Ms. V.C., Parent

Ms. V.C.’s boys tested positive for lead poisoning when one was five and the other six months old. Her sons were poisoned by deteriorated lead paint in two different rentals in the same neighborhood. Lead poisoning caused her children to suffer speech delays and her older son is hyperactive and receiving behavioral health services.

Arthur Meckler, a Model Landlord

Arthur Meckler is a landlord in Fishtown. The safety of his tenants, and most importantly their young children, are of great concern to him. He is willing to undertake whatever testing or remediation is necessary to keep children safe.

Lead Safe Resources LLC, an Expert Business

Lead Safe Resources, LLC at 901 N. Penn St., is an EPA-certified lead inspection company working with business owners to keep properties safe from lead hazards.

"Lead poisoning is devastating"

"I’ve tested hundreds of homes and worked directly with families whose young children have suffered the disastrous effects of lead poisoning. For landlords, it is pretty simple: keep it clean and keep it painted."

—Anthony Galasso, owner of Lead Safe Resources

Selected segments from the document:

**Lead Hazard Remediation Can Yield $3 for Every $1 Spent**

Beyond direct protection of children, experts estimate that each dollar invested in lead paint hazard control provides significant returns to taxpayers by avoiding government spending on healthcare and special education and boosts the lifetime earnings of children who otherwise would have stunted potential due to lead poisoning.

**The Current Lead Law Is Unenforceable**

Too many landlords are not complying with the current law. Only a quarter of all rental units in the City covered by the current law are in compliance. That’s because the law is largely unenforceable since there is no record of tenants’ ages at the time of new occupancy to identify which pre-1978 rental properties need to be in compliance with the law.

**Making the Lead Law Universal Will Protect 1st District Babies**

To address the law’s shortcomings, the Mayor’s advisory group on lead poisoning recommended requiring all pre-1978 rental properties to comply, including Section 8 and Philadelphia Housing Authority units. Bill #180936, passed out of Council’s Health Committee on March 19, includes this requirement.

**Call Your Council Member**

Please call your District 1 City Council member, Mark Squilla, and ask him to make sure every rental unit is lead-safe for babies, at 215-686-3458.

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“The kids were hurt by lead, and on top of that, we became homeless at one point trying to find a lead-safe place to live. I don’t want other parents to go through this ordeal.”

—Ms. V. C., Parent

For more information contact **Colleen McCauley** Health Policy Director at PCCY 215-563-5848 x33 or colleenm@pccy.org