

Chronology of MDHHS E-mails pertaining to blood lead levels of kids in Michigan, primarily in Flint Part II

While the emails are arranged chronologically, if a specific subject matter is discussed over a longer period of time (>1 day), they are grouped together for continuity.

Highlights in either red or yellow are from Flintwaterstudy.org.

FlintWaterStudy.org

Use the following suggested citation.

Roy, S. and M. Edwards

Chronological compilation of e-mails from MDHHS Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request #2015-557 Part II (2016).

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Grijalva, Nancy (DCH)
> Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 4:47 PM
> To: Moran, Susan (DCH)
> Cc: Anderson, Paula (DCH)
> Subject: FW: Flint - need update asap
>
>
>

> I'm frustrated by the water issue in Flint. I really don't think people are getting the benefit of the doubt. Now they are concerned and rightfully so about the lead level studies they are receiving from the DEQ samples. Can you take a moment out of your impossible schedule to personally take a look at this? These folks are scared and worried about the health impacts and they are basically getting blown off by us (as a state we're just not sympathizing with their plight).

> <Flint Testing and EBLLs_2.xlsx>

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Anderson, Paula (DCH)
> Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 4:51 PM
> To: Miller, Mark (DCH)
> Cc: Moran, Susan (DCH)
> Subject: FW: Flint - need update asap
> Importance: High
>
> Nancy requested an answer TODAY. Thanks.

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Miller, Mark (DCH)
> Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 5:28 PM
> To: Anderson, Paula (DCH)
> Subject: RE: Flint - need update asap
>
> There's an article from the metro times I located:
>
> <http://www.metrotimes.com/Blogs/archives/2015/07/14/flint-family-finds-hazardous-waste-levels-of-lead-in-its-tap-water>
>
> Based on this it sounds like at least one family might have had a child with elevated lead blood levels, which might or might not have come from the water. Sounds like the issue is old lead service lines, but their seems to be some difference of opinion on appropriate testing methods.
>
> I'd send this over to Linda Dykema, Wes Priem and Nancy Peeler for their comments.
>

> DEQ has jurisdiction over municipal water supplies, but we do have a program to follow-up on children with elevated blood lead levels, so I think it would be appropriate for the folks above to discuss the situation and recommend any action.

>

> Mark

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Anderson, Paula (DCH)

> Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2015 5:31 PM

> To: Miller, Corinne (DCH); Travis, Rashmi (DCH)

> Cc: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Bouters, Janese (DCH); Barr, Jacqui (DCH)

> Subject: Director's Office Assignment -- Flint - need update asap

> Importance: High

>

> Good afternoon,

> Please see the message below received from the Director's office just before 5. If at all possible, please provide an update of what you may, or may not, know ASAP, today if at all possible. Include Nancy Grijalva and Sue Moran in the response. Thank you.

> On Jul 28, 2015, at 2:57 PM, Peeler, Nancy (DCH) <PeelerN@michigan.gov> wrote:

>

> I apologize for the delay in responding more specifically to this assignment, it took some time to review our Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention program data to see if it might contribute to the understanding of the situation in Flint with their water supply. Here is what we found:

>

> We looked at lead testing results for May 2014-April 2015, which is the 12 month time frame just after Flint started drawing their water from the river (water source changed in April 2014). We compared lead testing rates and lead testing results to the same time frame for the previous 3 years, to see if there were any patterns that suggested that there were increased rates of lead poisoning after the water supply was switched. Per the attached charts -

> * Lead testing rates remained about the same from year to year (chart on the right).

> * There was a spike in elevated blood lead tests from July-September 2014 (chart on the left, gold line).

> * However that pattern was not terribly different from what we saw in the previous three years, especially in 2011-2012 (we are working with our Epidemiologist to statistically verify any significant differences).

> * We commonly see a 'seasonal effect' with lead, related to people opening and closing windows more often in the summer, which disturbs old deteriorating paint on the windows, sills and sashes. Window fans frequently blow and spread the lead dust from the deteriorating paint to other parts of the room/house. We suspect that the summer data spike may be related to this effect.

> * If the home water supply lines and/or river water were contributing to elevated blood lead tests, we expected that the increased rates would extend beyond the summer, but they drop quite a bit from September to October, stayed low over the winter, and are just starting to tail up again in the spring of 2015.

>

> So upon review, we don't believe our data demonstrates an increase in lead poisoning rates that might be attributable to the change in water source for Flint. We recognize that lead exposure via the water is only a small piece of what may be happening for families in Flint, however, we hope the information is helpful.

>

> Nancy Peeler

Elevated Blood Lead Levels Among Children <16 Years of Age

City of Flint, May 2011— April 2015

QUESTION:

Were positive tests for elevated blood lead levels (EBLL) higher than usual for children under age 16 living in the City of Flint during the months of July, August, and September, 2014?

METHODS:

- The number of children tested for lead poisoning varies from month to month, so the proportion of children with a first-time blood lead level ≥ 5 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ was calculated for each month (Figure 1).
- To determine whether or not the difference between the summer of 2014 and the previous three years warrants further investigation, a control chart for proportions (Figure 3) was constructed.
- Monthly data from May 2011 to April 2014 were used to construct upper and lower control limits (UCL and LCL) representing the amount of expected variation in EBLL (Figure 3).
- Finally, proportions of EBLL from May 2014 to April 2015 were plotted in Figure 3.

Figure 1. Formula for Calculating Monthly Proportion of Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels

$$\frac{\text{Number of Children with Blood Lead Level } \geq 5 \mu\text{g/dL}}{\text{Total Number of Children Tested}} = \text{Proportion with EBLL}$$

Figure 2. Proportion of Children Tested for Lead Poisoning with Elevated Blood Lead Levels, May 2011—April 2015

