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September 8, 2016

Patricia Tyus
Director, Office of Public Housing
U. S, Department of Housing and Urban Development
Minton Capehart Federal Building
575 North Pennsylvania Street, Suite 655
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1555

Dear Ms. Tyus,

Re: West Calumet Relocation Plan

Enclosed please find a relocation plan and budget for the West Calumet Complex. Resident information meetings to review the plan were held on September 7, 2016 at 3:00 pm and 6:00 pm. Also enclosed is a summary of the comments received during those meetings. The submission of this plan is one of the requirements that were not yet finalized at time of submission of the initial application in July. The remaining items required by the Section 18 application are near completion and are anticipated for submission next week.

This 346-unit public housing development was built in 1973. ECHA recognized the need to reposition this asset as evidenced by a 2010 Physical Needs Assessment (PNA) indicating that most of the units had reached the end of their useful life and repairs would be too costly. With this, ECHA included plans for redevelopment in the 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan and identified demolition and/or disposition for the West Calumet property in their October 15, 2014 five-year plan. However, given the recent EPA findings, ECHA has decided to expedite the plans for West Calumet to address the imminent health issues and the safety of the residents.

ECHA appreciates HUD's expediency approval of tenant protection vouchers upon receipt of the initial application submitted at the end of July, instead of waiting for the full review process to be completed (typically 30 days or more). Submission of the Relocation Plan for review moves us one step closer to final approval of the Section 18 application. Feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,

Tia J. Cauley

**Executive Director** 

Cc:

Bruce Nzerem, Revitalization Specialist

Special Applications Center



# **DRAFT!**

(pending HUD approval)

# **West Calumet - East Chicago Housing Authority Relocation Plan**



Submitted By:

The East Chicago Housing Authority
4920 Larkspur Dr.
East Chicago Indiana 46312
(219) 397-9974

September 2, 2016

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# RELOCATION PLAN East Chicago Housing Authority West Calumet Complex

#### 1. Background

West Calumet is a 346- unit development with a date of first occupancy of October 1973. The site is a parcel of approximately 43 acres located at 4920 Larkspur Drive, East Chicago, Indiana 46312. The property is located adjacent to an industrial area in the southeast part of South Chicago and was built on the former U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. (U.S.S. Lead) site. EPA listed the U.S.S. Lead site on the National Priorities List (NPL) in 2009 and the overall Superfund site has been divided into three zones with West Calumet in Zone 1. EPA has been monitoring lead and arsenic levels at this property and recent testing revealed soil contamination levels above an acceptable level in this zone.

ECHA recognized the need to reposition this asset as evidenced by a 2010 Physical Needs Assessment (PNA) indicating that most of the units had reached the end of their useful life and repairs would be too costly. With this, ECHA included plans for redevelopment in the 2012 – 2016 Strategic Plan and identified demolition and/or disposition for the West Calumet property in their five-year plan dated October 15, 2014. However, given the recent findings of site conditions, ECHA decided to expedite their Section 18 application submission to HUD and begin the process to issue tenant protection vouchers for residents in advance of HUD's approval. This action is authorized under the FY16 Consolidated Appropriations Act for HUD, which states that "when a public housing development is submitted for demolition or disposition under section 18 of the National Housing Act of 1937, the Secretary may provide section 8 rental assistance when the units pose an imminent health and safety risk to residents."

Given the site conditions and the threat to resident health and safety, HUD was able to approve tenant protection vouchers upon receipt of the initial application submitted around July 25, instead of waiting for the full review process to be completed (typically 30 days or more). At the time of submission there were 332 occupied units. It is ECHA's intention and commitment to provide relocation benefits identified herein to all of the families in occupancy as of July 22, 2016 when notification of the imminent health and safety issues were mailed to each household (Attachment I). On August 3, 2016, West Calumet residents were formally informed through a public hearing of the decision to expedite removal of the site from inventory and provide other affordable housing options to the residents.

ECHA has an aggressive leasing schedule but additional resources have been identified to assist with implementation.

