

Lead is Poisoning Your Children

Fact Sheet for the 3rd Council District



45%

of all children **have been appropriately screened for lead poisoning.**

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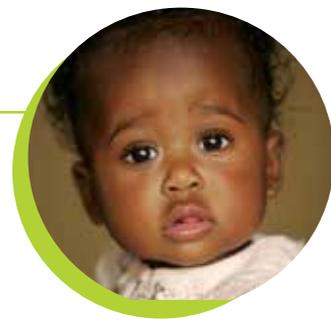
children in some parts of the District **suffer from lead poisoning*.**

62%

of Philadelphia children **are exposed to toxic lead in rental housing.**

Aisha Stafford, 3rd District **Parent**

Aisha Stafford's twin boys tested positive for lead poisoning when they were two years old. The source, the deteriorated lead paint in their Brewerytown rental where they lived before moving into District 3. Lead poisoning caused her children to suffer from anemia and stunted verbal and cognitive development. At 4 years old, the boys struggle to write or spell their own names.



AJ Moore, a **Model Landlord** in the 3rd District

AJ Moore supports the expansion of the lead paint disclosure law and currently complies with the certification process for all her properties. Ms. Moore is both a landlord and the Executive Director of Philadelphia Neighborhood Housing Services, and she believes that it is every landlord's responsibility to keep their properties lead-safe for any children who may be living or spending time in them.



F & L Lead Dust Inspectors, a 3rd District **Expert Business**

F & L Lead Dust Inspectors at 929 N 68th Street, is an EPA-certified lead inspection company in business for over seven years helping rental property owners run their businesses better by keeping kids safe from lead-based paint hazards.



“2,000 children poisoned every year is too many”

“I work with a landlord who owns over 100 units who has me test all of them for lead no matter what – because he doesn't always know who will be living in a unit, so he believes it's better to be safe than sorry.”

—Fracho Robinson, owner of F & L Lead Dust Inspectors

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 3rd 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 3 City Council member, Jannie Blackwell and ask her to make sure every rental unit is lead-safe for babies, at 215-686-3418.



“There are so many children with a high level of lead in their system and parents don't even know it. Lead can cause so many problems physically and mentally.”

—Aisha Stafford, 5th District Parent

For more information contact **Colleen McCauley** Health Policy Director at PCCY
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