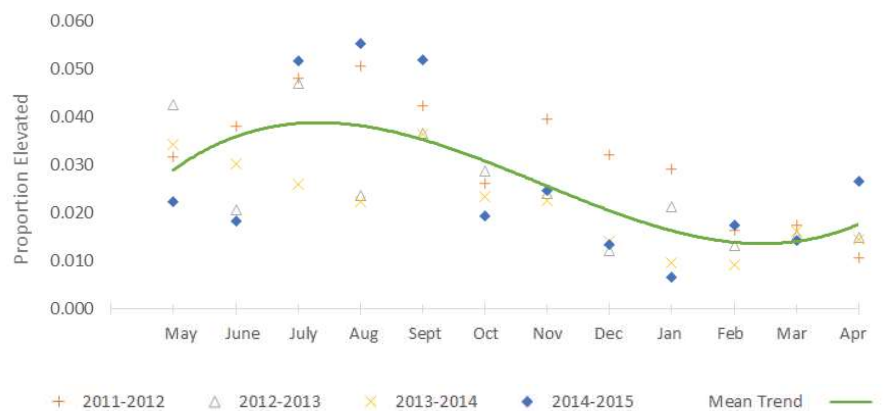
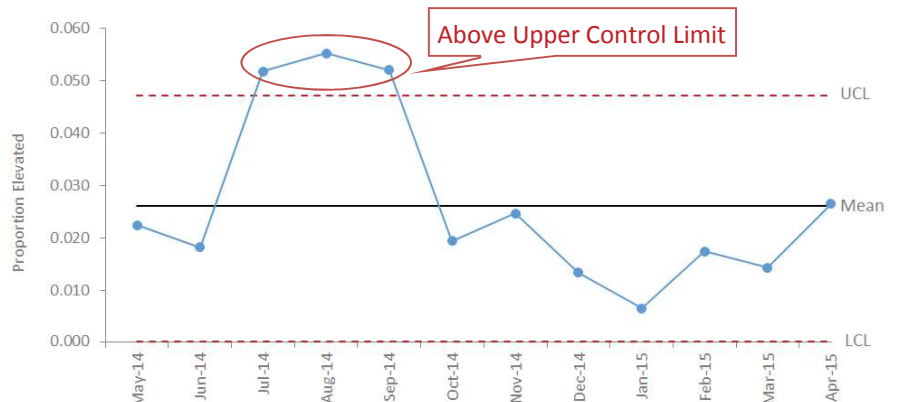


Figure 3. Control Chart of Proportion of Children Tested for Lead Poisoning with Elevated Blood Lead Levels, May 2014—April 2015



RESULTS:

- Figure 2 shows that—on average—there appears to be a higher proportion of first-time EBLL during the summer months of July, August, and September.
- However, even compared to the previous three years, the proportion of first-time EBLL is highest during summer 2014 (Figure 2).
- Based on the control chart for proportions (Figure 3), only the summer months of July, August, and September had proportions of EBLL higher than that expected from random variation over time.
- Further, the summer months of 2014 were the only data points between May 2014 and April 2015 with EBLL proportions above the average (mean) of the previous three years (Figure 3).

CONCLUSION:

- Based on the results depicted in Figure 3, positive tests for EBLL were higher than usual for children under age 16 living in the City of Flint during the months of July, August, and September, 2014.
- However, it's important to note that the purpose of control charts is to monitor data for the quick detection of abnormal variation—not to construct a case for causality.

SOURCES:

- Data for the City of Flint was provided by the [Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program](#) at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Information is current as of July 27, 2015.
- Control chart methods are based on [The Six Sigma Way Team Fieldbook: An Implementation Guide for Process Improvement Teams](#), by Peter Pande, Robert Neuman, and Roland Cavanagh.

-----Original Message-----

From: Fink, Brenda (DCH)

Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2015 3:37 PM

Subject: Re: Director's Office Assignment -- Flint - need update asap

Really nice job! Bob, thanks so much for your help on this as well! Great data, great language helping folks understand what the data says.

Sent from my iPad

From: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:16 PM
To: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH); Fiedler, Jay (DCH)
Cc: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: FW: Director's Office Assignment -- Flint - need update asap
Attachments: Flint Testing and EBLLs_2.xlsx

Wes - per the EPA request to you, the attachment contains two graphics on childhood blood lead testing in Flint.

Jay - this information likely will be shared with the local health department, if it hasn't been already (there is an MDHHS childhood lead poisoning health educator in the Flint-area), because the MDHHS toxicologists, MDEQ and the county health department spoke last week about the development of standard messaging related to lead in drinking water.

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, August 06, 2015 8:30 PM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Cc: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Subject: Flint Lead Outreach

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Liane,

Wes Priem is the Section Manager of the Healthy Homes Section in DEH.

Wes and I talked about the Pb outreach needs in Flint. We are generally interested, but need to touch base with Linda when she returns on 8/17.

Feel free to keep us in the loop.

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

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From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, August 18, 2015 3:29 PM
To: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: REQUEST from DEQ Drinking Water

When you have a moment this week, Lianne made a request for assistance that requires your direction.

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

Subject: Flint Pb Outreach
Location: MDCH - Capitol View 4th Floor - 405
Start: Mon 8/31/2015 2:00 PM
End: Mon 8/31/2015 4:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative
Recurrence: (none)
Meeting Status: Not yet responded
Organizer: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Required Attendees: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Resources: MDCH - Capitol View 4th Floor - 405

Working meeting – Flint Pb outreach

Scope out ideas and costs.

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 2:34 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: Flint Lead is blowing up - may want to push meeting if we're going to do something

<http://michiganradio.org/post/team-testing-flint-water-lead-sample-sample#stream/0>

<http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/mayor.html>

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/flint_mayoral_challenger_calls.html

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/new_testing_shows_flint_water.html

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 3:00 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint Lead is blowing up - may want to push meeting if we're going to do something

Also, flintwaterstudy.org (can't access it from work computers, thanks websense) [has results of water testing.](#)

><{{' > www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish <'}}><

Michelle Bruneau, MA
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Project Manager & Health Educator
(517) 335-8984
bruneaum@michigan.gov

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2015 2:52 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint Lead is blowing up - may want to push meeting if we're going to do something

OH geez; here's the [citizen group website:](#)

<http://www.wateryoufightingfor.com/>

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2015 8:28 AM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: DRAFT Lead Plan
Attachments: 2015-09-09 - DHHS LEAD SAFE KG MB.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Cool, I put the info you added into a Background Section because the info wasn't necessarily part of the objective, but still important.

I pulled out a lot of talking points – including the TTHM and the concerns listed by the Petition circulated by the people on the Flint Links page I sent you, to that will be important to consider when creating messages, but don't necessarily need to go in the "Plan".

My reasoning for not focusing on the chloride as part of our education campaign is that there is nothing the public can do about that that I can figure, right? Only the city can really quit using so much chloride, but they may have to, given the water quality.

It should be addressed, but not as a focus, I think. It can be explained in public meetings – the why so much is used, how it reacts with the pipes, what people can do...if anything? Lisa said something about running water for 5 minutes...That could be taken care of with people's morning showers, right? Lead isn't going to absorb through the skin?

Edited version attached. It may be a good time to float the draft out to the others because if we're going to take action it needs to be soon before the Virginia Tech University folks scandalize us all. In DC, it took them 6 years to respond. That's not good.

><{{' > www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish <'}}><

Michelle Bruneau, MA
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Project Manager & Health Educator
(517) 335-8984
bruneaum@michigan.gov

From: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 8:54:24 AM
To: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: Lead

Since we last spoke, there's been an increase in the media regarding lead exposure. Any progress developing a proposal for a lead education campaign? We've got a number of legislative inquiries that we are responding to. It would be helpful to have something more to be able to say.