East Chicago Housing Authority Relocation Plan Timeline

<b>Briefing Group</b>	<b>Briefing Date</b>	Number of Vouchers issued	100% of RTAs Turned in	Units pass HQS and lease up
1	8/3/2016	25	10/2/2016	11/1/2016
2	8/18/2016	123	10/17/2016	11/16/2016
3	8/25/2016	50	10/24/2016	11/23/2016
4	8/26/2016	50	10/25/2016	11/24/2016
5	9/2/2016	84	11/1/2016	12/1/2016
		332 total		

Notes: "RTAs" are Requests for Tenant Approvals (basically lease approvals)

Assumes 60 days to receive all RTAs Assumes 30 days for unit to pass HQS

Generally, allowable relocation benefits will include moving expenses, security deposits, utility connection fees and application fees. In addition, the ECHA's relocation plan commits to offering relocation counseling to all eligible residents.

The Authority plans to follow the Section 18 relocation guidelines and intends to make the benefits identified in this plan available to eligible residents. ECHA resources have been identified to implement this relocation plan.

ECHA has identified 332 eligible families in occupancy and one (1) family who left the Authority in good standing as noted in the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy but is eligible for relocation benefits (Exhibit A).

#### 2. Identification of Eligible Families

Based on the information contained in Exhibit A, there are 332 families eligible for relocation benefits. The family composition is as follows:

#### **Exhibit A**

Households in Occupancy at time of Resident Notification August 3, 2016. (Attachment II)

# of Bedrooms	# of Households
Zero Bedroom	2
One Bedroom	33
Two Bedrooms	76
Three Bedrooms	125
Four Bedrooms	55
Five Bedrooms	41
	332 families

Households who voluntarily vacated ECHA after July 22, 2016 but prior to the public meeting on August 3, 2016 are eligible for relocation benefits. One household was

determined to fall within this category, but was not included in the calculation for TPVs. ECHA will provide a voucher from their HCV program if necessary.

# of Bedrooms	# of Households
One Bedroom	1
	1 Family

ECHA will offer the identified families several housing options for relocation based on their current household composition and in accordance with their Board-approved Housing Choice Administrative Plan available at <a href="https://www.echa-in.org">www.echa-in.org</a>. For some families this will mean a change in current bedroom size. For example, if a family currently resides in a 5-bedroom unit but only has two members remaining in the household, the new bedroom unit size will be based on their current eligibility. ECHA acknowledges that it had "over housed" some families in the West Calumet complex, and not required them to move to smaller units when family composition had changed.

Upon move-out of the family from the West Calumet property, the ECHA will return the head-of-household's security deposit based on the documented amount in the resident's files. The amount returned may include deductions for any outstanding balances owed to ECHA. These deposits will be returned in accordance with State law and will not impact the family's eligibility for security deposit assistance for the new unit under this plan.

#### 3. Housing Options

#### Alternative public housing units (Option 1)

Families who are not the subject of *For Cause* eviction actions may be offered another public housing unit in ECHA public housing or the inventory of another public housing authority: if eligible, or:

#### Tenant Protection Vouchers (Option II)

Families who are not the subject of *For Cause* eviction actions may be offered a Tenant Protection Voucher (TPV) if they are eligible for the program, or;

#### Other Assisted or Private Housing Programs (Option III)

There are many other assisted housing programs available at the Federal, State and local levels, including an ECHA non-profit homeownership program. Families may consider other housing options including non-subsidized units, but it is important under this option that families understand that additional requirements may need to be met to qualify.

Families considering the various options will be provided with relocation counseling

to assist them. Additional resources have been provided by HUD under a technical assistance contract for 3000 hours to assist ECHA staff with relocation and program implementation.

Due to imminent health and safety issues and the need to expedite early relocation, ECHA has not yet confirmed the types of relocation housing opportunities desired by each household. It is intended that housing surveys will be conducted as part of the housing relocation counseling services. However, briefings have occurred for most of the residents to date and the majority have indicated a desire to obtain private housing through HCV assistance. Initial housing research indicates that all 332 families will not likely find housing options within the ECHA jurisdiction for relocation. ECHA has partnered with other local housing providers within the region to expand affordable housing opportunities to ensure comparable housing meets HQS and is located in areas that are generally not less desirable than the West Calumet site. This partnership will also allow for realistic choices as well as choices to move to higher opportunity areas. Many residents appear to be open to these relocation opportunities in the surrounding communities. These partnerships include neighboring PHAs (Chicago, Cook County, Hammond, Gary and Indiana State Housing Agency): Multi-Family property owners; Non-Profits; and other private landlords. Commitments for assistance include absorbing the families into their HCV program to eliminate undue financial hardships on ECHA and the families; making other public housing units available; and providing benefits to ECHA participants that their current program participants receive. In addition, the Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority has committed resources to assist ECHA including staffing and financial support. They have also initiated contact with landlords throughout the state to update the housing resource list for affordable rental housing options inside and outside the ECHA jurisdiction maintained on a website.

