



# ALAMEDA COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

HEALTHY HOMES DEPARTMENT

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## **Elevated lead levels in the Fruitvale neighborhood children**

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A recent Reuter's media story is reporting elevated levels of lead in children in Oakland's Fruitvale neighborhood. As a provider of lead prevention services, the Alameda County Community Development Agency's Healthy Homes Department's Lead Poisoning Prevention Program has found that the most common sources of lead exposure in homes are deteriorated paint and lead in bare soil. Lead in water in Alameda County is not a problem.

The data presented by Reuters is from the 2012 California Department of Public Health Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Branch, where 502 children under the age of six years were tested for lead and 38 children were identified to have been lead-exposed through paint, soil or cultural practices.

The Healthy Homes Department provides health promotion services that include lead poisoning outreach and education, training, nursing case management and offers grants for lead paint repair to qualifying property owners of pre-1978 residential units.

The Healthy Homes Department encourages parents who are concerned about the lead exposure of their children under six years of age to contact their medical provider to request a blood lead test; this is the only way to know if your child has been exposed.

For more information, please visit the Alameda County Healthy Homes Department's website at [www.achhd.org](http://www.achhd.org).

