



Dear Colleagues and Partners,

Hello, I am Shannon Steinbauer, the Program Director of the Kansas Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention Program. For many years you have been dedicated to following Medicaid guidelines for lead testing and encouraging non Medicaid families to receive a baseline screening blood lead test. Unfortunately despite your dedicated efforts our state as whole is only testing 14% of those Medicaid children required to be tested every year. We are trying a new approach to try to educate and facilitate lead poisoning risk and the need to test for this disease as required and encouraged. In an effort to increase testing rates in our state we felt an incentive for those in the office settings that are advocating and promoting the testing and in many cases performing the testing would be a nice way to say thank you and build added capacity in our state regarding common objectives. We are launching a new training initiative to enhance the capacity for Environmental Health Education and Healthy Homes Training in our state. Many of you wear many different hats in your offices. Trying to stay aware of all the information available to be an educated resource to your clients can be taxing and expensive for staff. We are offering an incentive to provide reimbursement for Environmental Health Education and Healthy Homes training completed including cost for travel up to \$500 to an individual in your facility. To receive this incentive your facility is asked to provide a campaign of your choice to increase testing from your baseline rate taken October 1, 2011. All tests completed for Medicaid and non Medicaid for any age group and analyzed through December 31st, 2011 will be included in a comparison rate by February 15th, 2012. At that time your base line, comparison and percent change rate will be provided back to you in a letter. Three awards will be given across the state to the top three highest percent change in rates over the time period from November 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

To qualify for this incentive please respond to Alisha Langham by October 31st, 2011 by email at alangham@kdheks.gov indicating your intent to participate and who the main point of contact will be for the project. Your official entry will be documented by a return email with your baseline rate and a description of the incentive details once again along with tips to increase screening. Baseline rates will be taken from July 1st, 2011 through August 31st, 2011 test received and coded for your facility. This provides a similar two month time period to have a comparable rate for the project period.

If you are awarded a certificate of achievement and the incentive funds will be allotted for a participant of your choice at your facility. Training can occur at any facility across the nation, online or travel to conference but must be related to Environmental Health Education or Healthy Homes Training. If you have questions about whether a course will qualify than please contact ssteinbauer@kdheks.gov to clarify the qualifications of the course you are interested in. It is also required that the winner of the training certificate that the winner provide a brief summary of their experience and how they will use the opportunity in their field of work to our Healthy Homes Advisory Committee within a year of the training being completed but prior to October 10th,

2012. Mileage to travel to the HHAC meeting will be allotted for the winners if necessary to attend the HHAC meeting to provide a brief summary presentation.

Please consider this opportunity to increase your knowledge base for Healthy Homes and Environmental Health as well as increase our testing rate for blood lead testing. It is our program goal to ensure all children have the opportunity to identify their lead risk through blood lead screening testing. We continue to appreciate your ongoing dedication and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Steinbauer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Shannon Steinbauer RN, BSN
Program Director
Kansas Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Prevention Program