Families with children under age 6 will be counseled on identifying housing that is lead-safe. Private rental homes built before 1978 will receive an enhanced visual assessment for deteriorated paint to prevent exposure to lead hazards. Families with children with elevated blood lead levels should continue to stay in touch with a pediatrician or the health department for ongoing case management to ensure that elevated blood levels return to normal.

#### 4. Eligible Relocation Benefits

#### a. Moving Expenses

In accordance with Department of Transportation (DOT) Tenant Assistance, Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Handbook (1378.0) and Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act, as amended, 24 CFR 070.21, and other applicable program guidance, ECHA will provide moving expenses in one of four ways: (1) Flat rate self-move; (2) Packing and moving provided by ECHA contract; (3) Self Packing/Moves by ECHA contractor; or (4) Actual Reasonable moving expenses.

#### 1. Flat Rate Self Move

The Authority will provide a flat moving expense allowance which shall be limited to the amount in the Department of Transportation's Fixed Resident Moving Cost Schedule (see table below). The allowance reflects the number of rooms in the displaced dwelling (living room, dining room/kitchen, laundry room, and bedrooms).

# Department of Transportation (DOT) Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Residential Moving Cost Schedule 2015

Studio/Zero	1-Bedrrom	2-bedroom	3-bedroom	4- bedroom	5-bedroom
Bedroom					
2 Rooms	4 Rooms	5 Rooms	6 Rooms	7 Rooms	8 Rooms
\$700	\$1100	\$1300	\$1500	\$1700	\$1900

If the resident elects this option, they will notify the ECHA when they are ready for disbursement of this payment.

#### 2. Packing and Moves provided by ECHA contracts:

ECHA will provide residents with moving contractors that will pack the resident belongings and transport them to the new unit within a 50-mile radius. This option will require an inventory of the assets and liability waivers between the moving company and the resident.

- 3. <u>Pack/ECHA contract move</u>: ECHA will provide materials necessary for self-packing by the resident and ECHA will provide the moving contractors to move the boxes to the new unit within a 50-mile radius. This option will require an inventory of assets and liability waivers between the moving company and the resident.
- 4. <u>Actual Reasonable Moving Expenses</u> Residents will receive reimbursable payments for all reasonable moving expenses, as documented with valid receipts, up to the amount that ECHA is paying for its contracted movers including transportation of personal property within a 50-mile radius. Transportation costs for a distance beyond 50 miles are not eligible. Documentation and receipts will be reviewed by ECHA upon submission and eligible expenses will be reimbursed within 30 days.

Regardless of the benefit option selected, the resident will complete a claim form.

#### b. <u>Security Deposits</u>

ECHA will pay actual costs for security deposits directly to the landlord after the new unit is lease approved for occupancy. The security deposit cannot exceed more than one month's rent of the fair market rent in the locality of the unit that has been approved for occupancy. Any deposits paid by ECHA with operating or capital funds must be returned upon move out to ECHA.

#### c. <u>Utility Connect Fees/ Deposits</u>

ECHA will provide payments for all reconnections of necessary and reasonable utilities by paying the expense directly to the applicable utility company or reimbursing the tenant for the costs incurred upon lease approval. Reimbursement requests must be accompanied by receipts or other documentation. Any deposits paid by ECHA with operating or capital funds must be returned to ECHA when the utility is no longer necessary.

#### d. <u>Application or Background Check Fees</u>

Once a family finds a unit, an application fee or fees for credit and criminal history checks may be required for one or members of the household for consideration of tenancy. The family may pay the fee upfront and be reimbursed with a receipt or, if this fee presents an undue hardship on the family, they may request immediate payment made directly to the landlord or management company.

#### e. Other Related Expenses or Benefits

**Appliances**: ECHA is offering residents the opportunity to purchase appliances at a reduced rate if the appliances are surplus inventory for the ECHA.

