



Community Advisory Council Presentation

Housing Outreach & Paint Programs

Presented by

Jo Higgins & Mark McNamara

Mission and Vision

MISSION

LakewoodAlive is a community-centered nonprofit organization that fosters and sustains vibrant, welcoming neighborhoods.

VISION

A welcoming community that thrives on engaged residents, desirable housing, and an entrepreneurial spirit — connecting strong, diverse neighborhoods to maximize quality of life.

THREE AREAS OF FOCUS

1 Housing Outreach

2 Thriving Commercial Corridors

3 Quality of Life Events

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Housing Outreach Program

Program began in 2009 in response to the housing crisis, helping residents stay in their homes and keeping neighborhoods in good repair.

The mission of this program is to strive to ensure that all residents are living in healthy and safe housing.

PROGRAM STAFF

Executive Director

Jo Higgins

Community Engagement Specialist

Mark McNamara

Lakewood Tool Box & Housing Outreach Coordinator

Matt Clark



JANUARY 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2025

Who We Serve



783

CLIENT HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

396

NON-DUPLICATED
TOUCHPOINTS

88%

LOW-TO-MODERATE INCOME

50%

FEMALE HEAD OF HOUSE

67%

SENIOR CITIZENS (62+)

Programs & Education We Provide

- Paint Lakewood Program
- Community Engagement
- Bed Bug Program
- Project Safety Serve
- Project Safe Senior (Aging-in-Place Assessments)
- Knowing Your Home
- One-on-one client meetings



Housing Outreach Program



- The Lakewood Tool Box: tool lending library
- The Pride Fund: loan guarantee program
- Volunteer project coordination
- Assist with City loan and rebate programs
- Contractor referrals
- Snow shoveling for seniors
- Leverage partnerships for additional services

2025 PROGRAM RESULTS

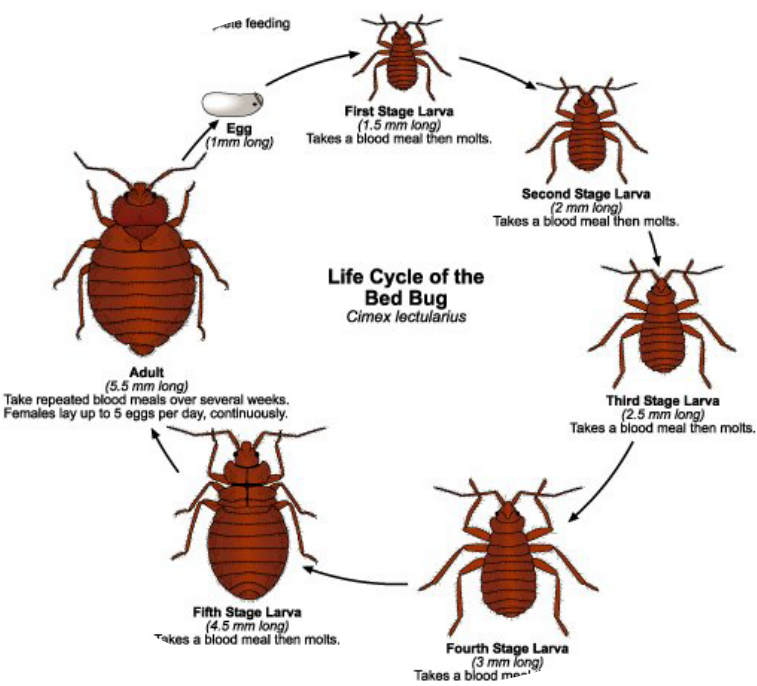
Housing Outreach and Paint Programs Impact

By the numbers

Bed Bug Support

Service	Jan–Dec 2025	2016–2025
Phone calls / referrals*	128	730
In-person meetings*	57	208
Treated	14	214
Remediated (confirmed bug-free)	6	150
Single-family home	4	38
Multi-family	10	225

* Includes all communication to close a case.



