



Healthy Homes:

An Interagency Partnership to Improve the Environmental Health and Safety of Children in Childcare

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Healthy Homes for Childcare

Asks:

What is the environment for children in Licensed home-based childcare businesses in Philadelphia?



Improper Hand Rails



Not Safe For Children!

An Accident Waiting To Happen!



Paint Chips In Children's Play Area





Loose Rug – Walking Hazard



Ceiling Paint Chips



Loose Fiberglass Insulation Dangerous To Breathe





Gas Vent Needed

Hazardous Environment



Chemicals In Children's Reach







Play At Your Own Risk





Poison Ivy





Are Babies Breathing Clean Air?



WARNING Do Not Touch With Wet Hands!



Invisible Handrails





Clutter In The Exit Way



**Dangerous
Access To
Hot Pipes**

**Insulation
Needed**







Healthy Homes for Childcare

Funded by the U.S. Housing & Urban Development
agency

To protect children in home-based childcare
from the risks of environmental health & safety
hazards

Partnership between:

Philadelphia Department of Public Health,
Pennsylvania's Department of Public Welfare

Nonprofit service providers and financing organizations

Healthy Homes for Childcare targets north and west Philadelphia

Specific zip codes:

- Areas with the highest incidence of childhood lead poisoning & asthma
- Most of the City's Family and Group Childcare facilities are located in these areas.
- These areas house the City's poorest residents in the oldest, most deteriorated homes
- Racial composition of the target area is 66.75% African-American, 3.34% Asian, 10.14% Hispanic, and 19.44% White.
- In families with children, 19.5% live at or below poverty level. (Based on year 2000 census data)



What does Healthy Homes for Childcare do?

- 150 assessments in family and group child care homes and
- Provide remediation of hazards in 60 of those childcare homes.
- Training of childcare providers on:

Part I: Comprehensive Assessment

- Test for the presence of lead
- Assess pest problems (implement IPM)
- Look for asthma triggers
- Assess food safety
- Evaluate fire safety and carbon monoxide hazards
- General child safety (handrails, stairs, etc).

Part II: Remediation

- For Family-based child care, \$6K, up to 6 kids in home.
- For Group-based child care, \$10K for 7-12 kids in home.

Contractors work for City of Philadelphia
Department of Public Health

Part II: Education

- Crib safety
- Food Handling & Sanitation
- Pediatric/infant CPR
- Fire Safety
- Clutter control
- Emergency Preparedness



AFTER



Water Leaks Create Mold



AFTER



Home Improvements



New Floors



Ceiling Repair



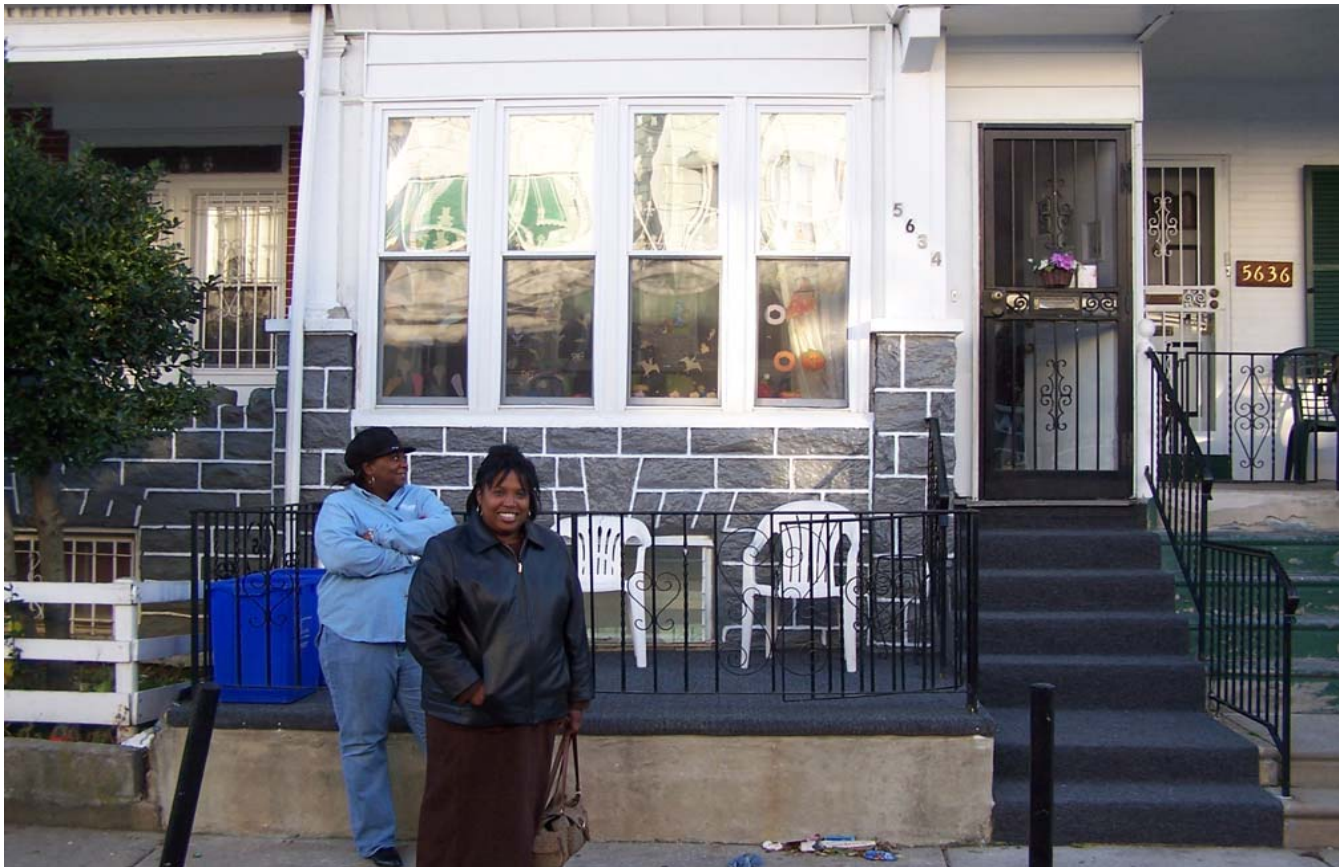
New Fencing



All new improvements in ONE home



A finished home





Food & Sanitation Certification



Education is equally important, and should be equally understood in all languages!

Clutter Workshop

- *how to organize

- *what to keep and not to keep

- *home & work environment



Yeah! I did it!



Working together, we can make a difference so that all children can play, grow, and learn in a safe and healthy environment!



Results to date

- 134 Home-based childcare providers have applied
- 84 determined eligible
- 20 determined ineligible for program
- 82 homes received lead dust analysis
- 21 homes received remediation & superclean (32 homes approved, awaiting remediation)
- 50 homes received pest-free maintenance
- More than 500 childcare providers have received education thru workshops & presentations.

Tip of the Ice Berg...

A 2005 report documents

- 868 licensed home-based child care businesses in Philadelphia
- 4542 not licensed

PLENTY MORE WORK TO BE DONE!!



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