

## Mitigating the Impacts of Unhealthy Housing



## Preserving Affordable Housing



## Improving Communities and Health Outcomes



**U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes**



# Framing the OLHCHH's Work

- Housing is as essential as health care and Social Security.
- Housing is an important determinant of health, and substandard housing is a major public health issue. The OLHCHH's work seeks to break the link between substandard housing and negative health impacts.
- Its health-focused, housing rehab programs yield key wins:
  - Improving and preserving the supply of affordable housing,
  - Lowering costs for families by preventing illnesses and injuries, and
  - Enhancing the quality of life for vulnerable populations such as young children and senior adults.
- Its programs support local efforts to ensure healthy homes, healthy people, and healthy communities.



## Making an Impact

- OLHCHH has been key in developing and implementing strategies to address housing-related health hazards nationwide since its establishment in 1992.
- OLHCHH has created capacity around the country to develop and sustain housing rehab programs that improve health outcomes.
- OLHCHH developed the standard of practice on methods and standards for evaluating and reducing lead-based paint hazards (HUD Guidelines for the Evaluation and Control of Lead-Based Paint Hazards in Housing [“HUD Guidelines”]);
- OLHCHH is responsible for:
  - Reducing the threat of childhood lead poisoning in government-owned or assisted housing (Lead Safe Housing Rule), and
  - Educating the public on the dangers posed by lead paint in their homes (Lead Disclosure Rule).

*One HUD, For All*



# FY22-26 HUD Strategic Plan



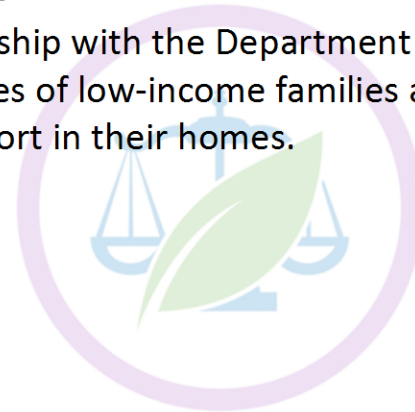
## OBJECTIVE 4B

# Strengthen Environmental Justice



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Made available over \$800 million, a historic amount of funding, for grant programs to:
  - Assess and remediate lead-based paint and other housing-related health hazards in the privately-owned homes of low-income families;
  - Develop the local infrastructure and capacity necessary to undertake comprehensive programs to identify and control lead-based paint hazards in eligible privately owned rental or owner-occupied housing;
  - Make safety and functional home modifications and repairs to help low-income elderly homeowners age in place;
  - Conduct testing and as-needed mitigation of radon in the units managed by public housing agencies; and
  - Mitigate, in partnership with the Department of Energy, health and safety hazards in the homes of low-income families and improve energy efficiency and comfort in their homes.





## OBJECTIVE 4B

# Strengthen Environmental Justice



## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Published HUD Notice CPD-21-136 “Departmental Policy for Addressing Radon in the Environmental Review Process” in the Federal Register. Under this notice, radon gas must now be considered in the contamination analysis required under HUD's contamination regulations at 24 CFR Part 50.3(i) and 58.5(i). Program Offices have begun developing program-specific notices.
- Awarded approximately \$18 million in grant funding and loan commitments under the Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP). These awards will fund energy efficiency and climate resilience upgrades for more than 3,400 rental units for low-income families, seniors, and persons with disabilities.
- On May 30, 2023, HUD produced an analysis titled "Understanding the Unique Housing Needs of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders: HUD's Commitment to Data Disaggregation" to reduce disparities in access to safe and affordable homeownership for AANHPI communities.
- The memorandum of understanding (MOU) with EPA headquarters and regional offices on coordinated enforcement of lead safety regulations in housing was signed on February 6, 2024.
- The MOU with CDC and with EPA headquarters and regional offices on lead regulatory outreach, compliance assistance, and, as needed, enforcement was signed on February 8, 2024.

