

# Proactive Lead Inspections

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## An Evidence-based Best Practice

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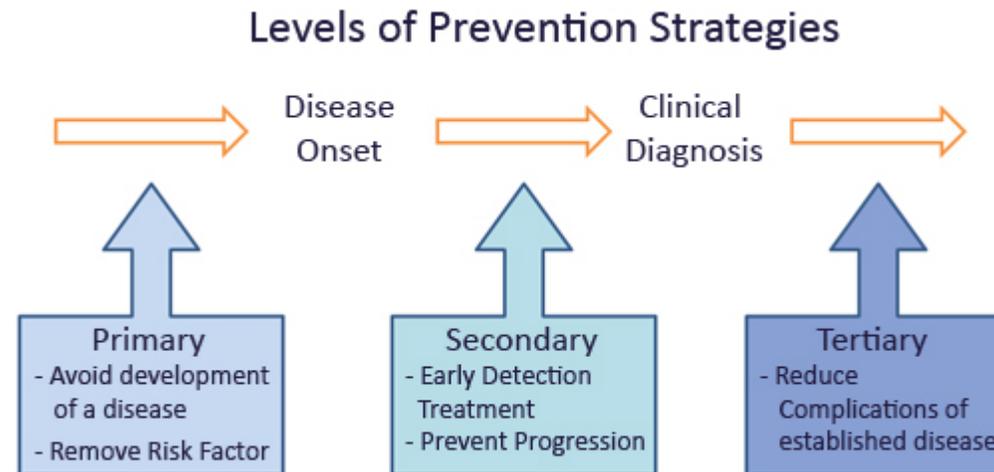


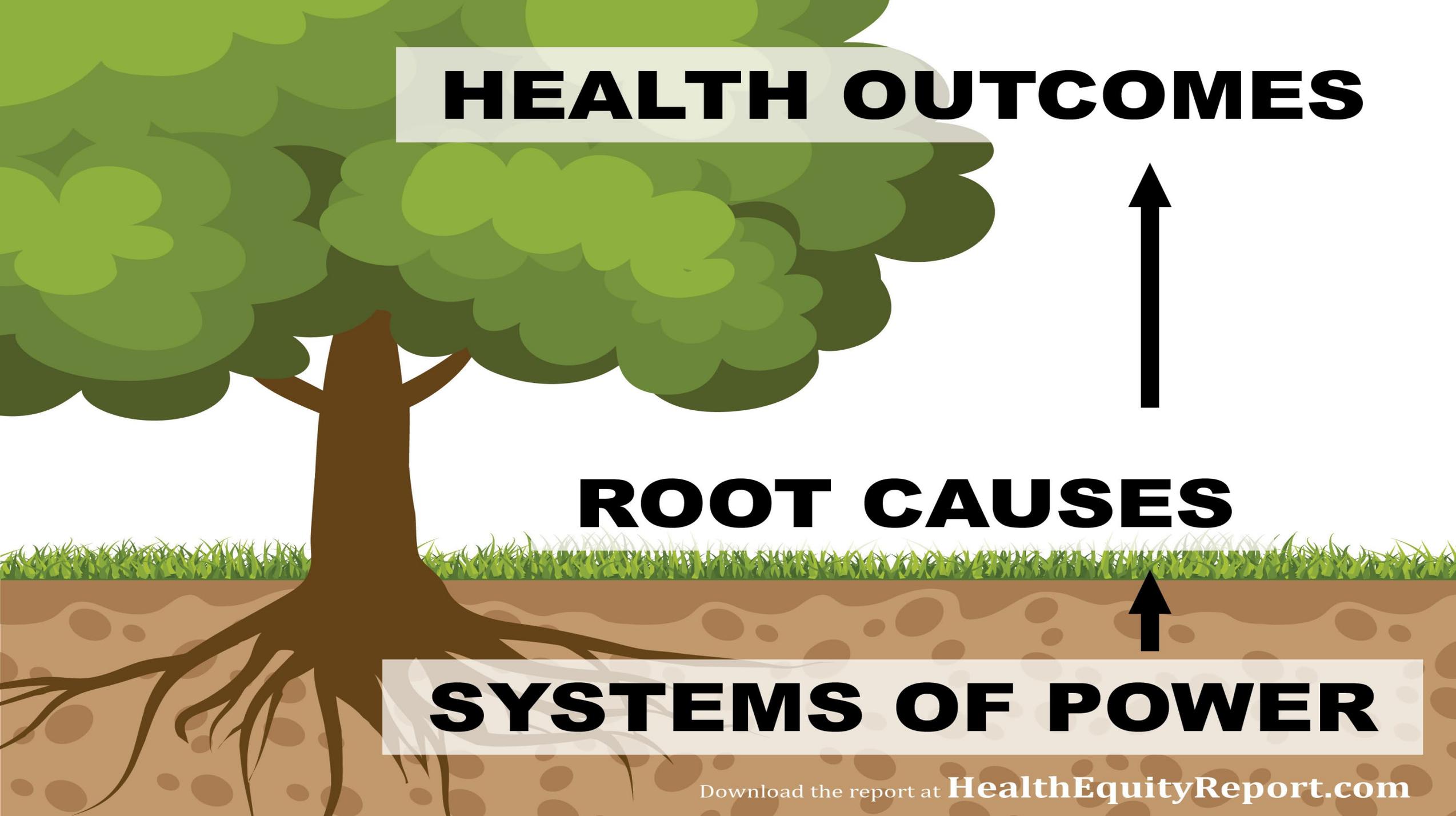
DEPARTMENT OF  
**PUBLIC HEALTH  
AND WELLNESS**