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 10:29 AM
To: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Subject: Fw: Lead

FYI-

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 10:43 AM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Lead

Told ya...☺

> www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish <'}}><

Michelle Bruneau, MA
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Project Manager & Health Educator
(517) 335-8984
bruneaum@michigan.gov

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 10:34 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Subject: Re: Lead

Hi Liane,

Yes - Michelle has written the bones of a health education and outreach plan. I have edited. A brief conversation this afternoon would be good.

Kory

From: Busch, Stephen (DEQ)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 10:37 AM
To: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH); Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Lead

Ok with me.

Stephen Busch, P.E.
MDEQ Lansing District Coordinator
Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance
Lansing and Jackson District Supervisor
517-643-2314
buschs@michigan.gov

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 11:46 AM
To: Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: Benzie, Richard (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Lead
Attachments: 2015-09-09 - DHHS LEAD SAFE KG MB.pdf

Hi everyone:

Attached please find the very draft outreach and communications plan that Kory referred to – the scope will depend on what role we take on and availability of funding. The last page includes links I've compiled to the recent media, community groups, and the Virginia Tech group, as well as some potential talking points we might want to address.

I have reserved our conference line for 2pm.
The call in number is [REDACTED]; Access Code: [REDACTED].

Thank you!

- Michelle

><{{{'> www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish <'}}><

Michelle Bruneau, MA
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Project Manager & Health Educator
(517) 335-8984
bruneaum@michigan.gov

Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS)

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Dawn Hallwood (dhallwood@gchd.us)
Cc: Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: Flint Pb Conversation

Hi Dawn,

Thank you for taking a few minutes to talk with me today. As discussed, MDEQ and MDHHS are talking about communication options to conduct health education to Flint residents about sources of lead (Pb) exposure.

We would like to have an idea-generating discussion with Genesee Co. Health Department about this topic.

Thank you for considering my request, and please let me know if you would like me to set up a conference call to discuss ideas.

Best Regards,

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

From: Brita <brita@consumerreply.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 9:42 AM
To: Hallwood, Dawn
Subject: I am wondering if your faucet filtration systems are NSF approved and ANSI...



kleknes (09/17/2015 09:42 AM)

Hello Dawn,

Thank you for contacting us at Brita. We appreciate you taking the time to write to us.

We understand your concern and we will be happy to shed some light on the matter. The BRITA On Tap Faucet Filter System has been tested and certified by NSF International, the nation's leading testing authority for water filtration products. Our replacement filters for our faucet mount system is NSF 42 AND 53 Certified.

The latest information on our products being NSF certified can be found @ <http://info.nsf.org/Certified/DWTU/>;

We hope this information was helpful. Please feel free to reach out to us if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Again, thank you for contacting us.

Sincerely,
Consumer Services

Dawn Hallwood (09/16/2015 11:57 AM)

I am wondering if your faucet filtration systems are NSF approved and ANSI Standard 53? If so, could you provide me with documentation that states that. Thank you.

If you need to contact us in the future about this issue, please mention this reference number: 150916-000491

From: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS [<mailto:Anne.Bartholomew@fns.usda.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:22 AM
To: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS
Subject: Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

Hi Stan,

Bruce suggested that I contact you directly. I did leave a voice mail. We have an urgent request from the USDA Secretary on behalf of a Congressperson about a problem with high lead levels in water supply in Flint, MI. We are wondering what steps, if any, that Michigan WIC has taken with respect to this issue. Has Michigan WIC determined a need to issue ready-to-feed for affected participants? If yes, is this being done on an individual basis or universally to those living in the affected area. The Secretary has requested a quick response so your attention to this request is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,

Anne

Anne Bartholomew M.S., R.D.
Supplemental Food Programs Division
Branch Chief, Nutrition Services

<mime-attachment>

From: Bien, Stan (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:47 AM
To: Bartholomew, Anne - FNS
Cc: Hillman, Bruce - FNS; Travis, Rashmi (DCH); Hanulcik, Kristen (DCH); Baker, Mary A. (DCH)
Subject: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue
Importance: High

Hi Anne – In follow up to our phone discussion, attached is info our staff obtained this morning on the water issue.

As discussed, this is a Public Health issue, not just WIC. As of now, there has been no 'official advisory' to not use the water and our SNAP clients can purchase water with their benefits if so needed. Per the WIC Regs, we must have special justification to issue RTF of 'If the water is unsanitary or restricted'.

We will continue to work with our Lead Program and monitor the situation. Thank you.

Stan Bien, Director
Michigan WIC Program - BFMCH
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
320 South Walnut Street - 6th Floor
Lansing, MI 48913
517.335.8448

On Sep 17, 2015, at 11:50 AM, Travis, Rashmi (DCH) <TravisR@michigan.gov> wrote:

Sue, Mikelle, and Mark,
I wanted you all to be aware of these questions from Flint and the water supply. Our WIC and Lead Program have been working on it.
Please let me know if you have any questions.
Thanks,
Rashmi

From: Moran, Susan (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 11:57 AM
To: Travis, Rashmi (DCH)
Cc: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH); Miller, Mark (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Bien, Stan (DCH)
Subject: Re: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

FYI Front office also asking about Flint water, let's make sure we are communicating consistently. Copying Lynda and Corrine.

While this is a public health concern, this is largely DEQ/local jurisdiction.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 2:41 PM
To: Moran, Susan (DCH); Travis, Rashmi (DCH)
Cc: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH); Miller, Mark (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Bien, Stan (DCH); Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Reply - Information requested about Flint, MI and lead in water issue

Yes, drinking water is an MDEQ issue and Linda's toxicologists (Kory and his staff) has been in communication with the MDEQ about messaging.

Per the MDEQ, the compliance monitoring for lead within the city has never exceeded the EPA action level for lead.

One family did receive considerable media attention because the drinking water coming into their home had very high lead levels. The lead in their tap water was due to an anomaly. A number of years ago, the city had replaced water main pipes but this home, unlike every other house in the neighborhood, did not get hooked up to the new system. The family was getting its water from the old system. No other homes in the area had high lead levels measured at the tap. Once this home was properly hooked up to the newer system the problem stopped.

There may be homes with old lead pipes that are within the homeowner's responsibility. The city's responsibility goes to the border of the property.

The water treatment plant has also been vigorous about chlorination thus the MDEQ requested that they use some strategies to mitigate the effect of chlorine on pipe corrosion.

Corinne

From: Lishinski, Karen (DCH)

Sent: Thursday, September 17, 2015 2:56 PM

Subject: everyone is weighing in!!

