FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lead Safe Ohio Grant Awarded to Ashtabula County

Ashtabula County has been awarded a $900,000 Lead Safe Ohio Grant to address lead hazards in homes, ensuring the health and safety of residents, particularly children. This grant, provided by the Ohio Department of Development, underscores a commitment to creating lead-safe environments and protecting vulnerable populations.

Ashtabula County has long recognized the importance of addressing lead hazards in homes and has been proactive in pursuing resources to tackle this issue. The Lead Safe Ohio Grant, which comes as a welcome boost to these efforts, will enable the county to implement comprehensive lead safe initiatives.

Lead poisoning is most commonly caused by lead-based paint, which produces chips and dust when deteriorating. While lead poisoning can affect individuals of all ages, children are at the greatest risk. Children's bodies are more susceptible to the harmful effects of lead and are less able to detoxify their bodies of the harmful substance. Lead exposure poses severe health risks and can lead to developmental delays and long-term health issues. The Lead Safe Ohio Grant will empower Ashtabula County to address such lead hazards in residential properties, making homes safer for families.

Key components of the grant-funded initiatives include Lead Hazard Identification and Assessment for homes built prior to 1978.

If peeling/chipping paint is present, the following components may be eligible for replacement, repair and/or cleaning efforts: windows and doors, siding enclosure, soffit enclosure and porch components.

"We are thrilled to receive the Lead Safe Ohio Grant, which will significantly enhance our ability to address lead hazards in Ashtabula County," said Dawn Gates, Grant Specialist. "This grant is a testament to the County Commissioners’ commitment to the health and well-being of our community, particularly our children."

Ashtabula County encourages residents to stay informed about lead hazards, take advantage of available resources, and participate in community initiatives aimed at creating lead-safe environments.

For more information including requirements about the Lead Safe Ohio Grant commencing in 2024, please contact:

Ashtabula County Department of Planning and Development at 440-576-1530 or visit the website at www.ashtabulacounty.us/communitydevelopment