



COUNTY OF ORANGE – HEALTH CARE AGENCY

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: May 11, 2023

Contact: HCA Communications
HCAComm@ochca.com
(714) 834-2178

Orange County Receives Funding to Remove Lead Hazards in Households

(Santa Ana, CA) – Orange County has been awarded a \$1.4 million grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to identify and mitigate lead-based paint hazards in households, whether the properties are owner-occupied or rented. Owners of residential homes and rental units are encouraged to learn more and to apply for the lead removal service, which will be done at no cost to the property owner. Since there is no safe level of lead exposure, it is important to identify and remove any trace of lead in homes.

Households that may qualify for the lead hazards removal must meet certain criteria:

- The residence must be in Orange County and built before 1978.
- The residence must have a child under six years of age or a pregnant person who might be exposed to lead living there.
- The family must meet low-income status.

For more information, and to apply for the no cost service, families and property owners may check the Azure Community Development website at <https://www.azuredevelopmentco.com/> or contact the company at info@azuredevelopmentco.com or (323) 477-1160. The HUD grant was awarded to Azure Community Development.

Azure Community Development collaborates with the OC Health Care Agency's (HCA) Childhood Lead Poison Prevention Program (CLPPP) (<https://ochealthinfo.com/lead>) to implement a Lead Hazard Reduction Program (LHRP) in Orange County. The company will also partner with the Laborers' International Union of North America - Local 300 (LiLUNA) to make homes lead-safe.

Lead-based paint, dust or soil can be found in older homes and is a health hazard, especially for children. Lead poisoning can cause a lifetime of negative health impacts. The LHRP provides for the

remediation of identified lead hazards in the interior and exterior of qualified homes and to protect the health of families living in the residence, at no charge to the property owner.

###