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/erin_brockovich.html

From: Fink, Brenda (DCH)

Sent: Friday, September 18, 2015 11:47 AM

To: Miller, Corinne (DCH); Priem, Wesley F. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Travis, Rashmi (DCH); Bien, Stan (DCH); Houk, Emily (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Miller, Mark (DCH); Robinson, Mikelle (DCH)

Subject: team approach to Flint lead issue

Just fyi, a gentle reminder to keep all of us in the loop on the conversations going on about this situation. I learned this morning from staff here about the latest pieces involving WIC, the USDA and Erin B/Mlive, and wasn't sure who knew what. I talked with Stan so am now aware of the emails, etc that took place yesterday----I'd appreciate being included here as well so when we get piece swe know who already knows what, etc. We here are preparing the talking points needed from "our" program piece, which (per the meeting we had Monday between HH and CLPPP) will be combined with the overall material Linda/DEQ are working on. We're totally on board with who has the lead! It just helps us not spin our wheels wondering what we need to share with whom when we hear a piece, but aren't aware of "the whole." And, we need to do the same here (meaning when we are communicating w/Communications staff and our "pieces" of us, unless it is something very small, we need to be including others as well which I'm not sure we're as aware of as we need to be). Linda has the lead. We'll be sure we respect that here as well. Thanks, all.

Brenda Fink, A.C.S.W.
Director, Division of Family and Community Health
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
109 W. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933
517-335-8863
Fax: 517-335-8697
finkb@michigan.gov

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 2:30 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: VT site.

Yup, it was one of my links...but it was too new and so DTMB wouldn't let us access it. Glad to see they will now. ☺

><{{'> www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish <'}}><

Michelle Bruneau, MA
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
Project Manager & Health Educator
(517) 335-8984
bruneaum@michigan.gov

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 2:15 PM
To: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Subject: VT site.

You may have already found this.
<http://flintwaterstudy.org/>

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS)

Subject: Flint Pb - Talk with Genesee Co. HD
Location: Conference Call -

Start: Tue 9/22/2015 3:00 PM
End: Tue 9/22/2015 4:00 PM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Required Attendees: Dawn Hallwood (dhallwood@gchd.us); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Benzie, Richard (DEQ); Busch, Stephen (DEQ)

Hello All,

Attempt #3 - Genesee Co. HD is available at 3 pm on 9/22. It appears that the state employees are currently open during this time.

Purpose of the meeting is to exchange thoughts on health education needs regarding lead (Pb) exposure in Flint, MI with particular attention on the drinking water messaging needs.

Agenda:

1. Status of the situation:
 - a. DEQ
 - b. Genesee Co HD
2. Suggestions / Discussion on the correct type of effort/actions to be applied to this situation
3. Current status of resources to put toward desired efforts (i.e., Who has time to do what? aka – reality check)

Conference Line:

Call-in Number: [REDACTED]

Access code: [REDACTED]

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 5:23 PM
To: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Subject: Health Education Call - Pb Outreach

Linda,

I moderated the conference call with the attendees listed below on 9/22/2015 discussing lead (Pb) outreach in the city of Flint. The purpose of the call was to facilitate introductions, and identify Pb health education materials, current PB outreach efforts in Flint and existing resources. DEQ provided a brief background of the drinking water compliance process in relation to efforts being conducted in Flint. Information sharing occurred between attendees about the Pb in drinking water sampling efforts in Flint.

Each agency/department listed their current health education efforts and available resources that could be made available relative to Pb outreach in Flint. The CLPPP provides some limited funding to prosperity region 6 to conduct Pb outreach. CLPPP is building a Pb Tool Kit for providers. Information about Pb in drinking water does not currently exist in these materials, but they are interested to build that information into the tool kit. DEQ has contacts with the Flint's drinking water program. GCHD has been getting many phone calls and they have had to create factsheets about water hardness and trihalomethanes.

Action Items from the Call:

1. Participants will e-mail their Pb outreach materials and presentations that are in current use to Michelle Bruneau (BruneauM@michigan.gov).
2. GCHD will send Michelle a list of concerns they have been getting from the Flint community.
3. Michelle will look over the materials to assess what messages are covered, what messages are not covered, and provide suggestions on what work may need to be done to address gaps.
4. Follow-up is needed on the water sampling directions being provided by the city to homeowners that request a Pb in tap water analysis. (There are two sampling procedures depending on the purpose of the water sample.)
5. Karen Lishinski will provide a contact at WIC, so they can be invited to our follow-up conference call.
6. MDHHS-DEH will arrange a follow-up conference call in approximately two weeks.

Attendees:

Dawn Hallwood (Genesee Co HD)
James Henry (GCHD)
Mark Valacak (GCHD)
Brad Wurfel (DEQ)
Liane Shekter-Smith (DEQ)
Richard Benzie (DEQ)
Stephen Busch (DEQ)
Nancy Peeler (DHHS)
Karen Lishinski (DHHS)
Linda Dykema (DHHS)
Kory Groetsch (DHHS)
Michelle Bruneau (DHHS)

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 2:34:10 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: Env. Health Perspectives on Washington DC. lead in Drinking Water

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1868000/>

Excerpt below with the plan they implemented.

Following the LCR ([U.S. EPA 1991](#)), guidance from the U.S. EPA, consultation with the DC Department of Health, and its own contingency plans, in 2003 the DCWASA implemented plans for families living in homes with lead lines or testing above the LAL:

- Advisories were disseminated recommending that water lines should be flushed for 10 min before consuming drinking water.
- Specific advice for limiting exposure to children < 6 years of age and pregnant and nursing women was sent to all households with suspected lead service lines, in the form of flyers prepared in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Amharic.
- Filters were distributed to homes with suspected lead service lines and later to all homes with a test result > 15 ppb (the LAL). Replacement filter cartridges were then sent to the same homes at 6-month intervals for the duration of the period of the exceedance, ending in June 2006.
- The board of directors of the DCWASA decided to adopt a voluntarily accelerated program to replace the public segment of all lead service lines in the District of Columbia, exceeding requirements of the LCR ([U.S. EPA 1991](#)).
- Homeowners were offered replacement of the private segment of lead service lines on their property, at cost, at the same time that the public segments of the lead service lines were replaced. When the public line is replaced but the private line is not, lead levels are reduced proportionally to the length of pipe replaced but not eliminated.
- Low-cost financing was arranged with a local bank for qualifying property owners who wished to replace the private part of the lead service line on their property. The DC government later made grants available to low-income eligible residents for this purpose.
- The DCWASA offered free water testing to any customer in the distribution area who requested it.

THIS IS
INCORRECT
-FlintWaterStudy.org

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 3:36 PM
To: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Subject: Re: Env. Health Perspectives on Washington DC. lead in Drinking Water

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Great list of actions. I am cc'ing Michelle to capture.