# OLHCHH Grant Programs

- **Lead Hazard Control Grants:** To state/local/tribal gov'ts, program categories:
  - ✓ Lead Hazard Reduction grants ("Regular" LHC grant funds)
  - ✓ Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration funds (Highest Abatement Needs grants)
  - ✓ Lead Hazard Reduction Capacity Building grants
  - ✓ High Impact Neighborhood grants (FY19-20)
- **Healthy Homes Grants:**
  - ✓ Healthy Homes Production grants: To state/local/tribal gov'ts, nonprofits
  - ✓ Healthy Homes Supplements: (Fix health/safety issues in conjunction with LHC funding)
  - ✓ Healthy Homes and Weatherization Cooperation Demonstration grants: To nonprofits, local HH and Wx grantees, to enhance coordination
  - ✓ Older Adult Home Modification Program grants: To local govts, nonprofits
  - ✓ Healthy Homes Production for Tribal Housing grants: To federally-recognized tribes or tribally designated housing entities (FY19-20)

# OLHCHH Grant Programs

- **Technical Studies Grants:**

- Healthy Homes Technical Studies grants
- Lead Technical Studies grants
- Radon Testing and Mitigation Demonstration for Public Housing Grant Program
- Lead Risk Assessment Demonstration in Housing Choice Voucher Units Grant Program
  
- Over 70 peer-reviewed papers and reports have been based on the results of these grants

(Research cooperative agreements / Grantees are academic institutions, state, local, and tribal govts., non-profits)



# OLHCHH Grant Program Eligibility

- **LHC Eligible Applicants:**

- ✓ County governments
- ✓ City or township governments
- ✓ State governments
- ✓ Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

- **HHP Eligible Applicants:**

- ✓ Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- ✓ County governments
- ✓ City or township governments
- ✓ State governments
- ✓ Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)

# OLHCHH Grant Program Eligibility

- **Older Adult Home Mod Eligible Applicants:**

- ✓ County governments
- ✓ State governments
- ✓ Special district governments
- ✓ Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- ✓ City or township governments
- ✓ Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities

# OLHCHH Grant Program Eligibility

- **LHC Capacity Building Eligible Applicants:**

- ✓ Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- ✓ Special district governments
- ✓ County governments
- ✓ City or township governments
- ✓ State governments

- **HH/Wx:**

- ✓ Special district governments
- ✓ Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- ✓ Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- ✓ County governments
- ✓ State governments
- ✓ City or township governments

# OLHCHH Grant Program Eligibility

- **LHHTS Eligible Applicants:**

- ✓ Independent school districts
- ✓ For profit organizations other than small businesses
- ✓ Private institutions of higher education
- ✓ Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- ✓ County governments
- ✓ Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- ✓ Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- ✓ Special district governments
- ✓ Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- ✓ State governments
- ✓ City or township governments
- ✓ Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- ✓ Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- ✓ Small businesses

# OLHCHH LHC Grant Program Allowable Activities

Examples of Allowable activities include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Hire and train staff
- ✓ Build partnerships
- ✓ Environmental review process
- ✓ Marketing and outreach
- ✓ Intake and referrals – application process
- ✓ Bidding and contracting
- ✓ Lead Inspections/Risk Assessments



# OLHCHH LHC Grant Program Allowable Activities

- ✓ Clearance testing
- ✓ Temporary relocation (not more than 10 days)
- ✓ Building contractor pool – training, certification, insurances
- ✓ Interim controls and abatement activities
- ✓ Data sharing, analysis, collection systems
- ✓ Evaluation of program activities
- ✓ Monitoring and oversight of contractors and/or sub-recipients

# What can these grant funds pay for?

## Lead Funds

Remove LBP/H and replace (interim control or abatement options) – common areas include doors, windows, walls, trim, stair railings, exterior siding

