

Sustainable Resources Center, Inc.

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SRC Mission

To create healthy and efficient homes, in partnership
with families and communities

Programs

- Low Income Weatherization in suburban and rural Hennepin County
- Lead Hazard Control in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, primarily Minneapolis
- Lead Poisoning Prevention throughout Minnesota
- Training in lead safety and healthy homes
- Home performance solutions – diagnosis and interventions

SRC staff worked in the homes of over 1000 low income families in 2011

Health in the Late 19th Century



“The connection between health and the dwelling of the population is one of the most important that exists.”

- Florence Nightingale

Cited in Lowry, S, BMJ, 1991, 303, 838-840

- Challenge of Tuberculosis, Typhoid, Cholera Seemed Insurmountable
- Lessons for Public Health Officials, Architects & Planners: Light, Fresh Air, Reduce Crowding, Improve Sanitation
- With Improved Living Conditions & Medical Interventions, Disease Rates Declined
- Most of the Increase in Life Expectancy in the Last 100 Years (25 of 30 years) is Due to Public Health Measures, *Not* Medical Treatment

Principles of Healthy and Efficient Homes



DRY
PEST FREE
CONTAMINANT FREE
WELL VENTILATED
WELL MAINTAINED
SAFE
CLEAN
ENERGY EFFICIENT

The Impact of Unhealthy Housing



- American Spend 90% of Their Time Indoors
- An Estimated 450,000 Children Have Blood Lead Levels Exceeding CDC's Level of Concern
- Asthma costs \$10.1 Billion in Direct Medical Expenses yearly
- An Estimated 40% of New Asthma Cases are Attributed to Home Exposures
- Each Year, 13 Million are Injured, 11,000 Die From Unintentional Injuries in the Home

The Impact of Unhealthy Housing



- Each Year, Nearly 10,000 People Visit the Emergency Department for Carbon Monoxide Poisoning
- Annual Cost of Environmentally Attributable Childhood Diseases = \$54.9 Billion
- In 2011 at least 544 Children in Minnesota were Lead Poisoned
- The Impact of Childhood Lead Exposure in Minnesota Includes Loss of Lifetime Productivity, Health Care Costs & Special Education Costs that have been estimated at \$1.2 Billion per year.

Lead



- Lead Poisoning Can Damage the Brain, Nervous System and Kidneys in Both Children and Adults
- Even Small Amounts of Lead Can Create Permanent Developmental Problems in Children, Including:

