



10/17/19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For press inquiries, contact:

Nsedu Obot Witherspoon nobot@cehn.org 202-543-4033 ext. 14

Amanda Reddy areddy@nchh.org 443-539-4152

Washington D.C.---With funding from The JPB Foundation, the Children's Environmental Health Network (CEHN), the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), and the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) has launched the [Lead-Safe Toolkit for Home-Based Child Care](#).

There is no safe level of lead for children. Adverse health effects, including IQ deficits and learning and behavioral problems, occur at low levels of exposure to often invisible sources of lead.

The Lead-Safe Toolkit offers a variety of resources to help home-based providers reduce lead hazards in their child care homes. Toolkit contents include:

- Poster for display in family child care home.
- List of science-based, user-friendly lead prevention resources.
- Lead prevention policies and worksheets, with easy-to-follow steps for finding out if lead hazards exist in the home and what to do to reduce any exposures.

The Lead-Safe Toolkit is part of a two-year project, *Protecting Children from Lead Exposures in Family Child Care Environments*, to help home-based child care professionals prevent children's exposures to lead in paint, dust, water, soil and consumer products.

U.S. child care facilities care for over 11 million children younger than 6 years old, 3 million of whom are cared for in family home settings by approximately 1 million paid child care professionals. Many of these providers are unaware of the possible lead dangers in their homes' paint, dust, soil and water.

By targeting family child care providers, the *Protecting Children from Lead Exposures in Family Child Care Environments* project has a unique and crucial opportunity to provide home business owners with tools and resources they need to protect their own families and their child care kids from the dangers of lead.

###

CEHN is a national non-profit organization, based in Washington, DC, that has been the leading voice and champion protecting children from environmental hazards for over 26 years. Among a variety of programs, CEHN is working to enact true transformation in the environmental health of children in child care through its Eco-Healthy Child Care® (EHCC) program. EHCC is the sole national program

working for the last 9 years to educate, train and support child care professionals on low-to-no cost actions they can take to improve the safety and health of their facilities by reducing exposures to environmental hazards.

Started in 1982, NAFCC is the only national association dedicated to promoting high-quality early childhood experiences in the unique environment of family child care programs. NAFCC works on behalf of the one million family child care providers operating nationwide and has members in nearly every state, and on US military bases across the world. Since 1998, NAFCC has maintained and administered the only nationally recognized accreditation program for family child care providers. NAFCC is a nonprofit membership association with offices in Salt Lake City, UT and the Washington, DC metro area.

NCHH, based in Columbia, Maryland, is the preeminent national nonprofit dedicated to securing healthy homes for all. Since 1992, NCHH has served as a highly regarded and credible change agent, successfully integrating healthy housing advocacy, research, and capacity-building under one roof to reduce health disparities nationwide.