

Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Patricia Barnes, [patricia.barnes@ohhn.org](mailto:patricia.barnes@ohhn.org)

ends. Although the tax credit may have the potential to protect children from lead hazards in older housing, in its current form it may be difficult to use. We urge the Administration to increase its effectiveness as an incentive by allowing the credit to be taken over a period of years, covering all homes built prior to 1978, and permitting families without young children (or a pregnant woman) to use the credit.

“We are eager to work in partnership with Governor DeWine and the Legislature to ensure lead safety for all Ohio children,” said Gabriella Celeste, chair of the Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition and Policy Director of the Schubert Center for Child Studies. “Over the long run, we urge the Administration to develop a comprehensive statewide plan for lead prevention by bringing the many stakeholders dedicated to children’s health to the table.”

\*\*\*\*\*

*The Ohio Lead Free Kids Coalition (#LeadFreeKidsOH) has the following guiding principles for Ohio policy. We believe the state has a responsibility to:*

- *Ensure Ohio **families live in lead-safe housing**. To achieve these ends, the state of Ohio needs to adopt a **primary prevention** model designed to prevent childhood lead poisoning.*
- ***Protect children** from lead hazards during renovation, repair, painting, regular maintenance and demolition of pre-1978 homes and child care facilities.*
- *Commit public resources and encourage **state-local, public-private investments** to end lead poisoning.*
- *Ensure that children are **adequately and regularly screened** for lead, and that those children with elevated blood lead levels have **access to appropriate developmental and behavioral supports**.*
- *Create, adopt and implement a **comprehensive statewide strategy** for preventing lead poisoning.*