

# Michigan Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program for Underserved Asian Americans

**Overview:** Connect high-risk Asian-Americans in Hamtramck and the Detroit area with local organizations and agencies to design, plan, and implement a culturally appropriate lead poisoning prevention program

## Goals:

1. Increase lead-testing and enhance the linkage to services for high-risk children and pregnant women in the Asian American community.
2. Provide healthcare professionals and providers with education related to lead testing and elevated blood lead level treatment
3. Implement a primary prevention program to increase awareness and linkage to care for Bangladesh Americans in Hamtramck.

## Why are the Bangladeshi at Risk for Elevated Blood Lead Levels?

- Many homes in Hamtramck were built before 1978 and were painted with lead paint. Water pipes, sinks, and faucets were also made with lead.
- Children in Hamtramck are two times more likely to have elevated lead levels in their blood. All children are at greater risk because children like to put everything in their mouths!
- Immigrants and children of immigrants have an increased risk for elevated blood levels
  - 81% of Bangladeshi in Hamtramck are foreign-born, 30% are children between ages 0-6 years of age
- Low English proficiency makes it difficult to access medical related resources.
- Low-income is an increased risk factor for having elevated blood lead levels
  - 38.5% of Bangladeshi in Hamtramck live at the poverty level

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