



# LEADSAFECNY

## 2024 IMPACT OVERVIEW

In 2018, the Community Foundation committed to invest \$2 million in an effort to decrease childhood lead poisoning rates in Syracuse. Since then, more than \$2.6 million has been distributed. And in 2024, the Community Foundation announced it would be funding an additional \$1 million toward this issue. Here's a look at some of the impact LeadSafeCNY has had so far in the community. Visit [leadsafecny.org](https://leadsafecny.org) for more information about our grants and their impact.



## HOME HEADQUARTERS

Home HeadQuarters is committed to creating housing services in Central and Upstate New York that improve the lives of unrepresented people and help shape and support the communities in which they live. One of its programs, the Syracuse Window & Exterior Door Replacement Program, allows for concentrated improvements to lessen lead-based paint exposure and reduce lead-based paint violations. With the support of over \$1,060,000 in LeadSafeCNY grants, the organization has been working to decrease the prevalence of lead hazards in rental housing, particularly in neighborhoods with some of the most severe lead poisoning rates in the city. "The Central New York Community Foundation's LeadSafeCNY initiative has helped support Home HeadQuarters' healthy housing activities over the last six years, as we partner to improve housing, train contractors, and educate residents. The Window and Door Replacement Program in particular has allowed Home HeadQuarters to remove the most common vectors of lead exposure from rental housing in neighborhoods where lead poisoning rates are among the highest. There is no more impactful strategy to combat this epidemic than actually removing these hazards from our environment, and we would have had far less success in these efforts without the support of the Community Foundation," says Kerry Quaglia, Home HeadQuarters CEO.



## BABY B.A.C.K. INC.

Founded in 1999, BABY B.A.C.K. INC. (BBI) is a New York State and New York City Certified Minority Business Enterprise that provides many behavior and health services to individuals. BBI works to build healthier communities by minimizing health disparities that exist in socially, culturally, and economically diverse neighborhoods. The organization received \$50,000 to conduct an awareness campaign about the impact lead poisoning has on young kids in the city of Syracuse. Through the creation of an educational video and quiz, BABYBACK was able to provide children and their families with the information they need to be alert for possible signs of lead poisoning. Entrants were eligible to receive prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1000, and were encouraged to turn in their own creative projects that spread awareness on the issue. "The idea was to get the entire community to become knowledgeable on the risks of lead poisoning", said Gerald Seals, president and CEO at BBI. "This project gave us the opportunity to show our creative sides in regards to outreach and awareness within historically marginalized communities, where people are disproportionately impacted by lead poisoning".



## CENTER FOR JUSTICE INNOVATION

The Center for Justice Innovation, formerly known as the Center for Court Innovation, seeks to reduce the need for the justice system within the community. While lead paint was banned from use 40 years ago, local children are still being poisoned in their own homes at an alarming rate. The Center for Justice innovation understands these disparities, and works to combat these challenges by working on the ground within the community. With the support of a \$56,000 LeadSafeCNY grant, the Center for Justice Innovation is working with city ambassadors who are striving to improve code enforcement access to buildings for lead inspection, and provide information and resources to landlords and residents who are seeking improvements to their living situations. “We are working hard to fill in the gaps, and to present people with the resources and education they need to understand the effects of lead poisoning”, says Jan Juba, city ambassador. “There are always more gaps to fill in, but the funding has helped identify community led solutions to address the homes at risk,” she reflects.

## STATISTICS & OUTCOMES

Each LeadSafeCNY investment is changing the lives of Syracuse children now and in the future. See how we are doing.

Numbers as of June 2024:



### Overall Syracuse childhood lead poisoning rates

2007: 11%  
↓  
2023: 9%

### Childhood lead poisoning rates in target Census Tract 23

2017: 21%  
↓  
2023: 13%

### Childhood lead poisoning rates in target Census Tract 54

2017: 24%  
↓  
2023: 11%

