



National Center for Healthy Housing

Creating healthy and safe homes for children through practical and proven steps.

A Call to Action: NO LEAD National (and local) Objectives for A Lead Elimination Action Drive

David E. Jacobs, PhD, CIH

An Issue Briefing on Lead Poisoning in Chicago and Cook County

Monday, April 4, 2016



Outline

- Good News
- Bad News
- A 3-Point Framework

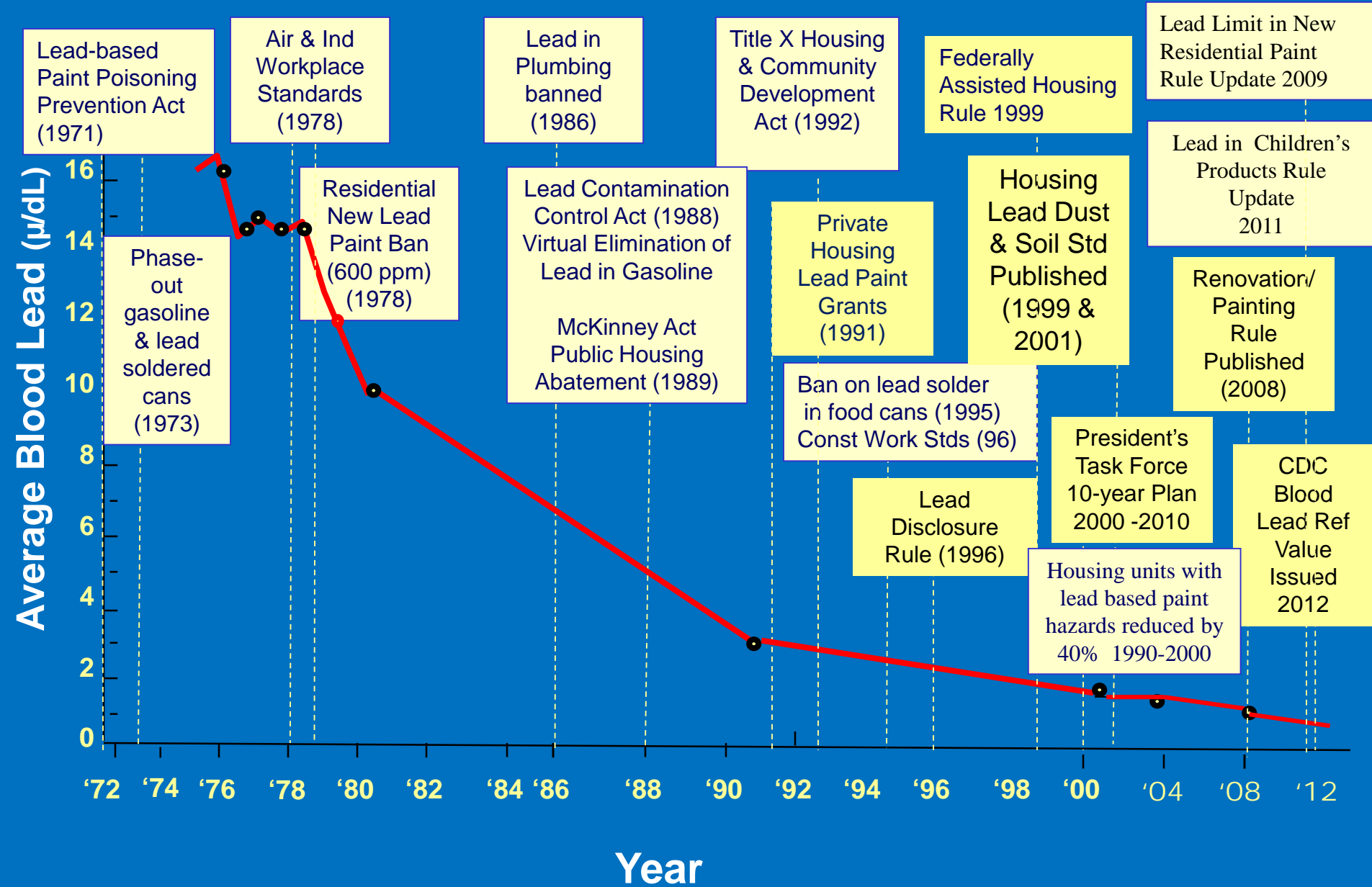
- FIND IT
- FIX IT
- FUND IT



The Good News

- We know how to stop lead poisoning by preventing exposures, both immediately and long term.
- The World Health Organization has concluded that eliminating lead hazards is more cost-effective than even vaccines.

US Policies & Children's Average Blood Lead





**National Center for
Healthy Housing**

Now The Bad News



National Center for
Healthy Housing

THE SUN



Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Baltimore, Maryland

50 cents

INSIDE

O's rotation rounds
into shape with **Maduro**
likely to get No. 5 spot

Calvin Maduro appears to win the last spot in the Orioles' rotation when the team options **Ryan Bauer** and **Sean Douglass** to Triple-A Rochester. **Maduro** would join starting pitchers **Scott Erickson**, **Jason Johnson**, **Sidney Ponson** and **Josh Towers**. [Page 18]

Nation/World

Campaign finance reports likely today in Senate. [Page 3A]

Acting Mass. governor drops out of race. [Page 11A]

Opposition leader backs Zblin babwe strike. [Page 16A]

Opinion

Lead paint is old, but it's not history

■ **Poison:** A poignant case shows that city and state efforts to rid rental housing of lead paint are not protecting all children.

