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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
**MIAMI COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH RECEIVES \$500 GRANT FROM THE TROY
FOUNDATION**

TROY, OHIO (07/17/2018) Miami County Public Health will be helping the community decrease lead exposure. In 2016 Miami County Public Health began the Lead Prevention Program. This program was designed to help decrease lead poisoning in children in Miami County through community outreach and education. According to the Ohio Department of Health, Miami County has three high risk zip codes for lead exposure which include Piqua, Tipp City, and Troy. There is no safe level of lead exposure and children in these high risk areas should be tested yearly up to the age of 6. Lead exposure can cause learning problems, slow growth, lower IQ, behavior problems, hyperactivity, and decrease attention span in children. If a pregnant mother is exposed to lead possible effects include early birth, low birth weight, or even miscarriage.

Thanks to a \$500 grant from the General Fund of The Troy Foundation Miami County Public Health will be purchasing lead testing kits. These kits will be available at various community events and free to pregnant mothers and families with young children. The kits can be used to test water, soil, and surfaces in homes to check for possible lead. This will help families with small children or pregnant mothers lower their risk of lead exposure and possible negative health effects.

For more information, visit <https://www.miamicountyhealth.net/lead-poisoning>.

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