

# *City of East Providence*

## *Lead Safe Program*

### **Important information for tenants about lead hazard reduction work**

**Lead hazard reduction** will be done in your apartment. This means it will be made lead safe. All old wooden windows will be replaced, damaged paint will be repainted, and the exterior paint will either be repainted or vinyl siding will be installed.

**While this work is being done inside your apartment, you cannot stay in your home. But this is only temporary.** During lead hazard reduction work, lead dust is created from the contractor's activities. The state law requires tenants and homeowners not to be present until a dust wipe test shows that lead dust is no longer present. The Lead Safe Program will make arrangements if you cannot stay with friends or family. The program will not pay the cost of meals. The hotel room comes equipt with a kitchenette for guests to cook their meals. The program will pay for the boarding of pets. If you have any special situations such as transportation problems, please let the program know as soon as possible. The average length of time that a family is temporarily out of their home is 7-10 days.

**Before work starts, the apartment must be prepared for the contractor.** All belongings must be packed and stored either in the basement, attic, or a room where no work is going to be done. Furniture should be moved to the center of the room. The contractor will cover the grouping with plastic to ensure that contamination will not happen. Closets that will be repainted should also be emptied. ***The refrigerator will be unplugged.*** Before work begins, the Lead Safe Program Coordinator will have a list of all the items that will be addressed in your apartment. A ***Relocation Guide*** is available to help you.

**All children under the age of six must have a blood lead level test if they have not had one within the past 6 months.** Children with lead poisoning do not show symptoms. If lead poisoning is not treated it can lead to learning disabilities, memory loss, and kidney damage. High amounts of lead in a child could result in coma or death. A blood test is the only way to know if a child has lead poisoning. The venous (blood drawn from the arm) is the most accurate test. Fingerstick tests report falsely high results quite often. Talk to your children's pediatrician to either schedule a test or to get the last results from the last test. Each child usually undergoes a test when they go in for their general annual physical.

Call the Lead Safe Program if you have any questions. **435-7536**