



# Insider News

**Lead and Healthy Homes**  
Division Newsletter  
May 2018



**Indiana State**  
Department of Health

## National Healthy Homes Month

With summer fast approaching, we are excited to announce June as National Healthy Homes Month! This month-long celebration offers an opportunity for families and providers to learn more about housing and its impact on health. During June, we encourage families to focus on protecting themselves from hazards in their home.

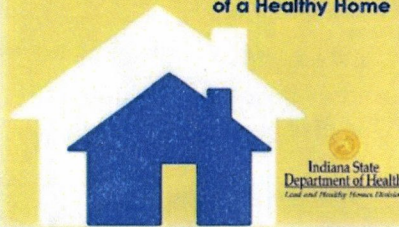
National Healthy Homes Month (NHHM) is based around the "8 Principles of a Healthy Home". This concept relates to keeping the house: dry, clean, ventilated, pest-free, contaminant-free, safe, maintained, and thermally controlled.

In honor of NHHM, the Lead and Healthy Homes Division (LHHD) is launching a new interactive guidebook aimed to address "What

### What Makes a Healthy Home?

A Guide for Indiana Residents

Based on the 8 Principles  
of a Healthy Home



makes a Healthy Home?" This book includes a holistic approach to healthy homes and helps answer questions about what each of us can do

to make our home or apartment healthier. Please click [here](#) to view the content.

For more information about National Healthy Homes Month, please visit the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ([HUD website](#)) to learn more about NHHM and how to participate and get updates on activities.

Additionally, check out HUD's [Healthy Homes App](#) to get tips on potentially serious health and safety problems in the home and the steps to take to protect your home and family.



# World Asthma Day

Asthma is one of the most common long-term diseases and affects people of all ages. More than 9% of Hoosiers have asthma, and this rate is even higher for children. We know that asthma can cause wheezing, chest tightness and excessive coughing. If left untreated, asthma can cause asthma attacks and other serious conditions.

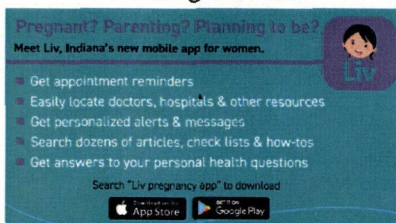
Did you know that asthma is a healthy homes issue? Maintaining a clean, well-ventilated, pest-free home is the first step towards preventing respiratory illness. May 1<sup>st</sup> marks World Asthma Day! Learn to live with asthma by joining the Indiana Joint Asthma Coalition (INJAC) for the World Asthma Day event on Monument Circle. Click [here](#) for more information!

## Liv Pregnancy Mobile App

If you have not heard, ISDH has created an app to feature information designed to help women improve their health, whether they are planning to become pregnant, are already pregnant or are parents!

Recently, the LHHD has partnered with the creators of Liv, to bring lead and healthy homes resources to this wide audience.

Be sure to check out Liv by clicking below!



## State of the Division

As I approach my six-month mark with the Lead and Healthy Homes Division, I'm struck by a couple of points that have become clearer and clearer each day:

1. The network of health professionals I've had the pleasure of meeting and working with in Indiana is unparalleled in its dedication to addressing lead issues in children.
2. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) must continue its to push parents and providers to be advocates for lead testing. Without buy in from both of these groups we can't move the needle on success.
3. We need to improve both data quality and quantity. On both fronts we are falling short of our full potential and without improving both we continue to blind ourselves to full scope of the problem.

I'm honored to get to work alongside each of you and your organizations. Each of you continue to help me learn and help refine our ability to improve the health of Hoosiers.

Best,

*Paul Krievins*

Lead and Healthy Homes Division Director

## CONTACT US

This newsletter is brought to you by the Indiana State Department of Health Lead and Healthy Homes Division.

Please call 317-233-1250 or [click here](#) for more information

## ISDH Staff Spotlight

Each quarterly newsletter features a staff member from the Lead and Healthy Homes Division. This quarter our staff spotlight is on **Kari Horsley**!



Kari has been with ISDH since 2002! Her role with the LHHD is the Data Processor. You may recognize

Kari as our team member who sends each EBLL manifest to begin case management. Her role is critical for the division to run smoothly!

**Fun fact:** Kari has five children and 10 grandchildren! She is an avid crocheter and is always creating fun masterpieces to give to her family.

## Staffing Changes

Last month, there were some changes in staffing at the Lead and Healthy Homes Division.

We said farewell to three of our team members.

- Jim King- former program manager
- Ismat Bhuiyan- former health educator
- Tony More- former risk assessor (northern region)

All three will be missed and we wish them luck in their new careers. Be sure to stay tuned to see the new additions to our team! In the meantime, please be patient with us as we shuffle around tasks and train our new employees.