# Louisville's Current Tools are Insufficient

- Louisville's current lead safety tools are **reactive**.
- Designed to trigger only after lead poisoning has already occurred.





**HEALTH OUTCOMES**

**ROOT CAUSES**

**SYSTEMS OF POWER**

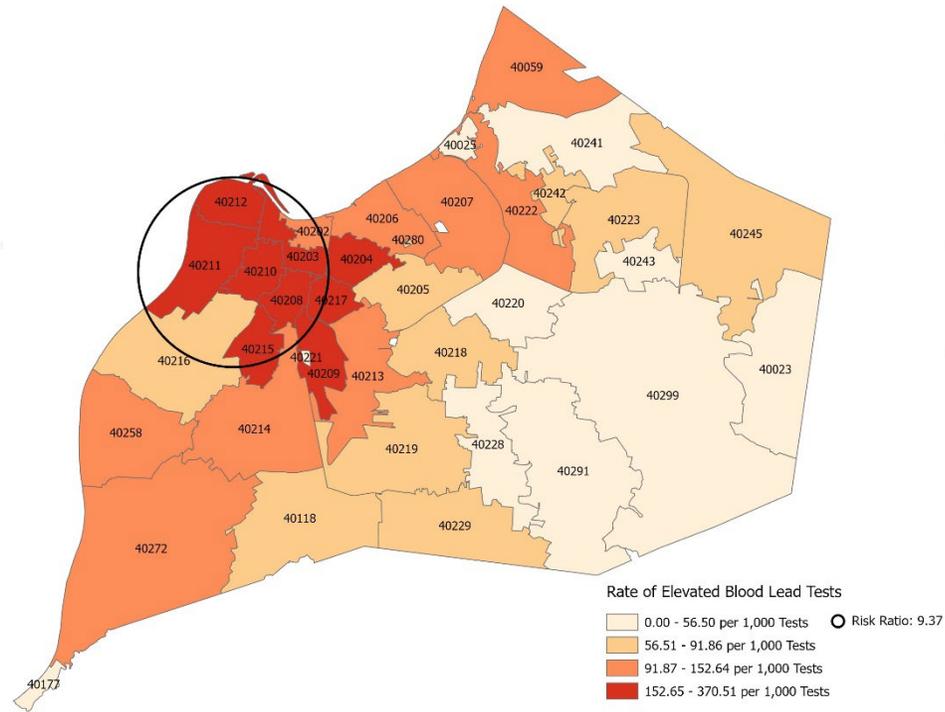
Download the report at [HealthEquityReport.com](https://HealthEquityReport.com)