By **HEATHER DEWAR**
SUN STAFF

When his family moved into their rented rowhouse in Northeast Baltimore last June, **Cameron Roberts** was

an active 1-year-old with a ready smile and a two-word vocabulary: "Mama" and "no."

Five months later, he lay in the intensive care ward at Kennedy Krieger Institute with a potentially lethal dose of lead in his bloodstream — poisoned, his family now believes, by dust and flakes from the lead-based paint that riddled his home.

A month's worth of painful injections probably saved the toddler's life, doctors say. But the lead, which lingers in

his system, left him in danger of lifelong difficulties with learning and behavior.

Now 21 months old, the dark-eyed child still speaks only two words. He rarely smiles.

"It breaks my heart," said **Cameron's** grandmother, **Sonia Johnson** of West Baltimore. "He screams, he falls out, he bangs his head against the floor. He's a sweet little child, but he just goes through changes, and you can see it's not his fault."

Tragedies like this aren't



KENNETH K. LAM: SUN STAFF

Forever changed: Medical treatment saved **Cameron Roberts** from death, but the lead damage cannot be reversed.

supposed to happen in Baltimore anymore.

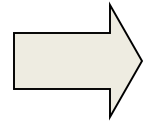
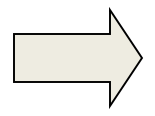
Two years ago, city, state and federal officials launched a concerted campaign to end the childhood lead poisoning

that has been a scourge on Baltimore since the 1800s. They pledged to strengthen law enforcement and help landlords clean up the toxic lead paint. [See **Lead**, 12A]

