

WASHINGTON, DC – Senator Richard Blumenthal and Congressman Joe Courtney today applauded more than \$2 million in grant awards from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to combat lead paint and other home health hazards in Norwich. In all, the City of Norwich was awarded \$ 1,927,857 in Lead Based Paint Hazard Control grant program funding and \$180,000 in healthy homes supplemental funding for the identification and reduction of home health hazards in 95 housing units.

“This funding helps protect children and families from the devastating health effects of lead paint and other hazards in the home,” **said Senator Blumenthal.** “I am proud to have supported projects that will have such a broad and lasting impact on the health and safety of Connecticut families by identifying and eliminating these hazards where they exist.”

“I strongly supported Norwich’s application for this grant, and wrote to HUD last year to express how large an impact such funding would have on the town and community,” **said Congressman Courtney.**

“In addition to the obvious health problems lead paint poses, its presence in older housing stock in Norwich is a severe hindrance to a healthy real estate market. This funding is a pro-growth boost to the city and all its homeowners who will benefit from the added value that lead-paint remediation will bring. I have personally visited past clean-up projects the city has undertaken, and I can attest that this program provides construction jobs for local contractors, as well as healthier dwellings for Norwich’s residents.”

Twenty-four percent of dwellings built between 1960 and 1978 are likely to contain lead; 69 percent of dwellings built between 1940 and 1960 are likely to contain lead; and 87 percent of dwellings built before 1940 are likely to contain lead.

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