighted the following: Purpose, Lead Hazard Reduction Program; Funding; Unit Production Progress; Challenges and Solutions. The presentation can be seen in the December 2023 Meeting Materials on the Lead

Commission Website:

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/land/LeadPoisoningPrevention/Pages/LPPMeetingMaterials.aspx>.

- **2024 Plan for Case Management & Environmental Investigation for moving to 3.5 ug/dl:** Fred Banks reported that in response to lead levels ranging from 3.5 to 4.9, MDE has implemented strategies to address public needs. Collaborating with MDH, MDE is finalizing a letter to notify physicians, clinics, and labs about the elevated blood lead level change. Efforts involve capturing missing data for proper case prioritization and encouraging follow-ups. Collaboration with local Health Departments aims to prioritize referrals and strategies for hazard identification in homes. MDE is updating communication letters, establishing tiered timelines for parents based on blood lead levels, emphasizing critical cases. The plan includes utilizing all risk assessors and seeking additional resources through grants and partnerships. MDE is committed to ongoing monitoring and communication, recognizing the importance of a collective effort to address elevated blood lead levels effectively.
- **2024 Commission Reporting Calendar:** The Commission Members discussed future topics to be discussed in the 2024 calendar year.

Agency Hot Topics/Current Events

- **GHHI (Green & Healthy Homes Initiative)**
 - Chair Norton shared updates on GHHI's funding sources, which include congressional funding, a contribution of two and a half million dollars from Mayor Scott, and direct support from healthy housing initiatives. If you know of families in need, GHHI is equipped to provide swift assistance. Additionally, if you have families to refer, please direct them to GHHI's webpage at info@ghhi.org.
 - Wes Stewart provided information on GHHI's collaboration with MDH to disseminate details about the revised blood lead reference action levels. This outreach effort will target both healthcare providers and parents, ensuring clear comprehension of the changes and effective levels. The initiative is set to commence in January 2024, and GHHI is actively involved in supporting MDH with this informational campaign.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:11am

Future Meeting Date:

Next Meeting Reminder: Thursday, January 4, 2024, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. which includes the Agenda items below:

- EPA Technical Assistance Center Presentation (University of MD Sacoby Wilson Group)
- Legislation (Subcommittee)