



Healthy Homes

Coalition of West Michigan

Purpose of Today's Meeting

To build public will and local leadership to end childhood lead poisoning.

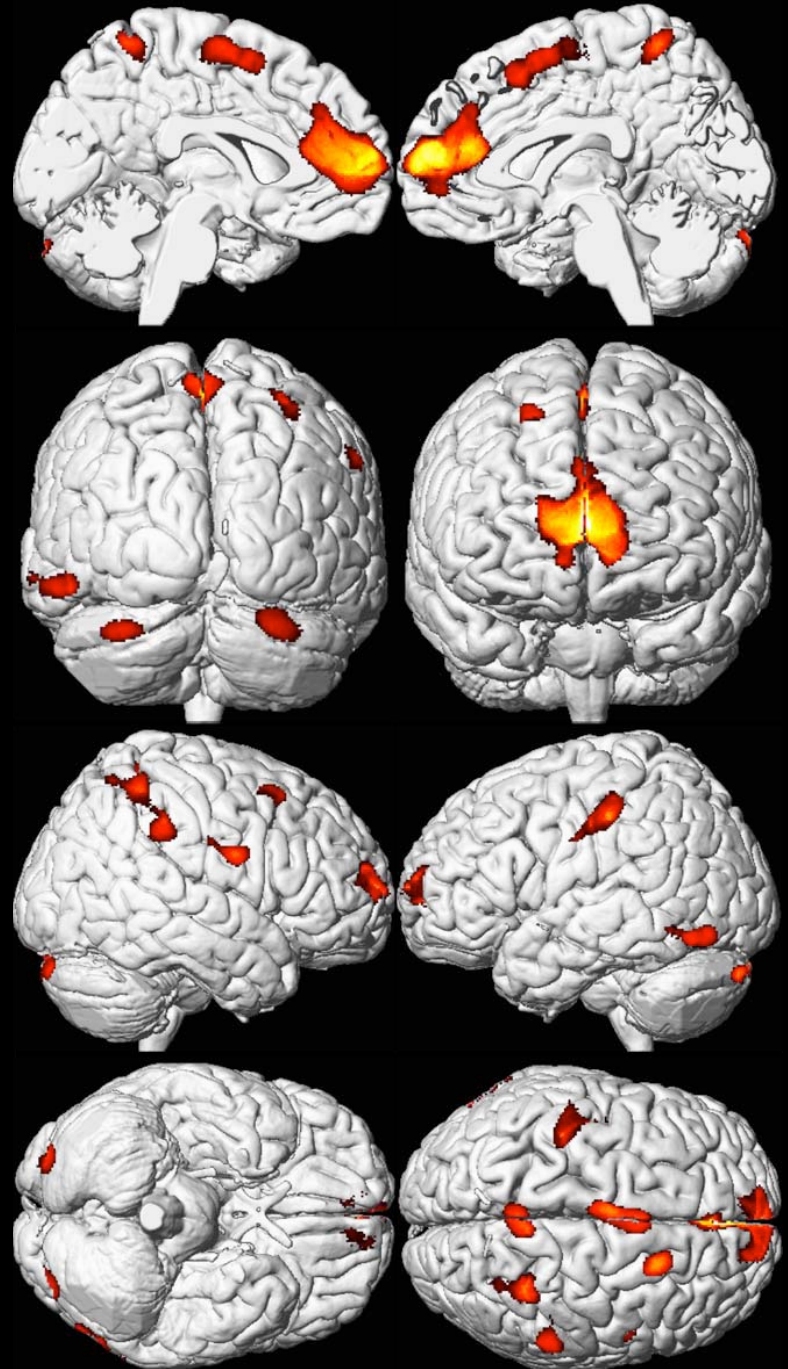
Strong leadership:

- Is knowledgeable
- Achieves consensus
- Acts strategically

The Cost of Lead Poisoning

Lead is a brain drain.

- Permanent brain damage.
- Arrested neurological connections.
- Poor executive function and lack of impulse control.
- Decreased school readiness.
- Poor third grade reading levels.
- Low graduation rates.
- Incarceration.
- Decreased wage earning capacity and productivity.





Cost of MI's Lead Poisoned Children

Health Care	\$280,000
ADHD	\$18,000,000
Other Special Education	\$2,500,000
Crime – Juvenile	\$32,000,000
Crime – Adult	\$73,000,000
Lifetime Earnings	\$206,000,000
TOTAL	\$331,780,000

Estimates based upon "Economic Impacts Of Lead Exposure and Remediation in Michigan," University of Michigan Risk Science Center and the Michigan Network for Children's Environmental Health, June, 2014.

