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POLICY RELATED TO LEAD INSPECTIONS

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IRIS aims to ensure that children will not be put at risk of lead poisoning due to exposure in the homes they are placed in by IRIS or IRIS' partners. In order to reduce this risk, IRIS requires that prospective housing built before 1978 are inspected for lead before any child under 6 years old, or any pregnant woman, is placed there. This policy is applicable in all circumstances where IRIS is responsible for identifying the apartment that a young child/pregnant woman will be living in when providing R&P, post-R&P, and non-R&P services.

Generally it is preferable to identify new or recently renovated housing that is not likely to require any painting or repair, though given the realities of the housing stock available in Connecticut, this is not always possible.

The lead inspection does not replace the R&P Home Safety Evaluation Checklist, which must still be completed by an IRIS staff member or volunteer for current R&P cases. This requires a walk through the entire apartment/house looking for chipped or peeling paint, especially around windows and doors. If a lot of areas of concern are identified, it is best to assume this will be a lead hazard and to find alternate housing.

The lead inspection must be completed by a trained professional. The cost of the inspection, which can range from about \$250 to \$750 is the responsibility of IRIS or the co-sponsor for co-sponsored cases. The lead inspection requirement may add 4-5 days to the length of time required to find an apartment depending on the inspector's availability so it is important to prepare accordingly.

The lead inspection will identify any lead-based paint in the home and if that paint is safely encapsulated. Additional inspection of dust and soil is ideal but not required unless there is a reason to suspect that it they might be contaminated.

The inspection report should be provided to IRIS or the co-sponsor within 48 hours. It should be shared with the landlord. It will not be shared with the public health department unless there is a child already residing in the inspected apartment, in which case the inspector is mandated to report any issues.

If the inspection shows that remediation work needs to be done, IRIS or the co-sponsor will need to discuss this with the landlord. The landlord is not under any obligation to remediate. In many cases, especially if the work is relatively simple (such as repainting or installing carpet), the

landlord may agree to do it. As long as there is a specific plan to address the identified areas, it is permissible to move ahead with acquiring the apartment and moving the family in, even if the remediation is not complete. The landlord is still obligated to provide a lead disclosure report as an addendum to the lease. If the landlord refuses to do any needed remediation, it will not be possible to resettle the family and another housing option will need to be found.

Newly arriving children will be tested for lead shortly after arrival. It is relatively common for refugee children notably from DRC and Afghanistan to have high blood lead levels (BLL). If a child's BLL is found to be over 5, state law will trigger an inspection of the child's home by the public health department. In this situation it may be helpful to be able to produce the lead inspection report showing that the home was recently found to be lead-safe.

Inspectors

IRIS has identified one provider and is looking to identify others.

CT Lead Paint Solutions, LLC.

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