Life cycle of the bed bug

Project Safe Senior

- Identify ways for seniors to remain safely in their homes
- Assess mobility and eliminate fall hazards
- For low-moderate income seniors, purchase and install basic equipment (grant funded)
- Layer with new smoke detector installations
- Referrals to the Neighborhood Paramedic
- Attempt to locate (and repair) basic furniture and appliances, including beds
- Advocacy for senior tenants

Equipping Seniors to Age in Place

24

FULL AGING-IN-PLACE
ASSESSMENTS IN 2025

18

BEDS PROVIDED TO SENIORS
(GRANT-FUNDED)

Grant-funded home safety equipment provided includes grab bars, transfer poles, handheld shower heads, and shower/transfer chairs to help aging residents move through their homes safely.

In 2025, LakewoodAlive was able to provide 18 beds from a Pilot Program funded by the Rotary Club.



Shower chair · Grab Bars · Transfer pole

Working with the City's DCD

LakewoodAlive works hand-in-hand with the City's Department of Community Development, connecting residents with low-interest loan, zero-interest deferred loan, and rebate programs.

It is LakewoodAlive's observation that projects are becoming more complex and often require multiple programs to fund. LakewoodAlive stays in continual contact with DCD and meets weekly to coordinate on projects.

17

PROJECTS LA HELPED MOVE THROUGH CITY'S
LOAN APPROVAL PROCESS IN 2025

\$195,927

TOTAL FUNDS GRANTED TO RESIDENTS

Volunteer Project Program

MISSION

We work to ensure that all residents are connected to available resources that will improve:

Health & safety

Quality of life

Appearance of their home,
to regain pride in their homes

Code Compliance, by working
with the Building Department
and Prosecutor

The program works with residents who do not have the financial capacity to complete health and safety repairs. Primary focus is on families at 50% of area median income or less.

Volunteer Impact

30

PROJECTS

170

VOLUNTEERS

450

HOURS

This does not include our Volunteer SNOW Rangers program, which connected 150 homes to over 50 volunteers.



Working Alongside Our Partners



Paint Lakewood Program

The Paint Lakewood Program is a grant designed to help reduce the cost of exterior painting for low-to-moderate income households.

- Grant funds go toward exterior paint and labor
- Not meant to cover the full cost, rather to make the job more affordable, as paint job costs continue to rise
- Homeowners must contribute a minimum of 10% to participate
- Grant amount awarded is on a sliding scale, based on household income
- All contractors are EPA Lead-Safe Certified; a lead clearance inspection is completed after painting

Paint Lakewood Program Impact

7

GRANTS AWARDED

\$52,000

CDBG FUNDS LEVERAGED

\$70,958

TOTAL FINANCIAL IMPACT

Over the lifetime of the project (2010–2025), 159 grants have been awarded with a total financial impact of \$751,000.

- 43% of awards went to households below 50% of AMI (\$8,000 grant)
- 57% of awards went to households between 50–60% of AMI (\$7,000 grant)
- 63% were elderly citizens
- 63% were female heads of household
- 38% were single female senior heads of household



Before & After



Before & After



2025 PROGRAM RESULTS

Housing Outreach and Paint Programs Impact

Collaboration

Partnerships

PARTNERS

- City of Lakewood Division of Community Development
- City of Lakewood Division of Refuse and Recycling
- Cleveland Housing Network (CHN)
- Volunteers from The Lantern

PROJECT SCOPE

- House cleanout
- Insulation
- Furnace / AC
- Electrical panel and upgrades
- Bathroom renovation



Partnerships

PARTNERS

- City of Lakewood Division of Housing and Building
- City of Lakewood Prosecutor's Office
- The LakewoodAlive A-Team Volunteers

PROJECT SCOPE

- New steps
- Porch repairs
- Sidewalk pad



Partnerships

PARTNERS

- City of Lakewood Division of Community Development
- Sherwin Williams
- 4 volunteer groups

PROJECT SCOPE

- New front porch
- New furnace and hot water tank
- Electrical panel replacement and service upgrade
- Exterior paint
- Yard cleanout



Partnerships

PARTNERS

- City of Lakewood Division of Aging
- Cuyahoga County Scam Squad
- Cuyahoga County Adult Protective Services
- United States Attorney's Office
- Lakewood Police Department
- Lakewood Fire Department
- Volunteers

HOW THEY HELP

Support

Cleanout

Connections



Thank You



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