2017

Black Hawk County’s Approach to Lead Poisoning

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Black Hawk County’s Approach to Lead Poisoning

Ashley Comeau, Taylor Campbell, Nathan Ambrose, Travis Pulse

SOC 206-01, Augustana College
Compare

Population Tested

28.73% in Black Hawk
22% in Scott County

Cases with Elevated Lead Levels

24 cases in Black Hawk
30 cases in Scott County
Demographics

**Black Hawk County**

- Persons in poverty: 14.5%
- Median household income 2010-2014: $47,002
- Population estimates, July 1, 2015: 133,455
- Persons under 5 years, July 1, 2015: 6.2%
- White alone, percent, July 1, 2015: 86.1%
- Black or African American, July 1, 2015: 9.0%
- Housing units, July 1, 2015: 57,069
- Owner-occupied housing rate, 2010-2014: 67.3%

**Scott County**

- Persons in poverty: 12.2%
- Median household income 2010-2014: $53,704
- Population estimates, July 1, 2015: 172,126
- Persons under 5 years, July 1, 2015: 6.6%
- White alone, percent, July 1, 2015: 86.4%
- Black or African American, July 1, 2015: 7.6%
- Housing units, July 1, 2015: 73,279
- Owner-occupied housing rate, 2010-2014: 68.8%
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Partners

- University of Northern Iowa
  - Public health nurses perform door to door screening
  - Environmental Health interns and students
- Blood samples collected from different places, including:
  - Women, Infant, and Children’s Nutrition Program
  - Local community health center
  - Private providers (Family must have Medicaid)
  - 3 health school programs
- Iowa Poison Control Center, in partnership with University of Iowa
Funding/Grants
Waterloo

• Strictly within city, not focused on children specifically
• HUD and Community Development Block Grant
• Only received CDBG in most recent funding cycle
• CDBG eligibility: “Each activity must meet one of the following national objectives for the program: benefit low- and moderate-income persons, prevention or elimination of slums or blight, or address community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.”
• Income eligible only; household income <$52,400 per year

Black Hawk County

• Property Owner is tasked with the remediation of the house
• Pairs up with the City of Waterloo, but does not provide funding itself
Black Hawk County Procedure

• Door to door testing during the summer through public nurses and college students; triage-look at risk factors

• Take a capillary sample at first, not a diagnostic. If capillary test comes back above 10 mpd, a diagnostic test is given.

• 20 mpd or higher, go into home (environmental problem), use lead gun, interview family, look for risk factors in primary residence and day care, etc (Where is the risk coming from?). Property owner has to fix the problem

• Referral for dietician

• 45 mpd the child go into chelation

• Training to teach families how to clean the house, minimize possibility of problem
Education

- Nutrition Education Program
  - Helps with door to door screenings 3 days a week
  - Targets low income families to help with finding a healthy diet
  - When children have lead in blood the families are encouraged to participate in this program to learn what foods can help
- Radio, TV ads
  - Approached stations with stories
  - No cost to county
  - Give information for informational programs
Recommendations

Volunteer Opportunities in the county and at local schools

Community Awareness- facebook page, school programs (PTO), radio & TV

Church, Hospital, School Involvement

Inform renters about contracts

Interns from Augie-credit instead of pay
Contact Information

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Danielle Rohret, Waterloo Lead Program- danielle.rohret@waterloo.ia.org, (319)-291-4429

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