



NEWS

The United States Conference of Mayors

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USCM/DuPont Award \$80,000 to Cities For Lead-Safety Housing Rehabilitation Efforts

January 14, 2004, Washington – Today, The U.S. Conference of Mayors and DuPont proudly announced \$80,000 in awards to the inaugural winners of the *USCM-DuPont Spotlight on Excellence Awards Competition #1*. The *USCM-DuPont Spotlight on Excellence Awards* will award \$500,000 throughout 2004, and were created to highlight outstanding strategies to make cities lead-safe.

The City of Phoenix (AZ) received a \$35,000 award; the City of Providence (RI) a \$25,000 award and Kansas City (MO) \$20,000. For the first competition in a series of six, cities were asked to submit proposals outlining approaches to rehabilitate owner-occupied or rental housing units to a lead-safe condition.

“With an impressive total of 56 applications received for the initial competition of the *USCM-DuPont Spotlight on Excellence Awards*, we remain optimistic for the future of the awards,” noted USCM Executive Director Tom Cochran. “By having each competition be subject-specific to lead-safety issues, we will be able to compile an extensive array of lead-safe best practices for cities to easily implement nationwide.”

“The level of interest for these awards is proof of the strong commitment cities hold to creating a safe and secure environment for their residents,” said DuPont Public Affairs Manager Mary Kate Campbell. “DuPont is pleased to partner with mayors in supporting effective programs and we look forward to supporting other programs that help address this important public health issue.”

The second \$80,000 grant competition of the *USCM-DuPont Spotlight on Excellence Awards* will be announced at the USCM upcoming Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C. Information on the grant programs can be found on the USCM/DuPont Cities United for Science Progress (CUSP) official Web site at www.cusponline.org or at www.usmayors.org.

\$35,000 First Place Award

Phoenix, AZ

The City of Phoenix will expand its lead hazard control services to areas within the city that have older housing and are populated by low-income families with children under six. The city has estimated that the grant funds will allow the remediation of lead hazards in 8-15 single-family units or 10-20 multi-family units. All lead hazard control work will receive identification and enrollment assistance, scope writing, job monitoring, bid and contract processing, and family education as an in-kind contribution.

\$25,000 Second Place Award

Providence, RI

The City of Providence proposed a “healthy home” strategy to prevent housing problems before they reach judicial proceedings, houses are damaged and children are lead-poisoned.

Additionally, applicants to the city’s consolidated housing program will receive assistance to ensure properties are not in violation of lead-safety code and will be educated on lead-safety measures. Providence will also receive assistance from its growing Certified Lead Inspectors team to teach and train the existing inspection workforce and perform lead inspections on homes.

\$20,000 Third Place Award

Kansas City, MO

Kansas City will expand The Kansas City Health Department of Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (CLPPP) to support and encourage contractors to bid lead hazard control jobs by subsidizing insurance costs for contractors and developing an incentive program for contractors. The city will also leverage grant funds with other sources of revenue as part of a four-year strategic plan.

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