Thanks

-----Original Message-----

From: Peeler, Nancy (DCH)

Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2015 9:48 PM

Subject: Flint

Based on questions coming through, I do think we need to run our Flint charts for the same population group that the Flint docs ran (as close as we can approximate the sample) but I'd look at it across the 5 years again.

Depending on what our charts show, we may want to consider having Epi help us run an analysis more like the docs ran - but let's look at the revised charts as a starting point.

Sent from my iPad

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:19 PM
To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ); Bruneau, Michelle (DCH); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Dawn Hallwood (dhallwood@gchd.us); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Henry, James; Houk, Emily (DCH); Lishinski, Karen (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Valacak, Mark; Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Cc: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH) (GroetschK@michigan.gov)
Subject: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Hello All,

Below is a summary from our call. Please note the action items. In addition, Karen Lishinski pointed out this EPA website as a good resource: <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants/basicinformation/lead.cfm>

SUMMARY:

A conference call with the attendees listed below occurred on 9/22/2015 discussing lead (Pb) outreach in the city of Flint. The purpose of the call was to facilitate introductions, and identify Pb health education materials, current Pb outreach efforts in Flint and existing resources. DEQ provided a brief background of the drinking water compliance process in relation to efforts being conducted in Flint. Information sharing occurred between attendees about the Pb in drinking water sampling efforts in Flint.

Each agency/department listed their current health education efforts and available resources that could be made available relative to Pb outreach in Flint. The CLPPP provides some limited funding to prosperity region 6 to conduct Pb outreach. CLPPP is building a Pb Tool Kit for providers. Information about Pb in drinking water does not currently exist in these materials, but they are interested to build that information into the tool kit. DEQ has contacts with the Flint's drinking water program. GCHD has been getting many phone calls and they have had to create factsheets about water hardness and trihalomethanes.

Action Items from the Call:

1. Participants will e-mail their Pb outreach materials and presentations that are in current use to Michelle Bruneau (BruneauM@michigan.gov).
2. GCHD will send Michelle a list of concerns they have been getting from the Flint community.
3. Michelle will look over the materials to assess what messages are covered, what messages are not covered, and provide suggestions on what work may need to be done to address gaps.

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:04 PM
To: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Subject: FW: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Hi Wes,

Looks like you are having a heck of day.

I sent out this summary from that small conference call. I think that it is now likely irrelevant given how fast this issue is moving.

Kory

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:14 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Yes, the issue is moving..... at the speed of rushing water..... I am trying to keep everyone updated.....I am also trying at this minute to watch the teleconference on Mlive....but not having much success. This is definitely being driven by a little science and a lot of politics.....

From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:17 PM
To: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Best of Luck!

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)

Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 1:31 PM

Subject: FW: Env. Health Perspectives on Washington DC. lead in Drinking Water

Mardi and Tony;

I will be sending you at three emails regarding the Flint lead in water concern. This being the article on the D.C. study an a summary of our meeting. I will also send you a response DEQ has prepared and also the M Live article.

Summary from our meeting this morning:

1. Dialog regarding the DEG Frequently asked questions and there was no objections to the information presented.
2. Discussion on who was taking the lead from the municipalities whether it was the city of Genesee County Health Department. It appears the city and mayor is taking the lead.
3. Local Health Department is working on preparing information for the public
4. Information being prepared from our, State, CLPPP and this information can still be revised to include more information on drinking water.
5. Our Environmental Toxicological Section can provide assistance if needed for the public outreach materials, although the staff person who would do this work is on vacation till next week.
6. CLPPP is working to review the epi study and will prepare a power point to explain what the results imply. They will work closely with the Department's epidemiologist who prepared the first results to ensure validity and the proper discussion of the study.
7. The idea of providing filters to the public was discussed. A call to the National Sanitation Foundation was made to discuss this issue further and determine proper filters.
8. CLPPP can provide EPA with 2013- 2014. See attached. 2015 data-to-date is not yet available but can be later if needed.
9. Our department was informed while we were meeting the Flint advocates along with others are to be holding a press conference at 3:00 today. The advocates are demanding that the water supply revert back to the city of Detroit's drinking water.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1868000/>

Excerpt below with the plan they implemented.

Following the LCR ([U.S. EPA 1991](#)), guidance from the U.S. EPA, consultation with the DC Department of Health, and its own contingency plans, in 2003 the DCWASA implemented plans for families living in homes with lead lines or testing above the LAL:

- Advisories were disseminated recommending that water lines should be flushed for 10 min before consuming drinking water.
- Specific advice for limiting exposure to children < 6 years of age and pregnant and nursing women was sent to all households with suspected lead service lines, in the form of flyers prepared in English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Amharic.
- Filters were distributed to homes with suspected lead service lines and later to all homes with a test result > 15 ppb (the LAL). Replacement filter cartridges were then sent to the same homes at 6-month intervals for the duration of the period of the exceedance, ending in June 2006.
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- Homeowners were offered replacement of the private segment of lead service lines on their property, at cost, at the same time that the public segments of the lead service lines were replaced. When the public line is replaced but the private line is not, lead levels are reduced proportionally to the length of pipe replaced but not eliminated.
- Low-cost financing was arranged with a local bank for qualifying property owners who wished to replace the private part of the lead service line on their property. The DC government later made grants available to low-income eligible residents for this purpose.
- The DCWASA offered free water testing to any customer in the distribution area who requested it.

From: Priem, Wesley F. (DCH)

Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:58 PM

Subject: Elevated lead found in more Flint kids after water switch, study finds

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2015/09/study_shows_twice_as_many_flin.html#ncart_email

I believe Bob Scott is reviewing these findings and can report back to us...

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 9:49 AM
To: McKane, Patricia (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: FW: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

You have probably already seen the media coverage, but just in case.
<http://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2015/09/24/flint-plans-advisory-curbing-exposure-lead/72725736/>

On Sep 25, 2015, at 12:59 PM, Dykema, Linda D. (DCH) <DykemaL@michigan.gov> wrote:

Do we have a copy of the doctors' Flint study?

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 1:18 PM
To: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Cc: McKane, Patricia (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: Re: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

just the powerpoint on line, which i can;t download

Sent from my iPad

From: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 1:23 PM
To: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH)
Subject: RE: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

Are you ok with Bob Scott evaluating the data as was indicated in an e-mail from Nancy Peeler?

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 6:04 PM
To: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: RE: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips

No. Did she say that I personally was ok with this?

From: [LyonCallo, Sarah \(DCH\)](#)
To: [Dykema, Linda D. \(DCH\)](#)
Subject: RE: Gongwer News Service Michigan Media Clips
Date: Friday, September 25, 2015 6:35:00 PM

Ignore that – I just found the email you were referencing. She had not shared any of that with us prior to forwarding on. That is what happened last time as well.