Lead Soil Remediation

Paint, Remove/Replace Soffit, Trim, Fascia

Minimal Rehab to protect lead paint from further deterioration

Paint, Remove/Replace Lead Painted Porch Components

## Healthy Home Funds

Radon Testing and remediation, HVAC repair/replacement

Fire Safety Equipment Carbon Monoxide Testing and Monitor Placement

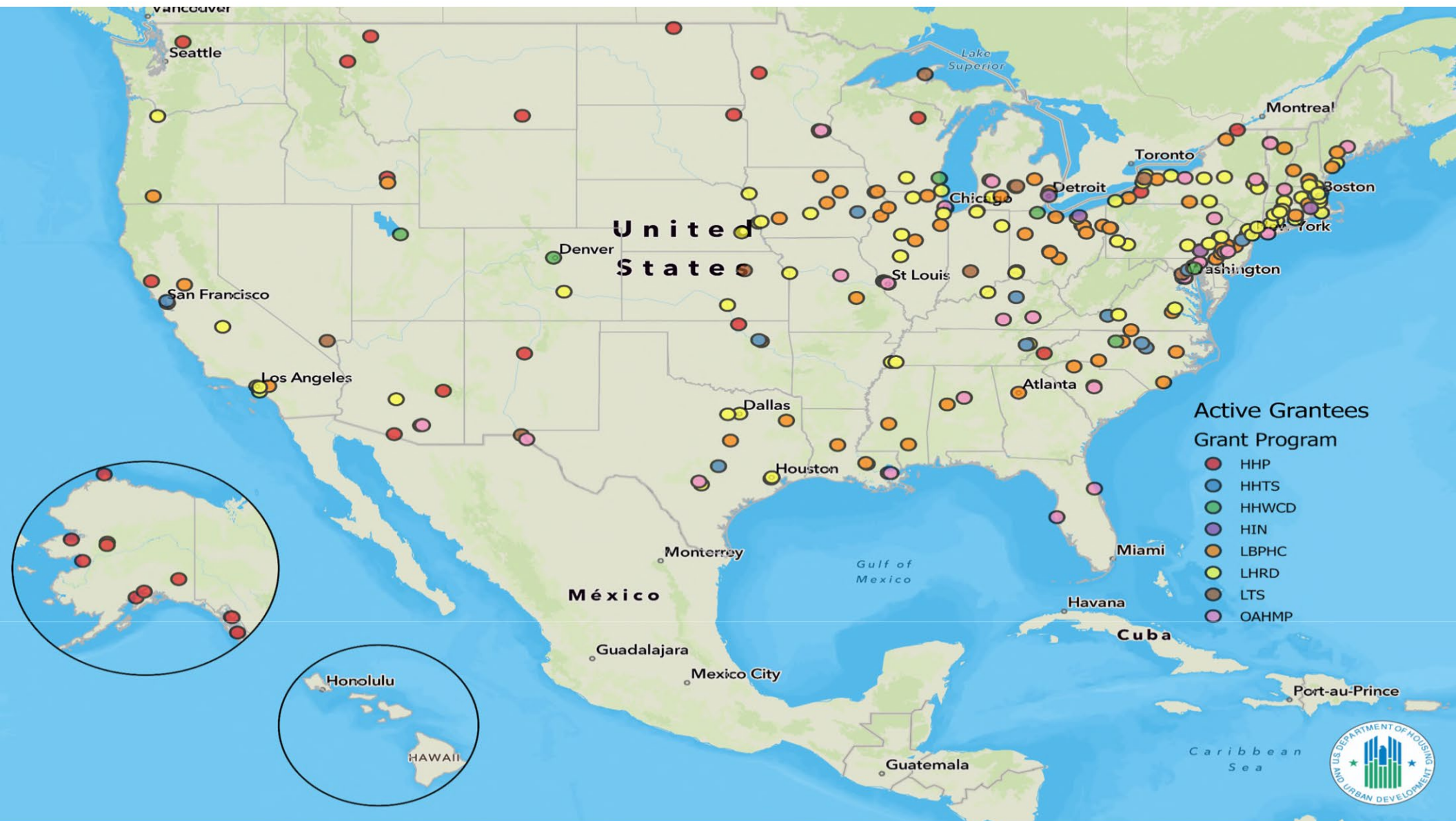
Railings, lighting, ramps, stairs

Moisture/Mold Remediation: flooring, plumbing, ventilation, substrate, roof and wall repair

Rodent, bed bug, cockroach treatments, decluttering supplies, food storage supplies

Asthma interventions, mattress covers, HEPA Vacuums, temperature control correction

