

ALEXANDRIA HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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David C. Rose, MD, MBA, FAAP Health Director

Dear Naomi L. Brooks Community,

Alexandria Health Department would like to share some guidance and educational resources regarding potential lead exposure.

Lead exposure commonly happens when people put items containing lead in their mouths or when people breathe in lead dust in the air. If people - especially very young children and pregnant people - are exposed to lead, they can face harmful effects.

The only way to know if someone has lead in their blood is to take a test. You can get a test and health guidance through a health care provider. If you do not have a medical provider, call the Alexandria Health Department at 703.746.4988. An immediate emergency room or urgent care visit is not necessary for testing.

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) provides lead safety information that is available in various languages: <u>VDH Lead Safe Educational Materials</u>.

Find additional information about preventing childhood lead poisoning from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning.

For more information on the lead and health, visit the <u>Virginia Department of Health's Childhood</u> <u>Lead Poisoning Prevention Program</u> or call Alexandria Health Department's call center during normal business hours at 703.746.4988.

Sincerely,

David C. Rose, MD, MBA, FAAP Director Alexandria Health Department