Reduced IQ

Learning Disabilities

Behavior Problems

CDC has concluded there is no safe level of blood lead for young children

Lead



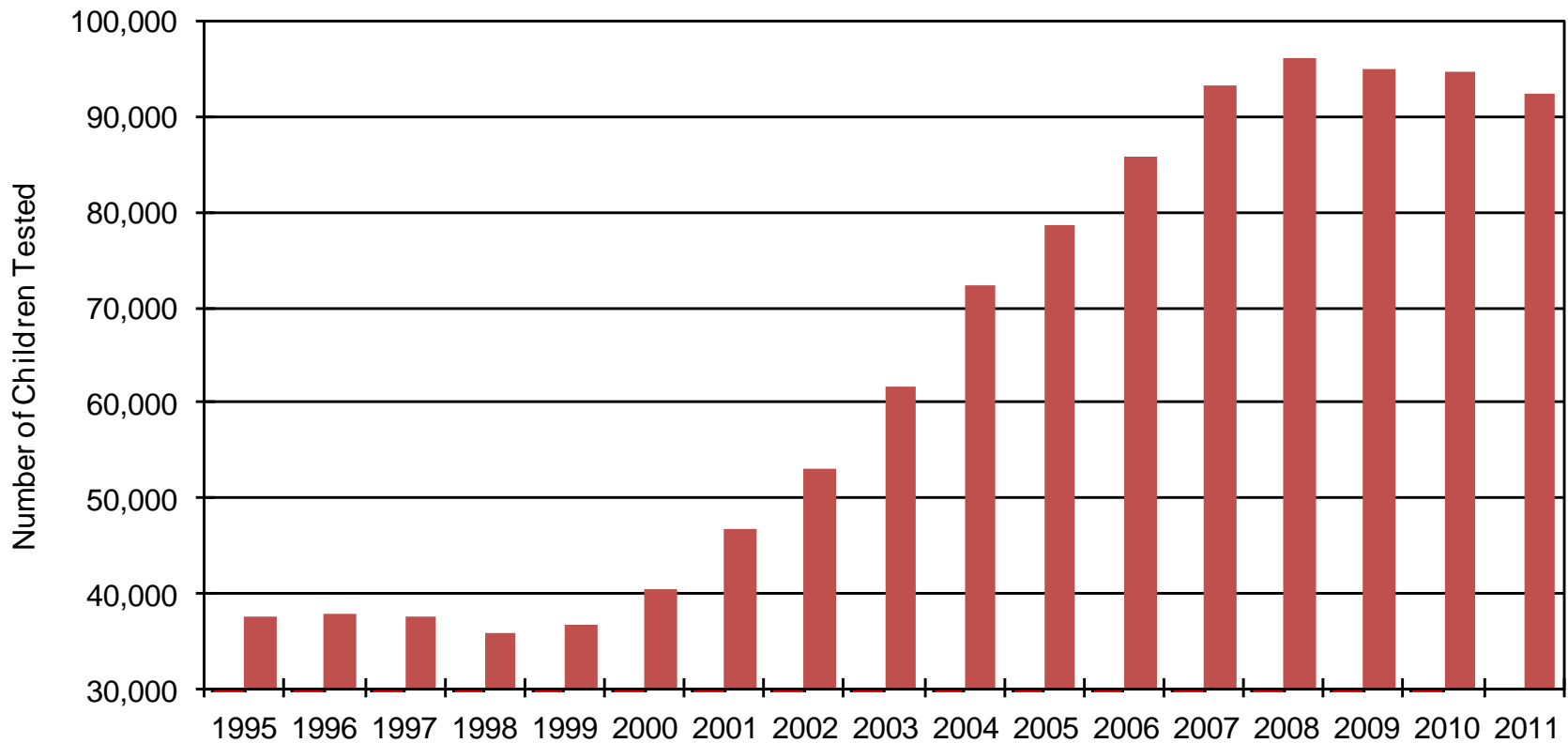
- Lead in Dust is the Most Common Way People are Exposed to Lead
- Windows with Old Paint are a Major Lead Source and Potentially Dangerous to Both Children and Adults,
- An Estimated 85% of Homes in Minneapolis Contain Hazardous Lead Level

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention is a Cross-Sector Public Health Success Story in Minnesota

