



Ohio Healthy Homes Network

Session Descriptions

Cost Effective Approaches to a Safe and Healthy Home

2018 Spring Healthy Homes Forum

April 24, 2018

9:15 am Keynote Address: Recent Innovations in the Healthy Homes Field

Dr. David Jacobs will describe recent developments at the international, national and local levels in the healthy homes field, including proactive healthy housing inspections program initiatives, developments at the World Health Organization, and new estimates of return on investments for healthy housing. Recently developed fact sheets and reports and financing mechanisms will also be described.

**10:15 am Session 1 A
The Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP), Start to Finish**

This one-hour session will explain the history of the weatherization program answering such questions as 'how did we get here?' and what lessons have been learned. The session will explain how one qualifies for assistance, the responsibilities to the family in the home versus justifiable energy conservation measures. It will also describe where healthy homes opportunities merge with weatherization requirements. Participants will gain an understanding of the history, intricacies and importance of HWAP. They will learn the details of each step; from who qualifies, the initial energy audit, applied measures based on the audit and the quality control inspection that assures work was done to HWAP standards.

**10:15 am Session 1 B
A Community-Based, Coordinated Approach to Hoarding: The Hoarding Connection of Cuyahoga County**

The Cuyahoga County Hoarding Connection's mission is to educate the community about the need for a coordinated effort of personnel from local government, mental health and social service agencies to effectively help individuals who hoard and those working with individuals who hoard. This

session will engage participants in understanding the symptoms, behaviors and thinking of hoarders. We'll discuss the Hoarding Connection's use of the Enforced Harm Reduction model, Minimum Acceptable Standards, and interventions that have been used. For those interested in forming their own county-wide hoarding group, we'll cover how to gather housing staff, court officials, building managers, adult protection service workers, agency staff, community organizers and local alcohol and drug and mental health board to come together in a taskforce to work together on addressing hoarding.

11:15 am Session 2 A
Indoor Exposures to Microbes and Chemicals: Implications for Childhood Asthma

We spend 90% of our time indoors where we are exposed to diverse microbial communities and harmful chemicals such as formaldehyde. These exposures can influence our health, especially vulnerable populations such as asthmatic children. This presentation will highlight recent research to determine associations between indoor microbial exposures and childhood asthma as well as demonstrate housing characteristics can alter indoor microbial communities. Using DNA-based measurement methods, we demonstrated that indoor fungal exposures are associated with asthma severity in children, and the associations are dependent on asthma subtype. Housing characteristics also influence microbial exposure. Relative humidity above around 80% can cause microbial growth in dust that may impact human exposure. Additionally, fungal spores exposed to higher moisture during growth may be more harmful. The session will also highlight Dr. Dannemiller's recent work to develop a smartphone-based app for detection of formaldehyde indoors.

11:15 am Session 2 B
Addressing the Effects of Childhood Lead Exposure in the School Setting

Elevated blood lead levels in children ages 1 to 6 years continues to be a public health priority, despite decades of surveillance and intervention. The scope of the problem related to lead exposure and elevated blood lead levels has been defined and redefined several times over the past three decades. The challenge continues to be the screening and

identification of children at risk for elevated blood lead levels and the importance of interdisciplinary approaches to prevention. Although progress has been seen in reducing the overall percentage of children with high blood lead levels over the past three decades, children, especially in the high-risk population, are still not being screened at recommended levels. In addition, many children at risk for chronic low lead level exposure are currently not being identified for intervention, as they fall below the current national threshold value of 5 micrograms/dL. Children process lead differently than adults and as a result, lead has a higher volume of distribution in children. The impact of lead exposure can be seen in children as behavior problems, sensory integration deficits, attention deficits, decreased IQ, and difficulty achieving in school. Collaborating with school districts can help address the impact of lead exposure on children and the greater community.

1:00 pm

Session 3 A

Innovative Financing Models for Lead Abatement

This session will explore two very different models for addressing lead abatement: Cuyahoga County Board of Health's *Pay for Success* (also known as *Social Impact Bonds*) for lead-based paint abatement and Greater Cincinnati Water Works *Lead Service Line Replacement Program* to reduce lead in drinking water.

1:00 pm

Session 3 B

Housing and Infant Mortality

Ohio's rate of infant mortality is the eighth highest in the United States, and minority populations are particularly at risk. Research has shown that social and environmental factors including housing may contribute as much as fifty percent of the impact on health outcomes. Health systems, policy makers and community leaders are coming together to create comprehensive programs to reduce infant mortality. This session will highlight policy recommendations in the Health Policy Institute of Ohio's recent report to the state legislature, particularly in the area of housing, and Celebrate One, the local infant mortality initiative in Columbus.

2:15 pm **Session 4 A**
Radon Hazards and Proposed Disclosure Legislation

According to the US EPA, radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer and responsible for about 21,000 lung cancer deaths every year. Ohio is at high risk for radon with most of the state located in Zone 1 and the balance in Zone 2. This session will look at the problem of radon from the perspectives of a cancer survivor and advocate, a leading oncologist and researcher in the field of lung cancer and Ohio's radon trade association, the Ohio Association of Radon Professionals (OARP). OARP is currently formulating partnerships and promoting radon awareness throughout the state of Ohio with the goal of preventing avoidable lung cancer deaths. The organization will share their statewide initiatives, outreach and push for legislation to promote the radon reduction cause.

2:15 pm **Session 4 B**
Updates on Local Lead Policies and Programs

Local governments are on the front line in controlling and regulating lead hazards. This session will focus on three communities' initiatives through local ordinances and regulatory enforcement. A Toledo ordinance requiring pre-1978 rental properties and family daycares to register and be lead safe is facing legal and logistical challenges. The Cleveland Lead Safe Network is advocating for an ordinance to require owners to make the properties lead safe before children are poisoned, as well as for increased public and private resources for testing and remediation. Columbus Public Health is using its enforcement authority aggressively to eliminate lead hazards and promote healthy housing while navigating complex federal, state and local laws and regulations.

3:45 pm **Session 5 A**
Ohio Department of Health Lead Update and a Parent Perspective on Lead Safe Housing

The Ohio Department of Health has recently embarked upon two statewide initiatives that increase capacity for lead-safe housing. This presentation will focus on the development and implementation of a state Lead Abatement Program and Lead Safe Rental Housing

Registry, as well as one parent's experience with the search for lead safe housing and obtaining lead abatement assistance.

3:45 pm

Session 5 B

Federal and State Funding for Healthy, Safe and Affordable Housing

The future of key federal and state healthy homes and affordable housing programs will be the focus of this session. The forecast for federal healthy homes appropriation levels will be given by the National Center for Healthy Housing and will focus on key programs in HUD, CDC and EPA. The Ohio Development Services Agency will provide an overview and projected funding levels for the Community Housing Impact and Preservation Program, Housing Assistance Grant Program, Electric Partnership Program and Home Weatherization Assistance Programs offered through the Offices of Community Development and Community Assistance. Funding administered by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency for the construction or rehabilitation of affordable multifamily housing will be discussed including Housing Tax Credits, Ohio Housing Trust Funds, HOME, National Housing Trust Funds, and the Multifamily Lending Program.

This activity has been submitted to the Ohio Nurses Association for approval to award contact hours.

The Ohio Nurses Association is accredited as an approver of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Education. (OBN-001-91)

Please call Patricia Barnes at 614-289-8812 for information about contact hours.

Conflict of Interest:

The presenters, planners and moderators have declared no conflict of interest.

Criteria for Successful Completion:

Attendance of at least 80% of the event and submission of completed evaluation form.

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