Electrical Safety, GFCI and wiring upgrades





*One HUD, For All*



# Program Budget

## FY24 Funding Breakdown (Proposed Estimates)

<b>Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration Grants</b>	<b>\$260,728,338</b>
<b>Lead Hazard Reduction Grant Capacity Building</b>	<b>\$150,000,000</b>
<b>Healthy Homes Supplements to Lead Hazard Reduction Grants</b>	<b>\$65,000,000</b>
<b>Technical Studies and Assistance</b>	<b>\$7,500,000</b>
<b>Healthy Homes Production</b>	<b>\$40,000,000</b>
<b>Healthy Homes Financing Pilot</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>
<b>Healthy Homes Technical Studies</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>
<b>Older Adult Home Modification Program Grants (urban)</b>	<b>\$20,000,000</b>
<b>Older Adult Home Modification Program Grants (rural)</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>
<b>Healthy Homes and Weatherization Cooperation Demonstration</b>	<b>\$6,206,455</b>
<b>Resident Safety Program (Radon Testing)</b>	<b>\$3,998,542</b>
<b>Total grants</b>	<b>\$840,146,200</b>
<b>Contracts</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>
<b>Total grants and contracts</b>	<b>\$845,146,200</b>

## Legislative Proposals

- **Adjusting assistance threshold for requiring lead hazard abatement during rehabilitation of target housing (vs. allowing interim controls as well) under the Lead Safe Housing statute ([42 U.S.C. § 4822\(a\)\(1\)](#)) to reflect inflation since the 1992 enactment of that statute and in future years.**
- **Subpoena authority for the Lead Disclosure Statute ([42 U.S.C. § 4852d\(a\)](#)).**
- **Explicit authorization for the Healthy Homes program (vs. existing research, studies, testing, demonstrations authority ([12 U.S.C. § 1701z-1](#))).**

## Legislative Proposals

### New appropriation proposal:

- **Set-aside for risk-based **formula** funding of lead hazard reduction grants:**
  - **100% of Lead Hazard Reduction Demonstration funds, and 60% of Lead-Based Paint Hazard Control funds.**
  - **HUD would incorporate quality control and quality assurance procedures throughout and conduct an evaluation of the formula grant program in-house (PD&R and OLHCHH researchers) and/or through its Lead Technical Studies contracts program.**



## FY 2024 OLHCHH CJ Appropriations Language Request

- **Income Eligibility Harmonization Demonstration:**

To determine income eligibility of a family to be a beneficiary of an OLHCHH grant grantees may use, without duplicating the income verification process, income eligibility determinations made for:

- Other HUD programs,
- DOE's weatherization assistance program,
- HHS' low-income home energy assistance program, or
- VA's supportive services for veteran families program for such families who are occupying permanent housing.

## **FY24 Priorities**

- **Publish Funding Opportunities**
- **Increase applicants to all programs**
- **Reduce carryover/expiring funds**
- **Streamline Env Review process**
- **Community engagement/Build projects**
- **HH Grants Mgmt System Upgrades**
- **Plan for proposed LBP changes**

## **Transforming Communities**

### **Lead Safe and Healthy Neighborhood BUILD Events Overview**

- The Lead Safe and Healthy Neighborhood BUILD Events are events by local grantees to demonstrate their work of transforming unhealthy houses into lead safe and healthy homes.
- Volunteers come together to provide critical home repairs, accessibility modifications and other improvements to 3-5 homes.
- These events have proven effective to build partnerships and bring awareness and additional funding sources to communities.
- Many events have included a Listening Session to provide local officials, community-based organizations, and members of the local communities, a forum to discuss areas of lead hazard control, housing and neighborhood safety and health, the importance of expanding partnerships, developing workforce opportunities, and identify areas of opportunity and improvement.
- Making an impact starts with 1 home, 1 family, 1 child!

## Harris County, TX BUILD Event







## Hennepin County, MN BUILD Event







## Making an Impact

- HUD's programs have contributed substantially to reducing elevated blood lead level (EBLL) cases among children under age 6 (those most affected by lead) by 94% from the early 1990s to today.
- Difference in EBLL prevalence in children under 6 between Non-Hispanic Blacks and Non-Hispanic Whites was reduced by a factor of 2, representing a significant reduction in racial disparity.
- This work has proven cost benefits - each dollar invested in lead paint hazard control has been shown to result in a return of at least \$17, for a net savings of \$187 billion since the program began in 1993.

