

Bruneau, Michelle (DHHS)

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 8:10 AM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: Re: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Wow....this is just sad. It sounds third world country, but it's here and in our backyard. At what point can EPA/ATSDR step in & provide resources? I'll also look up the Mott grants page my friend told me about.

From: Henry, James <jhenry@gchd.us>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 3:18:26 PM
To: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Cc: scupal@gchd.us; Hallwood, Dawn; MVALACAK@gchd.us
Subject: RE: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Michelle,

I'm copying our GCHD team who participated in the conference call, in case they want to add anything. Attached is the GCHD fact sheet and correspondence from the City, regarding their public information efforts. The attached filter is referenced at the end of this email.

Most of the questions and concerns that I have received are regarding how to prevent exposure, even for pets. Most people have mentioned that they can't afford to purchase bottled water, or a filter, or even the cost of flushing water for five minutes. Today, a 46 year old man told me that he and his dog have not drank water or anything else, since he ran out of bottled water two days ago. He wanted to know the risks and explained that he doesn't have water turned on at his home and had to ask a neighbor, who agreed to fill a gallon jug, but refuses to flush the water for 5 minutes, because of cost. I do not think this is a unique situation. note: Flint has been recognized as one of the highest water rates in the country, which may be partially due to the cost of repairing hundreds of water main breaks annually.

In general, the most immediate concern seems to be the unknown lead levels and the cost to reduce or eliminate the risk. We are working with City to ensure that water testing will be timely and available. (Keep in mind not all people can get to the water plant to pick up the sampling bottles) The missing piece seems to be resources for those with elevated lead levels. Dawn has done some research on filters. Attached is a relatively inexpensive, NSF approved filter that would not require installation costs, but requires filter maintenance. We are looking into some resources from Genesee County United Way.

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From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH) [mailto:GroetschK@michigan.gov]

Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:19 PM

To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ); Bruneau, Michelle (DCH); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Hallwood, Dawn; Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Henry, James; Houk, Emily (DCH); Lishinski, Karen (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Valacak, Mark; Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)

Cc: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)

Subject: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Hello All,

Below is a summary from our call. Please note the action items. In addition, Karen Lishinski pointed out this EPA website as a good resource: <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/lead.cfm>

SUMMARY:

A conference call with the attendees listed below occurred on 9/22/2015 discussing lead (Pb) outreach in the city of Flint. The purpose of the call was to facilitate introductions, and identify Pb health education materials, current Pb outreach efforts in Flint and existing resources. DEQ provided a brief background of the drinking water compliance process in relation to efforts being conducted in Flint. Information sharing occurred between attendees about the Pb in drinking water sampling efforts in Flint.

Each agency/department listed their current health education efforts and available resources that could be made available relative to Pb outreach in Flint. The CLPPP provides some limited funding to prosperity region 6 to conduct Pb outreach. CLPPP is building a Pb Tool Kit for providers. Information about Pb in drinking water does not currently exist in these materials, but they are interested to build that information into the tool kit. DEQ has contacts with the Flint's drinking water program. GCHD has been getting many phone calls and they have had to create factsheets about water hardness and trihalomethanes.

Action Items from the Call:

1. Participants will e-mail their Pb outreach materials and presentations that are in current use to Michelle Bruneau (BruneauM@michigan.gov).
2. GCHD will send Michelle a list of concerns they have been getting from the Flint community.
3. Michelle will look over the materials to assess what messages are covered, what messages are not covered, and provide suggestions on what work may need to be done to address gaps.
4. Follow-up is needed on the water sampling directions being provided by the city to homeowners that request a Pb in tap water analysis. (There are two sampling procedures depending on the purpose of the water sample.)
5. Karen Lishinski will provide a contact at WIC, so they can be invited to our follow-up conference call.
6. MDHHS-DEH will arrange a follow-up conference call in approximately two weeks.