The Problem

There were more children lead poisoned in one zip code in Grand Rapids than in all of Flint.

	Flint *	49507
2014 (Flint Water Crisis begins April 2014)	122 children 3.9% of those tested	145 children 11.1% of those tested
2015 (Flint Reconnects to Detroit water November 2015)	 111 children 3.3% of those tested	 186 children 14.0% of those tested

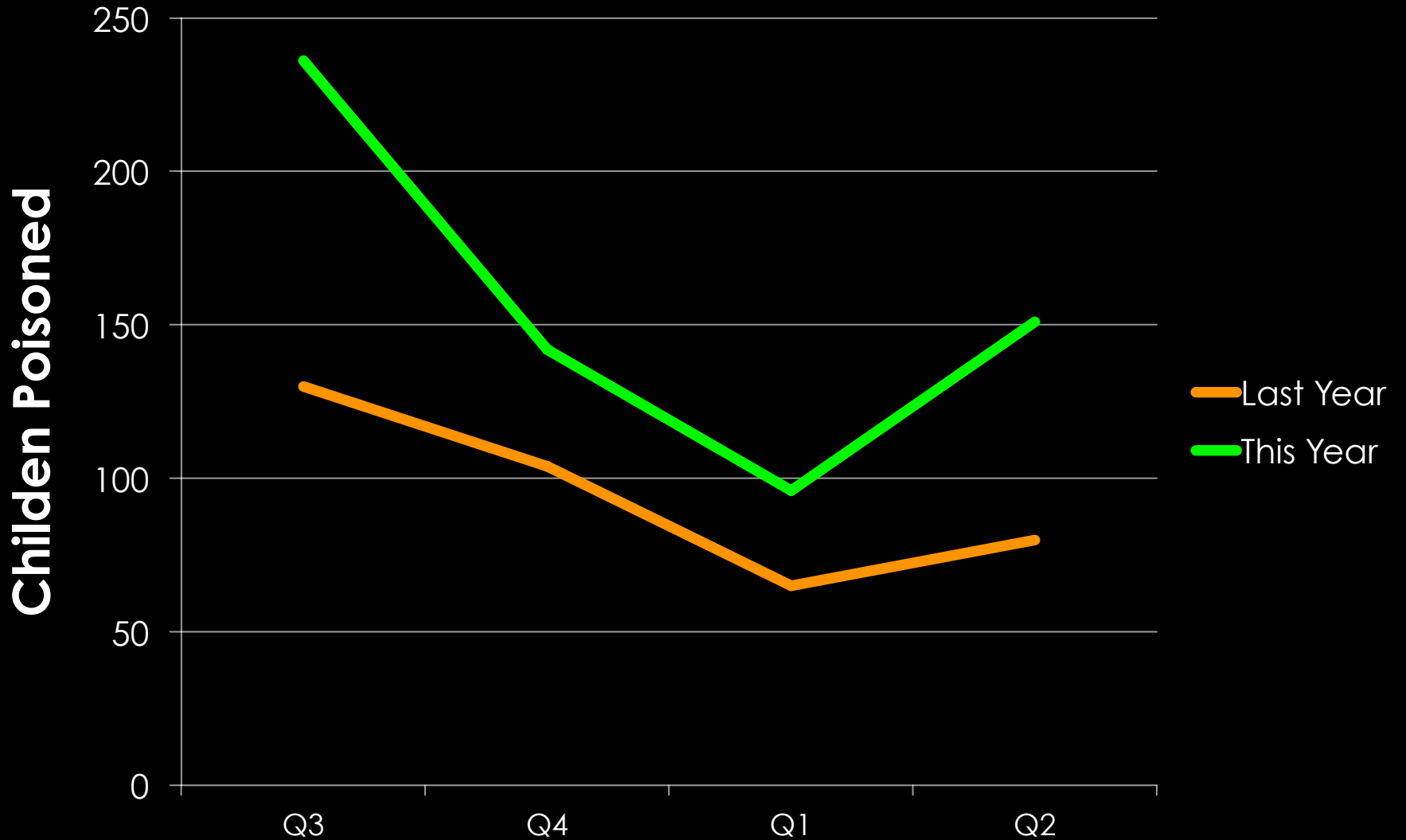
* 48501 - 48507 zip codes

Two other zip codes in Grand Rapids are also heavily impacted (2015)