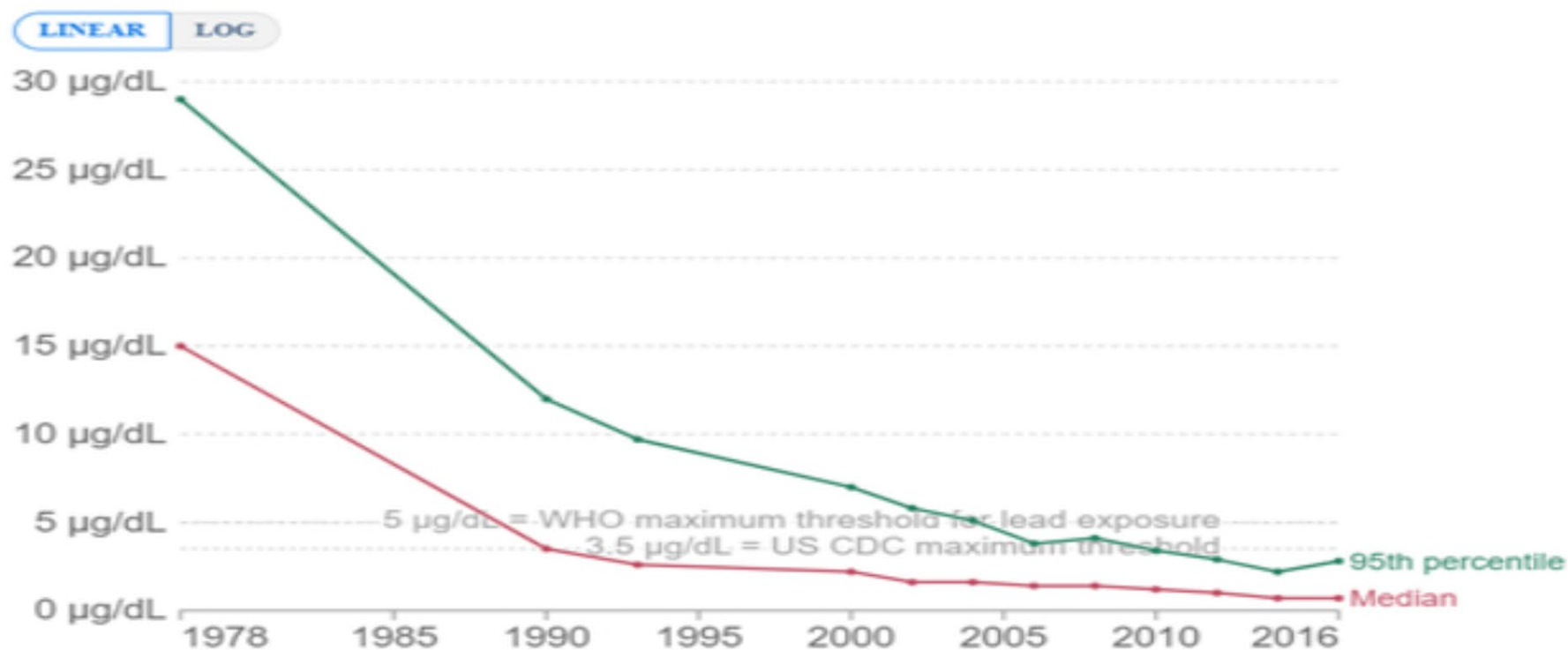


## Making an Impact

- **OLHCHH has been instrumental in developing and implementing strategies to address housing-related health hazards nationwide.**
- **OLHCHH has created capacity around the country to develop and sustain housing rehab programs focused on improved health outcomes.**
- **OLHCHH developed the standard of practice on methods and standards for evaluating and reducing lead-based paint hazards (HUD Guidelines);**
- **OLHCHH is responsible for reducing the threat of childhood lead poisoning in gov owned or assisted housing (Lead safe Housing Rule), and to educate the public on the dangers posed by lead paint (Lead Disclosure Rule).**

## Lead concentrations in the blood of children in the United States

Lead concentrations measured in blood samples from children aged one to five years old. Children are particularly vulnerable to lead poisoning and can suffer permanent impacts on the development of the brain and nervous system.



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Center for Health Statistics  
OurWorldInData.org/decline-lead-poisoning • CC BY

# Thank you



<https://www.hud.gov/Lead>  
for more information