**Department of Motor Vehicle Costs:** ECHA will consider reimbursing reasonable costs associated with new license plates, tags or driver licenses required due to the relocation.

Other Reasonable and Necessary Expenses: ECHA will work with each family to determine if other expenses incurred as a result of relocation are reasonable and necessary. (i.e. new school uniforms).

#### 5. Relocation Counseling and Advisory Services

As stated in the Section 18 application, each household may receive relocation counseling and advisory services. Specifically, HUD has hired a technical assistance provider to assist ECHA with these services. These services may be supplemented through partnerships with community service providers. Services may include but not be limited to:

#### Housing search counseling;

- Advisory services that include reasonable, advance written notice
  of (a) time and approximate duration of relocation, (b) assistance in
  transferring mail, (c) terms and conditions under which all residents
  will be relocated to new units;
- Supportive services that meet basic, immediate needs as well as longer term concerns and issues; referrals to supportive service providers may also be made;
- Persons with disabilities will receive enhanced housing search assistance to identify units that meet their special needs. This will include work with landlords and service agencies to make reasonable modifications; recommendations for adjustment in payment standards; or considerations for other additional housing costs that will provide a reasonable accommodation;
- Counseling to promote Fair Housing choice and to obtain housing in opportunity areas.

The following activities will be implemented during the relocation process:

#### General Information Sessions and Briefings

At the beginning of the process or periodically thereafter, ECHA and appropriate partners will host general briefing and informational sessions related to all aspects that impact relocation.

#### Develop Individual Move Plans with each Head-of-Household

The Relocation Specialists will meet with households individually to discuss and assist with their relocation needs and provide necessary assistance.

The Relocation Specialists responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- Assist residents with the completion of any necessary forms, whether for assistance or otherwise;
- Identify an appropriate replacement unit that meets occupancy

requirements which is suitable in its living conditions and has comparable amenities to the current unit;

- Conduct relocation information sessions with each head-of-household;
- Facilitate and coordinate resident moves, and assist with utility transfers, completion of change of address forms, etc.

#### **Transportation**

ECHA can provide transportation to visit housing opportunities within the 50-mile radius. Residents should contact their Relocation Specialist to schedule any needed transportation.

#### 6. Families Unsuccessful in their

### **Housing Search**

If a public housing family has been unsuccessful in locating a unit after 120-days from voucher issuance, the ECHA may initiate an emergency transfer to another ECHA public housing unit in accordance with the ACOP or other PHA public housing units available in the Region due to imminent health and safety issues at the West Calumet site. With ECHA approval, the family may continue to search for an HCV unit.

#### 7. Appeal and Grievance

Residents may appeal to the ECHA for disputes due to the public housing relocation or items related to the housing choice voucher program in accordance with the Administrative Plan or Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy.

#### 8. Waivers and Amendments

Any provision of the policy not required by law may be waived to facilitate relocation, ensure residents do not suffer substantial hardship or substantial injustice through its administration, or when a household has experienced unanticipated circumstances which merit resolution.

The Authority may amend this relocation plan or other administrative policies and plans with appropriate approvals to improve its efficiency and to ensure full compliance with applicable state and or federal laws and regulations.

#### 9. Fair Housing Assurances

Illegal discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, familial status, and disability may prevent a client from finding or leasing suitable housing under the HCV Program. Discrimination based on a family's status as a public housing

WEST CALUMET - East Chicago Housing Authority Relocation Plan - DRAFT—pending HUD approval

resident and the stigma associated with such a status can also adversely affect the client's housing search.

Pursuant to program regulations, ECHA will give families information on how to fill out and file a housing discrimination complaint. If a discriminatory practice is suspected, ECHA efforts in this area will be coordinated with the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. The objective in monitoring compliance with fair housing laws is to ensure that all clients moving from public housing have the same opportunities to find suitable housing and be afforded equal access to the benefits available in the larger community.

ECHA staff will use its Fair Housing Compliance Plan as adopted in its annual ACOP for review and implementation of Fair Housing issues.

