

January 20, 2010

Dear Lead Poisoning Prevention and Healthy Homes Advocates:

Today we are announcing the planned merger of the Alliance for Healthy Homes and the National Center for Healthy Housing. As the two pre-eminent national organizations working to eliminate health hazards in housing, we have a long history of working together to achieve shared policy objectives and utilize each other's skills to provide programmatic services. Recognizing the shared history and common vision, our boards have come to the conclusion that a single organization could better serve our shared mission. NCHH's scientific and programmatic expertise will inform the Alliance's long-standing community-based efforts and vice-versa. Our combined organization will be better positioned to proactively address pressing policy issues, while reducing duplication and achieving efficiencies through overhead consolidation.

So what does this change mean to you? Primarily it means you'll have a stronger, more focused national organization working in Washington to fight for the elimination of health hazards in the nation's housing. Otherwise, you may not notice many changes. LeadNet and HealthyHomesNet will continue to operate as they have. The two organization's newsletters (the Alliance Alert and Healthy Housing Connections) will be consolidated into one e-publication and issued monthly. The Alliance's website will remain online as we work to transition the content to www.nchh.org. The Alliance's projects and programs will continue under the NCHH umbrella and the Alliance's staff will continue as employees of NCHH.

As you will hear shortly from Rebecca Morley, we will also be taking the opportunity of the merger to expand our efforts and launch some new initiatives.

We hope that you will join us in celebrating this merger. We look forward to continuing to work together with you as you do the work that is so critical to your communities and to the national healthy housing movement. Please stay in touch with us and the rest of our colleagues at NCHH should we be able to provide any assistance to you or your organization.

Sincerely,

Anne Evens, Chair of the Board of Directors,
Patrick MacRoy, Executive Director,
On behalf of the Board of Directors for the Alliance for Healthy Homes