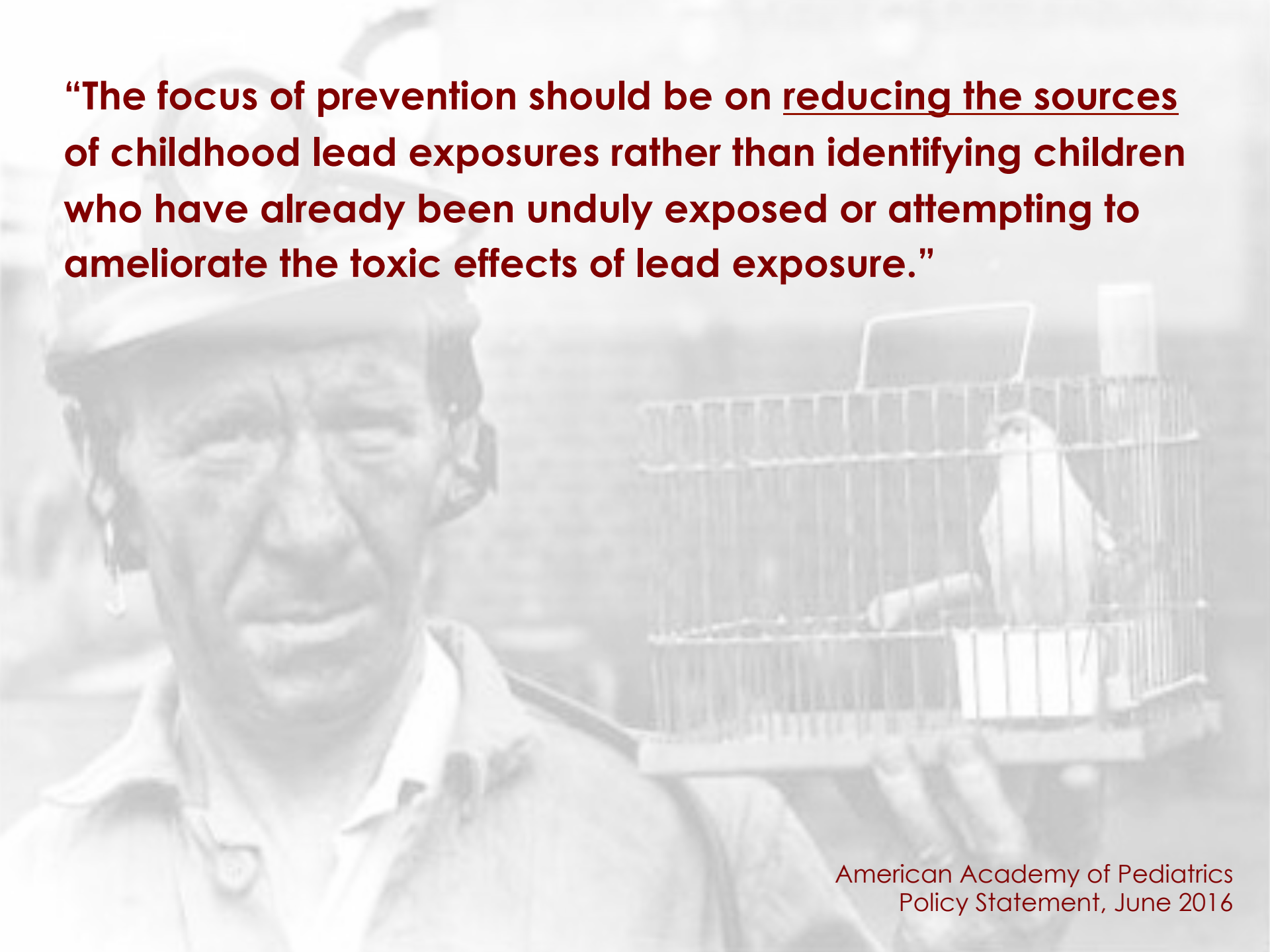
	Number of Children	Percent	State Ranking # of EBLL
49507	186	14.0%	1st
49503	97	12.2%	8th
49504	95	12.2%	9th
Flint*	111	3.3%	

* 48501 - 48507 zip codes

Children with blood lead levels ≥ 5.0 ug/dL City of a Grand Rapids



The Solution

The background of the slide is a faded, grayscale image. On the left, a man wearing a hard hat and safety glasses looks towards the camera with a serious expression. On the right, a white bird is perched inside a wire cage. The overall tone is somber and emphasizes the theme of the text.

“The focus of prevention should be on reducing the sources of childhood lead exposures rather than identifying children who have already been unduly exposed or attempting to ameliorate the toxic effects of lead exposure.”