Some days I wish I was in communicable, where you collect data for the program, run the program off it. I know it is not really greener on that side of the fence, just like to pretend.

From: Larder, Cristin (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 5:33 PM
To: Minicuci, Angela (DCH) <MinicuciA@michigan.gov>
Cc: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov>; McKane, Patricia (DCH) <McKaneP@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint follow-up

Hi Angela,

After looking at the data Kristi send you and talking with Sarah, I realize I do not have access to the data I need to answer her specific question about significance. I won't be able to get access before Monday.

Sorry I wasn't able to be helpful right now,
Cristin

From: Minicuci, Angela (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 5:37 PM
To: Larder, Cristin (DCH) <LarderC@michigan.gov>
Cc: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov>; McKane, Patricia (DCH) <McKaneP@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint follow-up

Not a problem. Let's connect on Monday. Also, attached is the data I have. Thanks!

Angela

From: Minicuci, Angela (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 5:38 PM
To: Larder, Cristin (DCH)
Cc: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH); McKane, Patricia (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint follow-up

This as well, though this is not for public use.

Angela

From: Larder, Cristin (DCH)
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2015 5:42 PM
To: Minicuci, Angela (DCH) <MinicuciA@michigan.gov>
Cc: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov>; McKane, Patricia (DCH) <McKaneP@michigan.gov>
Subject: RE: Flint follow-up

Understood - Thanks, Angela.

On Sep 25, 2015, at 5:50 PM, LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH) <lyoncallos@michigan.gov> wrote:

1 of 3

I am sending you three emails that Cristin got from Angela regarding counts of lead testing in flint. Angela has a reporter who wanted to speak to an epidemiologist about whether or not differences in the data were significant. We had no idea the data were run. I think that Nancy ran lead data on Thursday and put it into a fact sheet for Angela (which is of course her prerogative to do as manager of the lead program). So Cristin had to say that she did not have access to the data (which she doesn't) to be able to test for significance. Angela said that was fine but would like to touch base on Monday with Cristin.

Then I got through my email and saw Linda's email that the feds want MI to send lead data to

ATSDR for review.

We don't want to waste department dollars on Cristin running data in parallel if it is not needed. Patti and I can reach out to Nancy but I wanted to know what your advice is and make sure you were aware of the data that is being shared with Angela.

On Sep 25, 2015, at 8:14 PM, McKane, Patricia (DCH) <McKaneP@michigan.gov> wrote:

Holy crap. I was wondering where Angela got her information, thought it was the fact sheet that Cristin prepared earlier. No idea that Nancy tried to analyze it herself, but have been Bob too? Frustrating isn't it? I'm glad Angela is the contact for this. If Cristin can get the data she can really analyze it. My experience with Detroit Free Press and News reporters is limited, but they are professional and smart. Best if everyone gives Cristin what she needs to dig into this, including the time and space to do a thorough job.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [LyonCallo, Sarah \(DCH\)](mailto:LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH))
To: [McKane, Patricia \(DCH\)](mailto:McKane, Patricia (DCH))
Subject: Re: Flint follow-up
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2015 11:46:50 AM

agreed on DFP reporters - they have been sharp!

Nancy and Bob are basically doing what they did last time - pulling numerator and denom counts. but they haven't sent anything to cristin and therefore, she hasn't turned it into percentages and looked at trend yet. or provide method consultation.... now that angela has sent it to us, she could do that, but the specific question from the reporter is about the difference in the most recent data which is weeks, not a quarter. Some caveats that you know but i just wanted to start documenting for our responses:

- since the system is "real time" the counts from prior years change (so 2011-2013 numbers cristin has won't line up with counts run this week).
- they ran pulled right through to 9/15 on 9/24. which means that more recent data will not be as complete as older data. in my experience, the department needs to be transparent about that in pre/post comparisons, otherwise, a concerned citizen could get the impression that the data are altered/chosen to look like there is not a problem.

I have been trying to think of a strategy here -

I (or you if you want) reach out to nancy individually, letting her know

- 1) cristin can work with "angela" data to repeat what she did before
- 2) there are limitations that need to be clarified
- 3) cristin could look at a parrallel analysis to the hurley work.

OR

i email to whole group (linda dykema, corinne, mark miller, angela) about the fact sheet, mentioning the caveats (not kind... but effective)

OR

Corinne emails caveats as state epi over environ health as well

What are your thoughts/reactions? whatever we do, when this blows over, you and I need to talk with Brenda about roles and expectations.

If ATSDR is coming in on it (i think that is where corinne is leaning but she may not be the "decider"), then we would reconsider.

Sent from my iPad

From: [Patricia McKane](#)
To: [LyonCallo, Sarah \(DCH\)](#)
Subject: Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis
Date: Sunday, September 27, 2015 3:09:16 PM

Check out this article from Detroit Free Press: see what they say about the state's "analysis".

Snyder must act on Flint lead crisis

<http://on.freep.com/1FreKjr>

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 28, 2015, at 7:52 AM, Lyon, Nick (DCH) <LyonN2@michigan.gov> wrote:

Director Wyant and I agreed this morning to establish a team to look at the recommendations below in preparation for a joint press conference later this week. I did modify one and remove one from his original email. He was suggesting an outside public health advisor. I think it's appropriate that this be our CME so I changed that piece. I volunteered Geralyn, Elizabeth, and Dr. Wells to serve on the team.

The areas where we need more attention are as follows:

- 1) I need an analysis of the Virginia Tech/Hurley data and their conclusions. I would like to make a strong statement with a demonstration of proof that the lead blood levels seen are not out of the ordinary and are attributable to seasonal fluctuations. Geralyn is working on this for me but she needs someone in public health who can work directly with her on immediate

concerns/questions. Sue – Please get her a name immediately.

- 2) I need an understanding of what WIC will pay for and when. We are hearing that the USDA is indicating that premade formula can be provided. Internal WIC staff don't seem to be saying the same things. And there may also be a supply issue. Elizabeth is following up for me on this.
- 3) Elizabeth will also follow up with Terry Beuer to see what FNS will pay for on the food assistance side, or if there are other programs that may cover water or premade formula.
- 4) I think we did a good job getting the local public health department involved and I ask that we work in concert with him. The recommendation is that they be included in the press event this week.

We need immediate action on these. I have a follow up phone call early this afternoon. I also ask that any requests coming from the team be treated with great urgency. The expectation is that we will get on top of this and provide leadership on the issue.

