

ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY HOMES

Protecting Children from Lead and Other Environmental Health Hazards



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Alliance for Healthy Homes Appoints Robert O. Zdenek as Executive Director

The Alliance for Healthy Homes, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting children and families from housing-based environmental health hazards, has appointed Robert Zdenek as its new Executive Director. Zdenek will join the Alliance this month.

Zdenek brings to the Alliance a wealth of experience in housing and nonprofit management at both the community and national level. He served as President of the National Congress for Community Economic Development (NCCED) for thirteen years and then served in leadership positions at the United Way at both the local and national level. Most recently, Zdenek has run his own consulting firm focused on asset building strategies, organizational change, and community economic development initiatives for government agencies, community development corporations, and nonprofit organizations.

“We are delighted to welcome Bob Zdenek to the Alliance,” comments Bailus Walker, Chairman of the Board of Directors. “His outstanding credentials and track record of accomplishment are ideal for generating attention and action to protect children from lead and other hazards in their homes.”

Zdenek succeeds Don Ryan, who founded the Alliance in 1990 as the Alliance To End Childhood Lead Poisoning. In 2001, Ryan led the Alliance to expand its work on lead poisoning prevention to encompass other housing-related health hazards. Zdenek is poised to capitalize on the Alliance’s considerable past successes in childhood lead poisoning prevention and other important indoor environmental health issues by solidifying political, financial, and public support for healthy homes.

“I am honored and excited to join the Alliance for Healthy Homes and to build upon the strong foundation that the dedicated staff and board have created,” notes Zdenek. “The Alliance makes connections across sectors, among communities leaders across the country, and between communities and national policy, and I relish the opportunity to make further progress on its critical mission of protecting children and improving housing conditions for low-income families. In the aftermath of the Hurricane Katrina national tragedy, the work of the Alliance and our community partners is even more critical to ensure that all families and children live in housing that is environmentally safe.”

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