



MEDIA ADVISORY

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**Town Hall Meeting on Lead Poisoning in Grand Rapids
6:30pm Thursday, March 10 – 341 Hall SE**

GRAND RAPIDS – The Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan will be hosting a Town Hall Meeting on Lead Poisoning in Grand Rapids this Thursday, March 10 at 6:30pm at the LINC Gallery, 341 Hall St SE in Grand Rapids. The public is encouraged to attend to share their stories, concerns and solutions. Elected officials have been invited and many are expected to attend.

The event is co-sponsored by the Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan, LINC, the Grand Rapids Chapter of the NAACP, the Grand Rapids Urban League, and Mount Moriah Baptist Church.

The meeting will take place in three parts. The first portion will include experts speaking on childhood lead poisoning and presenting information on the specific situation in Grand Rapids. Toxicologist Dr. Bryan Burke from Spectrum Health, Attorney John Smith from Legal Aid of Western Michigan, and representatives from the Kent County Health Department and the City of Grand Rapids will speak. The Healthy Homes Coalition will share updated data from the State of Michigan about lead poisoning in Grand Rapids.

The second portion will be a moderated town hall forum, where parents and residents are invited to share their stories and struggles, as well as their ideas for solutions to the problem of childhood lead poisoning. Elected officials and their representatives from all levels of government will be on hand to hear their concerns.

The third portion of the meeting will be a moderated question and answer period. At that time, audience members questions will be answered by experts in the field and elected officials will be presented the opportunity to reflect upon the information shared.

Event organizers are expecting 60 people to attend. The meeting is open to the public.

The Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan is an independent, non-profit organization based in Grand Rapids that is improving children's health and wellbeing by eliminating harmful housing conditions. For more information about the Healthy Homes Coalition, visit www.healthyhomescoalition.org.

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