Nick

From: Moran, Susan (DCH)
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 10:09 AM
To: Lyon, Nick (DCH)
Cc: Robinson, Mikelle (DCH); Wells, Eden (ewells@umich.edu); Hertel, Elizabeth (DCH); Lasher, GERALYN (DCH); Grijalva, Nancy (DCH); Becker, Timothy (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH); Anderson, Paula (DCH)
Subject: Re: Proposed Press Conference on Flint Drinking Water

Lynda Dykema is the contact for questions on Virginia Tech/Hurley data.

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Dykema, Linda D. \(DCH\)](#)
To: [Moran, Susan \(DCH\)](#); [Lyon, Nick \(DCH\)](#)
Cc: [Robinson, Mikelle \(DCH\)](#); [Wells, Eden \(ewells@umich.edu\)](#); [Hertel, Elizabeth \(DCH\)](#); [Lasher, GERALYN \(DCH\)](#); [Grijalva, Nancy \(DCH\)](#); [Becker, Timothy \(DCH\)](#); [Miller, Corinne \(DCH\)](#); [Anderson, Paula \(DCH\)](#); [LyonCallo, Sarah \(DCH\)](#)
Subject: RE: Proposed Press Conference on Flint Drinking Water
Date: Monday, September 28, 2015 10:52:01 AM

Sarah Lyon-Callo is pursuing the Flint blood lead data for comparison to the Hurley data results. I'll look into the VA Tech study.

Linda D. Dykema, Ph.D.

Environmental Public Health Director
Division of Environmental Health
Michigan Department of Health & Human Services
517.335.8566
dykema@michigan.gov

From: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 8:10 AM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Subject: Re: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary

Wow....this is just sad. It sounds third world country, but it's here and in our backyard. At what point can EPA/ATSDR step in & provide resources? I'll also look up the Mott grants page my friend told me about.

From: Henry, James <jhenry@gchd.us>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Bruneau, Michelle (DCH)
Cc: scupal@gchd.us; Hallwood, Dawn; MVALACAK@gchd.us
Subject: RE: Flint Pb Health Education Conference Call Summary
Attachments: GCHD Lead in Water Fact Sheet (2).docx; Re: Technical Advisory Meeting; Citizen Advisory Team Update; Filter.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Michelle,

I'm copying our GCHD team who participated in the conference call, in case they want to add anything. Attached is the GCHD fact sheet and correspondence from the City, regarding their public information efforts. The attached filter is referenced at the end of this email.

Most of the questions and concerns that I have received are regarding how to prevent exposure, even for pets. Most people have mentioned that they can't afford to purchase bottled water, or a filter, or even the cost of flushing water for five minutes. Today, a 46 year old man told me that he and his dog have not drunk water or anything else, since he ran out of bottled water two days ago. He wanted to know the risks and explained that he doesn't have water turned on at his home and had to ask a neighbor, who agreed to fill a gallon jug, but refuses to flush the water for 5 minutes, because of cost. I do not think this is a unique situation. note: Flint has been recognized as one of the highest water rates in the country, which may be partially due to the cost of repairing hundreds of water main breaks annually.

In general, the most immediate concern seems to be the unknown lead levels and the cost to reduce or eliminate the risk. We are working with City to ensure that water testing will be timely and available. (Keep in mind not all people can get to the water plant to pick up the sampling bottles) The missing piece seems to be resources for those with elevated lead levels. Dawn has done some research on filters. Attached is a relatively inexpensive, NSF approved filter that would not require installation costs, but requires filter maintenance. We are looking into some resources from Genesee County United Way.

Jim Henry RS, MBA
Environmental Health Supervisor
Genesee County Health Department www.gchd.us
630 S. Saginaw St., Suite 4
Flint, MI 48502-1540
Phone (810) 257-3618 Fax (810) 257-3125
E-mail jhenry@gchd.us



From: Groetsch, Kory J. (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 9:46 AM
To: Benzie, Richard (DEQ); Bruneau, Michelle (DCH); Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Dawn Hallwood (dhallwood@gchd.us); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH); Henry, James; Houk, Emily (DCH); Lishinski, Karen (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Shekter Smith, Liane (DEQ); Valacak, Mark; Wurfel, Brad (DEQ)
Cc: Barr, Jacqui (DCH)
Subject: Pb informational materials conf. calls

Hello All,

Thank you to everyone who has sent in there Pb information materials to Michelle. Please continue to do so.

Going forward we will focus future conference calls on updating existing Pb informational materials with Pb in water messages. I see this moving toward a small group of health educators/technical experts working on the health education materials. We can discuss my suggestion on our next call.

Please let Jacqui Barr or myself know if you would like to be removed from this conference call list.

Sincerely,
Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

On Sep 24, 2015, at 2:49 PM, Scott, Robert L. (DCH) <ScottR9@michigan.gov> wrote:

Nancy,

Please see attached. If for some reason you can't read/open it, let me know and I'll try it as a PDF.

Bob

Robert L. Scott

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

Michigan Department of Health & Human Services

(517) 335-8178

fax (517) 335-8509

From: Peeler, Nancy (DCH)

Sent: Thursday, September 24, 2015 3:14 PM

Subject: Re: flint lead powerpoint

Only thought - should we way that if results were being driven by the water supply, we would expect the rate to remain at a higher rate?

Also, I forgot this earlier, probably too in the weeds - Larry Reynolds kept mentioning MCIR data - I don't think they know what our data source is that we use. Should we add any kind of a talking point that says all data included in this analysis is reported directly from labs to MDHHS, in accordance with state law?

If you think it worth adding those, go ahead, and send on to Jennifer. Thanks!

Sent from my iPad

From: Lasher, Geralyn (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 11:49 AM
To: Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Wells, Eden (DCH); Scott, Robert L. (DCH)
Cc: Hertel, Elizabeth (DCH); Minicuci, Angela (DCH); Ridley, Nancy (DCH); Eisner, Jennifer (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint lead powerpoint slides

Is it possible to get the same type of data for just children under the age of six? So basically, the City of Flint kids ages six and under with the same type of approach as the attached chart you gave us last week?

From: Wells, Eden (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 11:56 AM
To: Lasher, Geralyn (DCH); Peeler, Nancy (DCH); Scott, Robert L. (DCH)
Cc: Hertel, Elizabeth (DCH); Minicuci, Angela (DCH); Ridley, Nancy (DCH); Eisner, Jennifer (DCH); Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Subject: Re: Flint lead powerpoint slides

Looping in Corinne now---

From: Miller, Corinne (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:08 PM
To: LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH); Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Subject: FW: Flint lead powerpoint slides

From: Dykema, Linda D. (DCH)
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:29 PM
To: Miller, Corinne (DCH); LyonCallo, Sarah (DCH); Wells, Eden (DCH)
Subject: RE: Flint lead powerpoint slides

It's bad enough to have a data war with outside entities, we absolutely cannot engage in competing data analyses within the Department or, heaven forbid, in public releases.

