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Lead-Free MV Coalition Recognizes June as National Healthy Homes Month

UTICA, NY – HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) is sponsoring the second annual National Healthy Homes Month (NHHM) during June 2017. This month-long celebration offers an opportunity to learn more about housing and its impact on health, including the prevention of childhood lead poisoning, residential asthma intervention, radon safety and disaster recovery.

A healthy home is a critical component to preventing childhood lead poisoning. Children eat, drink and breath more frequently than adults and play close to the ground, meaning they are at a higher risk of lead toxicity during these developmental years. Lead can be found in contaminated soil or water; imported toys, pottery or cosmetics; and paint used before 1978.

The HUD Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes recommends following these eight tips to keep homes safe:

1. Keep it dry
2. Keep it safe
3. Keep it clean
4. Keep it pest-free
5. Keep it contaminant-free
6. Keep it well maintained
7. Keep it well ventilated
8. Keep it at an adequate temperature

The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties launched the Lead-Free MV Coalition in 2016 to address children’s elevated blood lead levels in Herkimer and Oneida counties. The coalition is a collaborative effort of nearly 50 organizations and seeks to expand testing and increase awareness.

For information about Lead-Free MV, visit www.leadfreemv.org or call 315-735-8212.

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