

Lead is Poisoning Your Children

Fact Sheet for the 6th Council District



45%

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

1/17

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

62%

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

Claire Wilson, **Parent**

Claire Wilson's son was poisoned by their rental property before he turned one year old. His blood lead level was seven times higher than the minimum threshold for poisoning. Her landlord did not test their unit as the lead law requires so he did not have a lead safe certification.



Jennifer Thompson, a **Model Landlord**

Jennifer complies with the certification process for her rental properties. She believes in making her properties safe for children, and her advocacy for child safety stems not only from being a property renter but also from being a mom.



Lead Safe Resources, 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, LLC

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

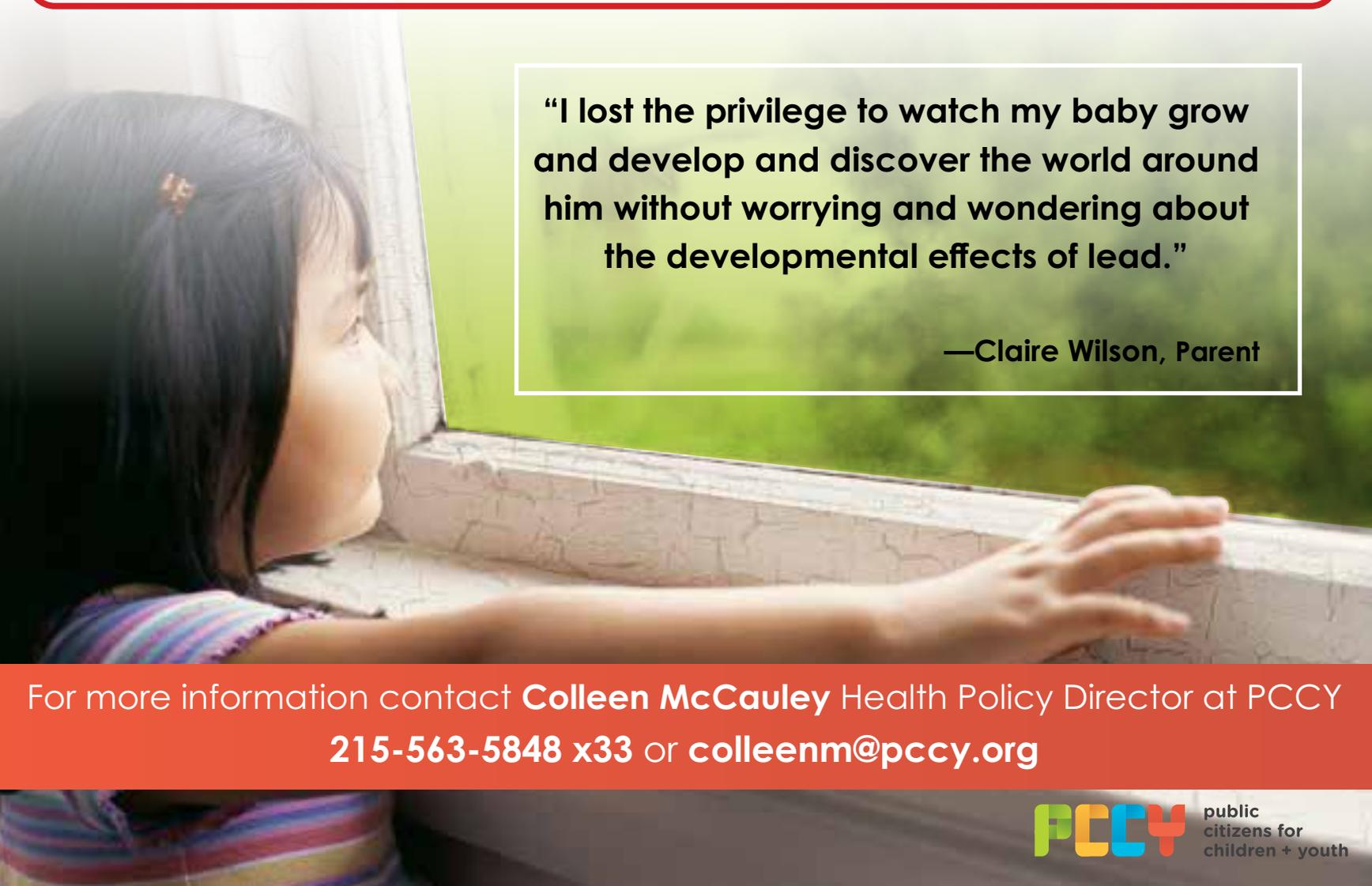
Too many landlords are not complying with the current law. Only a quarter of all rental units in the City covered by the current law are in compliance. That's because the law is largely unenforceable since there is no record of tenants' ages at the time of new occupancy to identify which pre-1978 rental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

Making the Lead Law Universal Will Protect 6th 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 6 City Council member, Bobby Henon, and ask him to make sure every rental unit is lead-safe for babies, at 215-686-3444.



"I lost the privilege to watch my baby grow and develop and discover the world around him without worrying and wondering about the developmental effects of lead."

—Claire Wilson, Parent

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