

Exide Update

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) continues to work in communities impacted by Exide lead contamination in the following ways:

INCREASE COMMUNITY AWARENESS

- 10 Health Promoters are in your community providing resources and answering questions and concerns regarding Exide, FREE lead testing, lead poisoning and resources.
- Look out for our blood lead testing mobile van. We will be providing FREE lead testing at community events and neighborhoods in Commerce, East Los Angeles, Boyle Heights, Bell, Huntington Park, Maywood, and Vernon.
- More resource centers and Exide outreaches in your communities. Look for us at your local community sites, libraries, parks, and community events.

ADDRESS HEALTH CONCERNS

- **Free blood lead testing** now available at the East Los Angeles Health Center (323) 768-2500 and Edward Roybal Comprehensive Health Center at (323) 362-1010.
- In October and November 2018, 6 Exide outreaches were coordinated, and 176 blood lead tests were done in the Exide contaminated surrounding areas.
- If you work or live near the Exide plant, talk to your regular healthcare provider. Operations at the former Exide Battery recycling plant in Vernon released harmful levels of lead and arsenic into its' surrounding communities. People who live or work near the former Exide battery recycling plant, may be at greater risk for developing cancers related to these chemicals.

CONNECT WITH SCHOOLS

- DPH is working with LAUSD Wellness Centers, Student Medical Services, Student Health and Human Services through their Organization Facilitators to increase blood lead testing and provide education.
- We are collaborating with partners at Garfield High School in East Los Angeles and Maywood Center for Enriched Studies to increase awareness and services to the Exide communities and work towards increasing access to blood lead testing for residents.

ADVOCATE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CLEANUP PLAN

- The most common sources of lead poisoning in children are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust in older buildings. DPH has secured funding to reduce lead paint hazards in the communities that have been impacted by the Exide facility.
- 4 different funding sources have been identified to maximize the number of homes that receive lead abatement services. Sources include funding from lead paint company lawsuits, a Southern California Gas Company lawsuit, and a grant from HUD.

DPH does not charge for lead testing or clean-up services. If you are asked for money for clean-up services, please report this incident to our Public Health Nurse at (323) 768-2541.

Call Your Public Health Nurse:

For information on Exide, Free Lead Testing, Lead Poisoning and Upcoming Events call Vanessa Valenzuela (323)768-2541. Spanish speaking staff available.

By the Numbers:



4,892 Blood Tests



2,871 Houses Visited



1,674 Surveys Collected

RESOURCE CENTER & HEALTH CENTER

East Los Angeles Health Center:

133 N. Sunol Dr., Suite 150 Room 138

Los Angeles, 90063

Call (323) 768-2500 for FREE Blood Lead Testing

Tuesdays & Thursdays 8am-4pm (Walk-ins Welcome)

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CENTER

Edward Roybal Comprehensive Health Center

245 S. Fetterly Ave.

East Los Angeles, 90022

Call (323)362-1010 for FREE Lead Testing

Monday-Friday 7am to 4pm (walk-ins Welcome)

Saturdays 8:30am-4:30pm (walk-ins Welcome)

STAY CONNECTED: Do you want to join other advocates in your community, receive quarterly updates or receive text message alerts regarding our efforts?



spa7@ph.lacounty.gov



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GET TO KNOW THE STAFF: Martha Chehadi, BSN, RN, PHN



Martha Chehadi is one of our Public Health Nurses dedicated to serving the communities impacted by Exide Technologies. Martha was born in Mexico and immigrated to the United States in 1988. In 2003, she attended El Camino Community College where she earned her Associate Degree in Nursing. Martha started working with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in 2006 as a registered nurse at the Glendale Health Center. She then attended California State University, Dominguez Hills and obtained her bachelor's degree in nursing in 2007. For 10 years, she worked as a District Public Health Nurse where she provided services to individuals and families for Tuberculosis, Acute Communicable Diseases, and treatments for pregnant women with Sexually Transmitted

Diseases. Martha joined the Community Liaison Team on July 16, 2018 and will be working at our East Los Angeles Health Center. Her goal is to be of service to the community, especially those effected by Exide Technologies and lead.

For questions and concerns about soil testing, soil test results, and soil clean up, call

California Department of Toxic Substances Control Hotline: 1-844-225-3887

Website: <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Projects/UpdateExideSuspension.cfm>