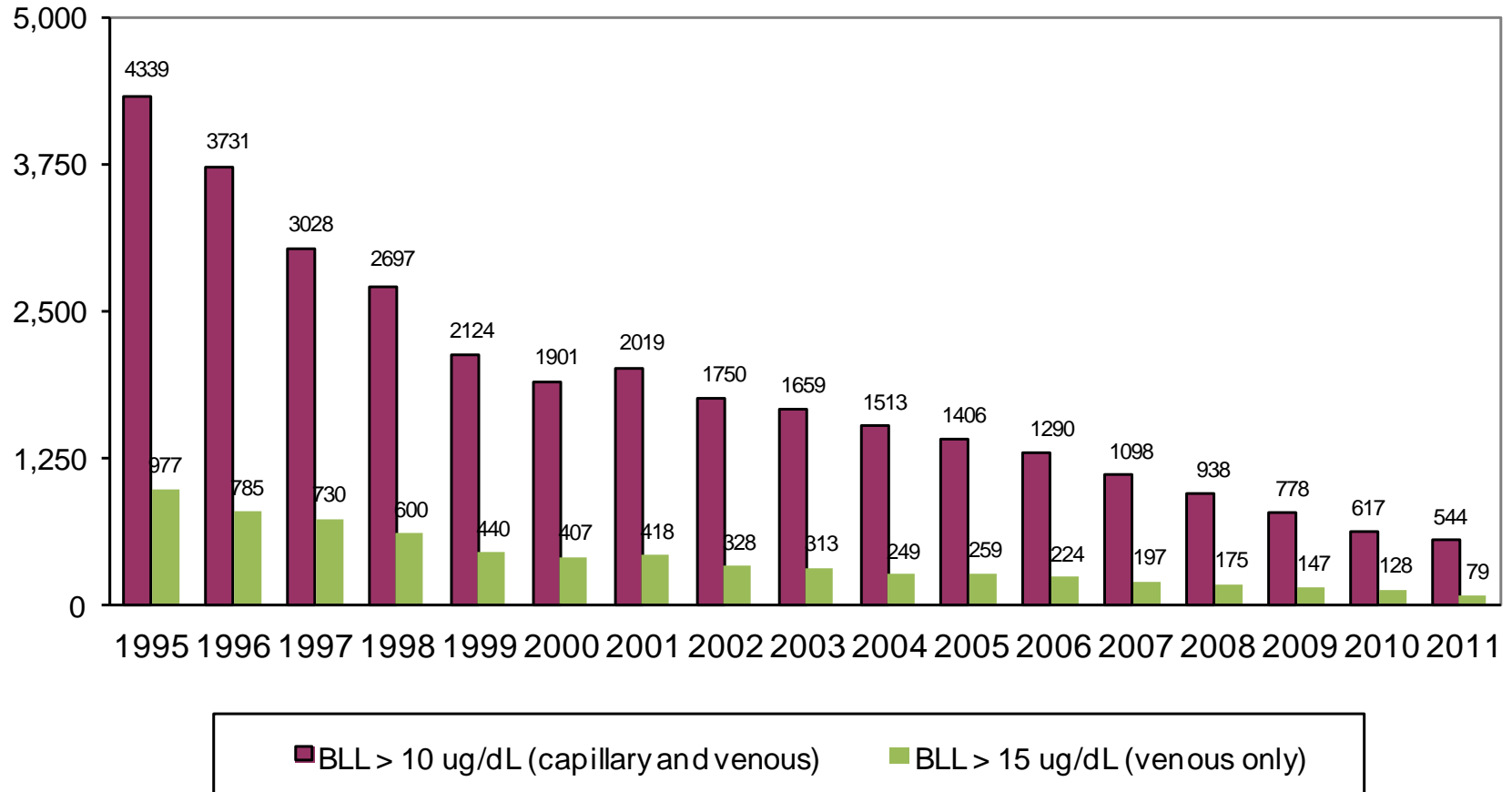


- Federal, State and Local Governments
- Health Providers
- Health Plans
- Community Organizations
- Contractors
- Building owners

Number of Children Tested (Less than 6 Years of Age)



Number of children with elevated blood lead levels



Lead Poisoning Prevention is a Cross Sector Success Story



- Minnesota Department of Health – convening, standards for lead work and workers, monitoring, education, lead hazard control, guidance for the public, licensing
- Local Public Health – required to respond to BLL's over 15 mg/dL, may intervene at lower levels
- Local Governments – funding, program operations

Minneapolis and Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis Counties have completed lead hazard control in 4600 housing units with HUD and local funds

Lead Poisoning Prevention is a Cross Sector Success Story



- Health Plans – hold back of capitation for performance measures (proportion of children tested)
- Health Clinics – new guidelines, referrals, education
- Community Organizations – outreach, education, risk assessment, lead hazard control, training
- Contractors – lead hazard control, clearance
- Federal Government

HUD: Standards for Lead Safe housing, funds for lead hazard control

CDC: Funding for statewide planning, organizing, monitoring, technical assistance

Home Safety and Public Safety



- Injuries and fires in the home have a big impact on Fire, Police, and Emergency Services
- Great Britain – ROI on fall prevention
- Spring Lake Park/Blaine/Mounds View Fire Department – Inspection, Investigation, Education
 - Home inspections averaging 208 per year for ten years
 - Public education in homes, schools, community organizations
 - Population up 18%, fire calls down 9%
 - Other Anoka County Departments calls are up over 17%

Connecting the Dots on Public Costs & Benefits



- Families in Unhealthy Housing Conditions are More Likely to be Poor, to be Ill, to Miss School, & to be Enrolled in Minnesota Health Care Programs
- The Current Costs of Unhealthy Housing are Imbedded in Health & Education Expenses
- The Future Costs Will Be Seen in Increased Medical Expenses, Lost Productivity & Reduced Incomes