# Lead exposure cannot be cured, but it can be prevented.

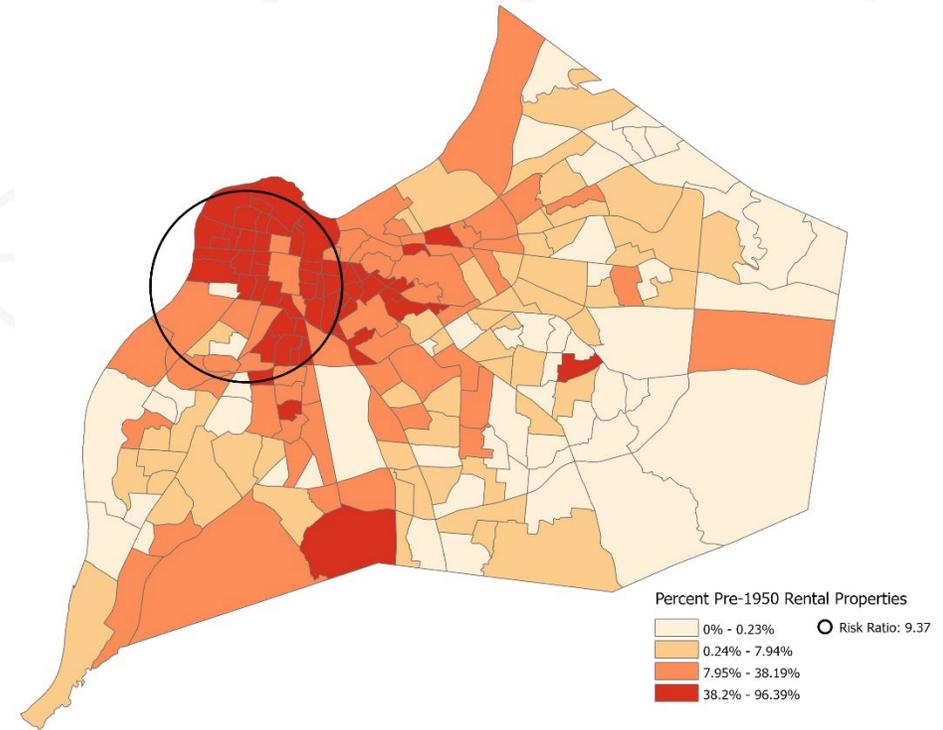
- Reacting **after** a child is diagnosed with lead poisoning is **too late**.
  - There is no known safe level of lead.
  - Damages from lead are known to last a lifetime.
  - Damages are largely irreversible.
  - One study calculates a \$50,000 lifetime social cost of lead
  - Our cost for the 9,823 confirmed cases of lead poisoning in Louisville from 2005-2021 could be up to \$491 million.

# Lead poisoning

## Rates of EBLL



## % of pre-1950s rental housing



# Pro-active Lead Inspections: The Evidence Base

- **Rochester, NY**

- Studies show after 5 years, child lead poisoning dropped 2x as fast in Rochester as in the rest of New York.
- 13.4% to 1.1%, compared to the state decline in rate from 6.6% to 1.0%

- **Detroit, MI**

- After 2010 inspection ordinance, percent of children under 6 testing positive for EBLI fell from 19% to 9% in 5 years, more than double the rate of Michigan as a whole.

# Where else are pro-active inspections practiced?

- Philadelphia, PA
- Pittsburgh, PA
- Rochester, NY
- New York, NY
- Cleveland, OH
- Detroit, MI
- Washington, DC
- San Diego, CA
- State of New Jersey
- State of Maryland
- State of Rhode Island

# Organizations endorsing pro-active lead safety inspections as best practice

- National Center for Healthy Housing
- Change-lab Solutions / City Health [endorsing pro-active rental inspections, including for lead]
- New York City Coalition to End Lead Poisoning
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Health Justice Advocacy Clinic, Columbia University Law School