“For every \$1 invested to reduce lead hazards in housing units, society would benefit by an estimated \$17 to \$221, a cost–benefit ratio that is comparable with the cost–benefit ratio for childhood vaccines.”



“Primary prevention, reducing or eliminating the myriad sources of lead in the environment of children before exposure occurs, is the most reliable and cost-effective measure to protect children from lead toxicity.”

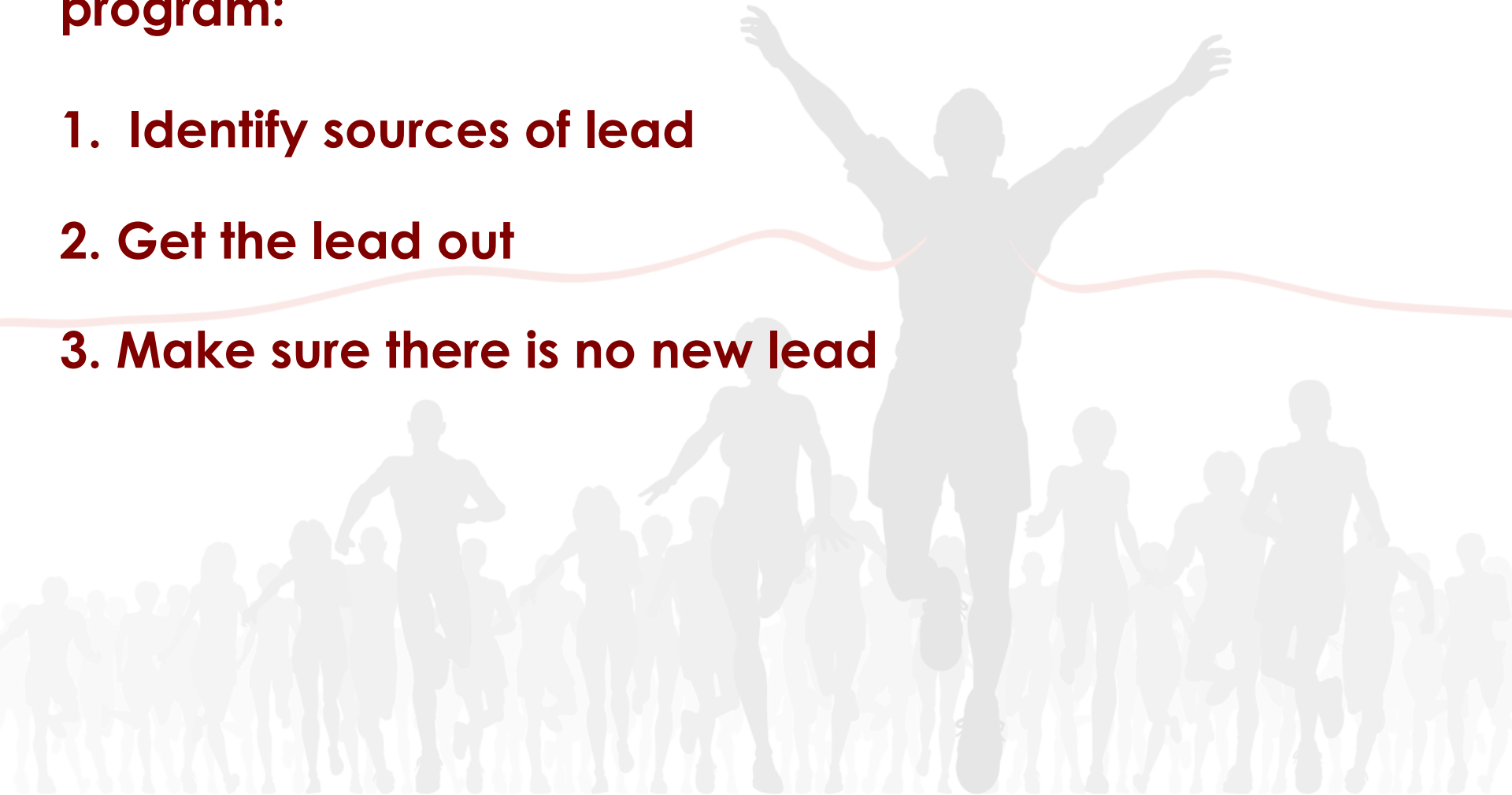


To go the last mile and finally end lead poisoning in Grand Rapids, we need a comprehensive three-point program:

1. Identify sources of lead

2. Get the lead out

3. Make sure there is no new lead





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