

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Every Ramsey County resident deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe environment, free from the harmful effects of lead; and

WHEREAS, Lead is a naturally occurring element in the environment, but exposure to it can cause long-term neurological damage and irreversible health effects, especially if it occurs during the critical stages of brain development in early childhood; and

WHEREAS, 152 Ramsey County children or 1.3 percent of those tested under 6 years of age in 2019 had an elevated blood lead level; and

WHEREAS, Lead exposure disproportionately and inequitably affects racially and ethnically diverse communities and low-income populations living in housing that is older and with deteriorated paint, and should be examined as an environmental justice concern; and

WHEREAS, Lead poisoning is preventable with simple steps that can be taken to protect all family members from lead based-paint hazards in the home; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County works to increase the testing of children determined to be at-risk for lead exposure and to educate and raise community awareness about the dangers of lead to protect the lives of children living in Ramsey County; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares the week of October 24-30, 2021, as Lead Poisoning Prevention Week in Ramsey County; and Be It Further

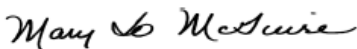
PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners recognizes the community partners and staff working to prevent lead poisoning in our community and encourages all residents and residential building owners to learn more about lead hazards and services available to protect children and families.



Toni Carter, Board Chair, District 4



Nicole Frethem, Commissioner, District 1



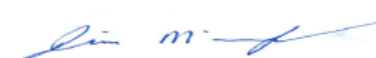
Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2



Trista MatasCastillo, Commissioner, District 3



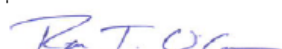
Rafael E. Ortega, Commissioner, District 5



Jim McDonough, Commissioner, District 6



Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, District 7



Ryan T. O'Connor, County Manager