#### 10. Attachments

- a. Attachment 1—Initial Notification
- b. Attachment 2—Formal Resident Notification





City of East Chicago

4527 Indianapolis Blvd.
East Chicago, Indiana 46312
219-391-8200 • 219-391-8397 FAX

July 22, 2016

# Mayor to Residents of West Calumet Housing Complex

Dear Resident:

Your health and safety are always my first priority.

When the City and the East Chicago Housing Authority ("ECHA") recently were informed by the EPA that the ground within the West Calumet Housing Complex was highly contaminated with lead and arsenic, we moved immediately to protect your safety, health, and welfare.

The identification of lead and arsenic poses potential dangers, and that is why I ordered the East Chicago Health Department to offer lead testing to you and your children. Now that we know the levels of lead in the ground in West Calumet Housing Complex, we feel it is in your best interest to temporarily relocate your household to safer conditions. ECHA is asking HUD to provide vouchers for safe, sanitary housing as soon as possible. Even though this may be a great inconvenience to you, it's necessary to protect you and your children from possible harm.

The staff of ECHA, including the Section 8 staff will be assisting you in the coming days, and we will continue to provide you with information as soon as it becomes available.

We ask for your patience and cooperation in this process.

Sincerely

Anthony Copeland Mayor

	ECHA Relocation Budget 2016								
					Footnote 1	Footnote 2	Footnote 3		
									Total Relocation
# of	Total #	Vacant #	Occupied	Indiana	Security	Utility	Application	Packing	Amt/Bbdrm
Bedrooms	Units	Units	# Units	Relo Amt	Deposits	hookups	Fees	Materials	Size
0	2		2	\$700	\$548	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$1,648
1	34	1	33	\$1,100	\$710	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$2,210
2	76		76	\$1,300	\$864	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$2,564
3	132	6	126	\$1,500	\$1,110	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$3,010
4	60	5	55	\$1,700	\$1,191	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$3,291
5	42	2	40	\$2,100	\$1,370	\$150	\$150	\$100	\$3,870
Total	346	14	332	\$8,400	\$5,793				\$16,593
10% continge	ency		_	_	_	_			

#### **Grand Total--Relocation Only**

average cost per household

TPV cost

#### **Grand Total w/TPV issuance**

Footnote 1: Security deposits are based on 100% of the proposed 2017 FMRs frot he jurisduiction; However, residents moving out of Footnote 2: Utility hookup is approximate. Currently, NIPSCO is waiving deposits for families relocating on the service area. However

Footnote 3: Application fees are approximated to be \$50 per application fee. It is anticipated an average of three per household

Footnote 4: Budget does not reflect relocation administrative and counseling costs.

Grand
total/Fixed
Relocation Amt
\$3,296
\$72,930
\$194,864
\$379,260
\$181,005
\$154,786
\$986,141
\$98,614
·

Security Deposit only	Relocation only	Utility hookups only	Application Fees only	Packing Materials Only
\$1,096	\$1,400	\$300	\$300	\$200
\$23,430	\$36,300	\$4,950	\$4,950	
\$65,664 \$139,860	\$98,800 \$189,000	\$11,400 \$18,900	\$11,400 \$18,900	\$7,600 \$12,600
\$65,505	\$93,500	\$8,250	\$8,250	
\$54,786	\$84,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$4,000
\$350,341	\$503,000	\$49,800	\$49,800	\$33,200

\$1,084,755

\$3,267

\$1,900,000 **\$2,984,755** 

ECHA jurisdiction will likely require higher security deposits. These additional funds are accounted for in the contingency.

<sup>,</sup> if a family moves out of the NIPSCO service area, than utility deposits may be required.

# ATTENTION WEST CALUMET RESIDENTS

FAMILY FUN DAY 3-7PM





INFORMATION

**GAMES** 

**BLOOD TESTING** 

FIRE SAFE HOUSE







Wednesday, September 7, 2016

OPEN
RELOCATION
BRIEFINGS
3pm & 6pm

One-on-One
informational
Sessions –
SET YOUR
APPPOINTMENT

Facilitate and Schedule Moves

#### 151<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNITY CENTER

4925 Gladiola
East Chicago, IN 46312
Phone:
219-392-3543 ext. 10
Email:
echainquiries@
cyrassociates.com

#### East Chicago Housing Authority Informational Briefing and Resident Fair

September 7, 2016 3pm and 6pm 151<sup>st</sup> Community Center 4925 Gladiola East Chicago, IN 46312

CVR & Associates relocation team, hired to provide technical assistance by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, facilitated the Relocation Resident Informational Briefing that occurred within the West Calumet Fun Day at the 151<sup>st</sup> Community Center, 4952 Gladiola East Chicago, IN on September 7, 2016. There were two session times -- 3 and 6pm with about 50 families attending the first session and 100 families attending the second session.