From: [Wells, Eden \(DCH\)](#)
To: [Dykema, Linda D. \(DCH\)](#); [Miller, Corinne \(DCH\)](#); [LyonCallo, Sarah \(DCH\)](#)
Subject: Re: Flint lead powerpoint slides
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 12:32:30 PM

AGREE

From: Wells, Eden (DCH)
Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 2:30 PM
Subject: RE: Flint lead powerpoint slides

Nancy,

Thank you for forwarding---it has been quite busy and I just got to your email form last evening. Please advise him that our epidemiologists and toxicologists are in the advanced stages of their analyses, and that information will be released in the next couple of days. EPA is involved, and we are also with CDC_ATSDR. Please feel free to provide him my phone number if he has any questions or concerns, I greatly appreciate his support. My cell is 517-230-5827.

Warm Regards,

Eden

Eden V. Wells, MD, MPH, FACPM

Chief Medical Executive

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

201 Townsend St., 5th Floor CVB

Lansing, MI 48913

From: Peeler, Nancy (DCH)

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2015 6:25 PM

Subject: RE: Flint lead powerpoint slides

FYI – I received a call today from Paul Joice, who is the “Flint Team Lead, White House Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative” out of HUD. He is placed at Flint City Hall. He was researching lead funding in Michigan, and came across our CDC Surveillance grant, called to ask what it is for, etc.

Amongst his questions, he asked about our MDHHS data that is being referenced in the press, asked if he can have a copy of the data charts that were dated September 23. Referring the question to all of you, whether to send it to him. I did tell him several times that MDHHS Epi is engaged in an analysis right now, which would be better to look at once it is available.

He also followed up offering a connection to an EPA Epidemiologist in case it would be helpful. The Epidemiologist at EPA is Mike Wright (wright.michael@epa.gov).

Nancy

From: NPR [<mailto:email@et.npr.org>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 9:33 AM

To: Blake, Robert G. (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH) <emn9@cdc.gov>

Subject: NPR.org - High Lead Levels In Michigan Kids After City Switches Water Source

emn9@cdc.gov has sent you the following story: High Lead Levels In Michigan Kids After City Switches Water Source



Rob thought you would be interested in this story

Message: fyi

[High Lead Levels In Michigan Kids After City Switches Water Source](#)

Flint, Mich., started drawing its tap water from a local river in April 2014. The water is so corrosive that it's causing lead to leach out of aging pipes, resulting in serious health issues.

[Read this story](#)



This email was sent by: NPR, 1111 N. Capitol St. NE Washington, DC, 20002, United States. This message was sent to rgblake@cdc.gov.

From: Blake, Robert G. (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH)

Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 10:13 AM

To: Brown, Mary Jean (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH)

Subject: FW: NPR.org - High Lead Levels In Michigan Kids After City Switches Water Source

From: Brown, Mary Jean (CDC/ONDIEH/NCEH) [<mailto:mjb5@cdc.gov>]

Sent: Wednesday, September 30, 2015 3:34 PM

To: Scott, Robert L. (DCH) <ScottR9@michigan.gov>

Subject: FW: NPR.org - High Lead Levels In Michigan Kids After City Switches Water Source

Here you go

On Oct 1, 2015, at 3:27 PM, Groetsch, Kory J. (DHHS) <GroetschK@michigan.gov> wrote:

Hi Nancy,

I want to update you on . Michelle and I are following up with Emily Houk for CLPPP lead educational materials. Our first step is compiling sources.

To confirm, Emily is the person who has all the informational materials. There is not another staff person who is currently developing new materials to address lead in drinking water. Do I have that correct?

Thank you,

Kory Groetsch, MS , Manager
Toxicology and Response Section
Michigan Dept of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48913
517-335-9935
groetschk@michigan.gov

From: Peeler, Nancy (DHHS)
Sent: Thursday, October 01, 2015 3:56 PM
To: Groetsch, Kory J. (DHHS)
Cc: Dykema, Linda D. (DHHS); Bruneau, Michelle (DHHS)
Subject: Re: Pb health ed materials

Hi Kory - Emily's role for us sounds like it is akin to Michelle's for you. She works with us to develop materials, we then work with Communications for review and approval, and we get them posted to state website, and Em also gets them on our public Sharepoint site.

Just to confirm, our materials are more broadly focused on lead, but do incorporate references to water. Not new due to the water situation in Flint.

From: LyonCallo, Sarah (DHHS)
To: [Wells, Eden \(DHHS\)](#); [Miller, Corinne \(DHHS\)](#)
Cc: [McKane, Patricia \(DHHS\)](#)
Subject: Time period of comparison
Date: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 12:51:00 PM
Importance: High

Dear Eden –

I am sorry the answer to a simple question is taking so long. The “number of excess cases” is derived from the Poisson regression formula, which controls for age and season as well. If we use the available data as our comparison period, the model picks up the excess in cases for the high risk zip codes in Flint, but not for the remaining city. If limit the comparison period to immediately prior to water switch (Jan 2013- March 2014), which is similar but not identical to the Hurley time period, the model identifies excess cases in both geographies.

Comparing to January 2010 thru March 2014:

In the high risk zip codes of Flint, there were 20 more positive tests in the period after the switch to Flint River Water (April 2014-August 2015) than expected from the January 2010 - March 2014 pattern. (Each quarter accrues 3 additional positive tests.)

During the post period, 7.65% of tests were positive each quarter (controlling for age and season). In the period before the switch (January 2010-March 2014), 6.43% of tests were positive each quarter.

For the remaining Flint zip codes, no excess in positive tests were detected by the model. The positive test rate prior to and after the switch to the Flint water system are similar (4.85% and 4.47%), although significantly higher than the remainder of Genesee county.

Comparing to January 2013 thru March 2014:

In the high risk zip codes of Flint, there were 38 more positive tests in the period after the switch to Flint River Water (April 2014-August 2015) than expected from the January 2013- March 2014 pattern. (Each quarter accrues 6 additional positive tests.)

During the post period, 8.46% of tests were positive each quarter (controlling for age and season). In the period immediately before the switch (January 2013-March 2014), 6.17% of tests were positive each quarter.

In the rest of Flint, there were 11 more positive tests in the period after the switch to Flint River Water (April 2014-August 2015) than expected from the testing from January 2013-March 2014. (Each quarter in the post period has 2 more positive tests than expected)

During the post period, 4.78% of tests were positive each quarter. In the period before the switch to Flint River water, 4.39% of tests were positive each quarter.

Sarah Lyon-Callo, MA, MS
Director, Lifecourse Epidemiology and Genomics Division
Bureau of Disease Control, Prevention and Epidemiology
Population Health and Community Services Administration
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

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