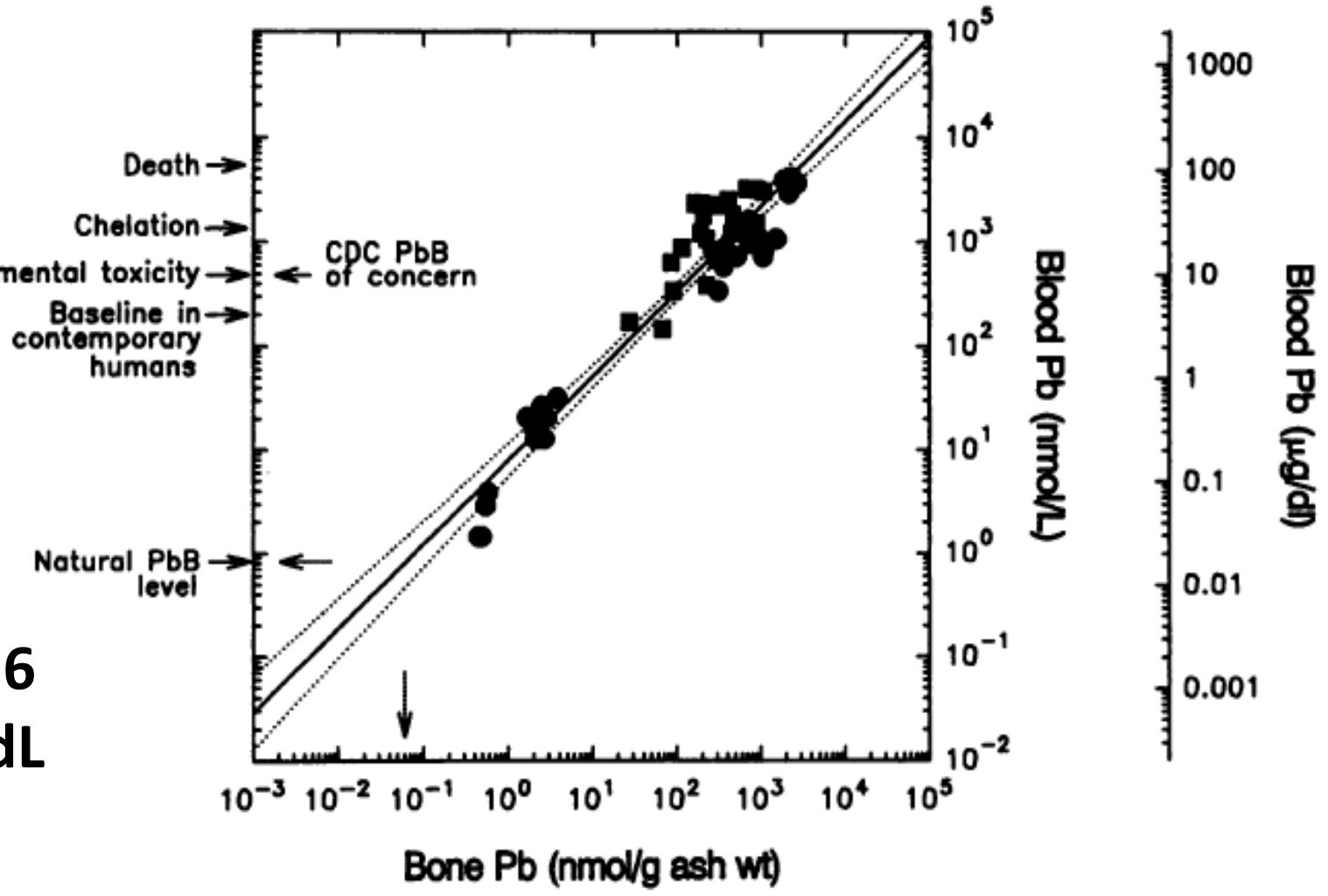
Cheney coaxes Arafat effort

U.S. offers meeting if Palestinian leader acts to end violence

Childhood PbB Levels



0.016
ug/dL



■ = Bone lead levels in humans

● = Bone lead levels in laboratory rats



The Bad News

- Flint & other cities are only the tip of the iceberg.
- Lead poisoning is responsible for 674,000 deaths each year around the world.
- In the US, there are over half a million children poisoned annually, with higher rates among populations of color and low-income households.
- We know that tens of millions of US homes have lead water pipes, lead paint and other hazards, but we still do not know exactly where they are in our homes.
- The medical model has failed: It makes no sense to merely chase already-poisoned children when we can prevent these poisonings.
- US companies continue to produce new lead paint, including Sherwin Williams, PPG, and Valspar.



American Healthy Housing Survey 2011

- 3.6 million homes with young children have LBP hazards
 - includes 1.1 million low income households
- Low income households had a higher prevalence (29%) than higher income households (18%).
- Black households had higher prevalence (28%) than white households (20%)
- Households receiving Government housing assistance had half as many hazards (12%) compared to unassisted housing (22%).
- Needs are greatest in low-income unassisted stock



What To Do? 3-Point Plan

1. Find Out Where It Is

- Identify all lead water pipes
- Identify all residential lead paint and lead dust hazards
- Identify lead contaminated soil in our yards, playgrounds and at previous industrial sites



What To Do? 3-Point Plan

2. Fix It: Take Both Immediate And Long Range Actions

- For homes with high lead levels in water, immediately provide filters and/or bottled water.
- Begin a long term program to eliminate all lead water pipes.
- For homes with lead paint hazards, implement immediate, proven interim measures to correct deteriorated paint and clean up lead dust and soil.
- Begin a long-term effort to remove all existing residential lead paint.
- Stop US paint companies from making new lead paint.
- Ensure lead poisoned children get special education needs assessments and provide therapeutic special education and other programs to help mitigate the effects of lead poisoning.



What To Do? 3-Point Plan

2. Fix It: Take Both Immediate And Long Range Actions Cont'd)

- Increase the number of risk assessments in homes with young children (including HUD-subsidized homes), especially privately owned unassisted housing where risks are highest and privately owned housing choice voucher homes.
- All at-risk children should have their blood tested at least twice before 2
- All Medicaid plans should reimburse for lead poisoning home visits & risk assessments.
- Update all antiquated lead regulations.
- Update the national goal that was not met in 2010.
- Chicago area should have its own goal and funding plan.
- Re-establish the CDC National Advisory Committee on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention.
- Conduct new research to find better ways to identify and remediate all lead hazards.



What To Do? 3-Point Plan

3. Fund It: Stop the Disinvestment in our Communities and Children. Make Those Who Made the Mess Help to Clean It Up.

- Make the lead paint companies and the lead industry pay into a lead abatement fund, not just stick taxpayers with the bill to clean up the mess they made.
- Fully restore CDC's lead program to at least \$35 million and HUD to at least \$230 million annually.
- Chicago should provide local funding, not only rely on HUD grants.
- Provide grants, tax credits and private financing incentives to address lead hazards in privately owned homes with children.

How About 2014?

Will the houses you are building today last one hundred years?

NEW YORK CITY has over a score of frame houses built before 1800.

"Well built," you say. True, but well painted, too, and almost uniformly with

Dutch Boy White Lead

and Dutch Boy linseed oil. Such paint, tinted any color, is so fine that it sinks into every joint and wood pore. It is

just elastic enough to prevent cracking, to keep the wood thoroughly covered and hence perfectly preserved.

Write for
PAINT FOLDER B

Tells how to mix materials for any variety of weather conditions; how to follow instructions and best-bought colors; how to estimate quantity of paint and probable cost.



NATIONAL LEAD COMPANY

NEW YORK BOSTON BUFFALO CHICAGO CINCINNATI

THE DUTCH BOY'S LEAD PARTY



*A Paint Book
for
Girls and Boys*

With which is bound
COLOR HARMONY IN THE HOME
A Booklet for the Grown-ups





For the Future

- Is the 3-Point Framework the right one?
- What else should be added/deleted?
- How can Chicagoland construct a plan and funding strategy? How can plan development be funded?
- Roles for local entities.
- National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition
<http://www.nchh.org/Policy/National-Safe-and-Healthy-Housing-Coalition.aspx>