



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF  
COMMUNITY HEALTH

# NOTICE OF DIRECT AWARD

**GEORGIA LEAD HAZARD CONTROL  
PROGRAM TRAINING**

**GEORGIA LEAD HAZARD CONTROL PROGRAM**

**POSTING DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2011**  
**INQUIRY CLOSING DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011**

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# **DIRECT AWARD JUSTIFICATION**

## **GEORGIA LEAD HAZARD CONTROL PROGRAM**

### **AGENCY BACKGROUND**

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) was created in 1999 by Senate Bill 241 to serve as the lead agency for health care planning and purchasing issues in Georgia. DCH is the single state agency for Medicaid and insures over two million people in the State of Georgia, maximizing the State's health care purchasing power, coordinating health planning for State agencies and proposing cost-effective solutions for reducing the number of uninsured.

Within DCH, the Division of Public Health (DPH), Environmental Health Branch is responsible for providing primary prevention through a combination of surveillance, education, enforcement, and assessment programs designed to identify, prevent and abate the environmental conditions that adversely impact human health.

### **PROGRAM BACKGROUND**

Childhood lead poisoning is a serious issue in the state of Georgia with almost 1,000 children under the age of six in 2009 found to be lead poisoned. The number one source of this exposure is lead-based paint hazards in the form of lead dust and deteriorated paint in older homes. Many homes that poison children are rental housing exposing multiple children to lead hazards over a period of time. The Georgia State Legislature recognized this problem when they amended the Childhood Lead Poisoning Protection Act in 2008 to include single unit rental housing and provided for the enforcement of lead hazard reduction and established a compliance program for landlords who want their property checked for lead hazards and certified to be safe by the Division of Public Health.

### **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) is a new recipient of a hazard control program grant from Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This program will be responsible for education and outreach; testing children for blood lead levels; testing homes in the target jurisdiction for identification of lead-based paint hazards; preparing risk assessments; lead hazard reduction; contractor training; data collection and analysis; and administration. Lead hazard control activities will reduce hazards in 120 units within the 36 month grant period.

The Georgia Lead Hazard Control Program plans to achieve the following objectives:

- Update and implement the statewide lead poisoning screening plan.
- Improve and redefine statewide lead poisoning surveillance system that incorporates electronic reporting of all blood lead levels and ensures the timely dissemination of information.
- Establish policies and procedures that ensure the appropriate screening and follow-up of children at risk for lead poisoning.
- Create health education, communication, and technical assistance programs for the general public, professionals, and staff that highlight the importance of lead poisoning prevention.
- Develop multi-faceted and culturally appropriate primary prevention activities.
- Evaluate the program completely in terms of process and impact

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| <b>AWARD JUSTIFICATION</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>The Georgia Department of Community Health intends to award Georgia Environmental Protection Division \$37,712 for the first year to implement a quality assurance and protocol monitoring and evaluation program for the grant program as part of the DCH Georgia Lead Hazard Control Program. The award has three options to renew upon availability of funding.</p> <p>DCH presents this funding as a direct award in that Georgia Environmental Protection Division meets the federal grant requirements.</p> |
| <b>AWARD(S)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>TOTAL DIRECT AWARD FUNDS AVAILABLE: \$113,135</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p align="center"><b><u>TO SUBMIT INQUIRIES TO THIS DIRECT AWARD NOTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p align="center">Arnita E. Watson, Grant Manager at <a href="mailto:awatson@dch.ga.gov">awatson@dch.ga.gov</a> no later than 2:00 PM on Friday, June 10, 2011.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |