The Safe at Home program is designed to provide services in the homes of asthma diagnosed children in Baltimore City. The program uses multi-level interventions and a high quality, cost-effective and integrative approach to reduce environmental and home-based health and safety hazards that combined, will lead to a reduction in lead (Pb) exposure, incidence of asthmatic symptoms, and child injury.

## 7 Tips for Keeping a Healthy Home

- Keep it Dry
- Keep it Clean
- Keep it Safe
- Keep it Well-Ventilated
- Keep it Pest-free
- Keep it Contaminant-free
- Keep it Well-Maintained



Tel.: 410-534-6447 Toll free: 800-370-LEAD Fax: 410-534-6475 www.leadsafe.org

# **Safe at Home**

A free program to help families reduce asthma triggers, threats to child safety, and lead-based paint hazards in the home.



# Healthy Homes for Baltimore City's Children











Safe at Home is a Healthy Homes Program funded by the HUD Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

# Safe at Home-Healthy Homes Baltimore

What does "Healthy Homes" mean?

Some of the most serious health problems for children may start at home. Healthy Homes are homes that have limited indoor health hazards like lead paint, allergens, mold, carbon monoxide, pesticides, and structural concerns that could cause injury to a child.

Most of us spend close to 90% of our time indoors. **Safe at Home** is a program that provides education services, interventions and referrals to eligible families with children with asthma to eliminate health hazards in their homes.

The Safe at Home intervention menu includes the following: Cleaning Kits, Child Safety Kits, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), HEPA vacuums, mold removal, paint stabilization, window replacement, steam cleaning, mattress and pillow covers, HEPA air

filters, dehumidifiers, ventilation, and carpet removal.

#### **ASTHMA**

Baltimore City has the highest prevalence of asthma in Maryland, and the highest rates of emergency department visits, hospitalizations and deaths from asthma in Maryland. Safe at Home aims to improve indoor air quality by reducing allergens, mold, pests, pesticides, and other asthma triggers.

#### **LEAD POISONING**

Lead is a toxic metal that is found in sources such as paint used in homes built before 1978, soil, water and old painted furniture and toys. Small children are most often poisoned by invisible lead dust that is released when paint is



peeling, damaged, or disturbed. This can often be caused by opening and closing of windows, doors or old painted surfaces that have been dry

and sanded. The dust settles on the floor and other surfaces, which easily gets on children's hands or toys and into their mouths. Lead poisoning causes irreversible physical and mental disabilities and can effect nearly every system in the body. Safe at Home

provides Cleaning Kits to all participants and lead hazard reduction work, including window replacements, for homes that qualify.

#### **CHILD INJURY**

Unintentional injury is the leading cause of death for children 14 and under. Almost half these death occur in and around the home. Safe at Home installs Safety Kits in all participating homes: smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, electrical outlet covers, cabinet locks, and other items.

#### WHO QUALIFIES?

Baltimore City families with children between 2 and 14 years old who have been diagnosed with asthma may qualify for services.

Contact the Coalition for more information.

### **Safe at Home**

Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning 2714 Hudson Street

Baltimore, MD 21224

Tel: 410-534-6447 Fax: 410-534-6475

www.leadsafe.org