The informational briefing was led by Michael Tonovitz, CVR Senior Vice President, who outlined the opportunities and benefits associated with the East Chicago Housing Authority's (ECHA) Relocation plan and the role of the Relocation Counseling Services Center. Mapping out the several types of moves through each slide, residents were able to see the move types and responsibilities associated with those moves. A key concern for most residents has been how costs associated with the relocation will be reimbursed and under what parameters. Mr. Tonovitz explained what constitutes a reasonable moving expense as well as allowable expenses under the Relocation Plan. He also explained how to go about obtaining reimbursement for covered expenses such as security deposits, utility hook ups, application or background check; and, in addition, how the ECHA can pay these costs directly to the landlords or utility companies if the upfront cost are a burden on the family. Access to surplus appliances, transportation to prospective units, and move out assistance was also clarified. The floor was opened to questions following the session but no public inquiries were voiced. Residents were strongly encouraged to schedule appointments with the Relocation Specialists after each session and the majority of families in attendance as well as those who arrived after work did sign up for their individual counseling sessions. In addition, informational packets, which summarized the relocation benefits discussed during the presentation, were distributed while counselors met with dozens of residents one-on-one.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Regarding Lead at the West Calumet Housing Complex

# History

 The West Calumet Housing Complex is located within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. Superfund site.

### **Testing and Soil Removal**

- From 2003 through 2011, the EPA sampled soils in and near the West Calumet Housing Complex for lead and arsenic.
- Soil from 5 WCHC properties containing elevated levels of lead posing an imminent and substantial threat to human health was removed and replaced in 2011.
- EPA approved a clean-up plan for remaining yard areas of the WCHC in 2012. Under this plan, EPA has conducted additional soil testing regarding the presence of lead in the soil.

### **New Soil Sample Results**

- Recently, the EPA informed the City of East Chicago that new sampling results indicate that additional properties within WCHC have soils containing elevated levels of lead.
- The City expects that the EPA will be communicating with residents in the near future regarding lead in soils and EPA's clean-up plans.



The City of East Chicago is committed to protecting the public safety, health, and welfare of its residents.

#### **EPA Communications**

 The City of East Chicago and the East Chicago Housing Authority representatives are communicating with the EPA to find the best possible solution to provide a safe and healthy environment for the residents of the West Calumet Housing Complex.

#### **Blood-lead Testing**

- The City of East Chicago is seeking permission from parents to test blood-lead levels of children ages 0 to 17.
- Lead poisoning can cause permanent problems with health, learning, and behavior in young children.
- Children can be exposed to lead in the soil by breathing or ingesting lead particles while playing in the dirt or eating outside.

For more information or help understanding EPA soil test results contact us:

Phone: (219) 391-LEAD Email: <u>LEAD@eastchicago.com</u>

# Keeping our West Calumet Housing Complex Residents Safe from Lead

# Why is East Chicago asking to check our kids' blood for lead?

- A blood test is the only way to know if your child has been exposed to lead.
- Exposure to lead can have serious health effects, especially on children.

  The City of East Chicago believes it cannot be too cautious in protecting its residents and children from harm.

# What can I do to protect my children from lead? The most important step parents can take in protecting children is to prevent lead exposure before it happens.

- Don't allow kids to play outside in the dirt where they may breathe dust or ingest dirt.
- · Don't allow kids to eat outside, especially on windy days.
- Dust and dirt containing lead can be carried into your home on shoes and clothing.
   Wash hands and toys often, especially before eating and sleeping. Use soap and water.

# What are the City of East Chicago and ECHA doing?

The City of East Chicago and the East Chicago Housing Authority are communicating with the EPA to find the best possible solution to the lead in soils at WCHC. The City and the ECHA will provide additional information when it becomes available.

For more information about lead testing and keeping your family safe, contact us:

Phone: (219) 391-LEAD

Email: LEAD@eastchicago.com

