

Urban League gets HUD fair housing grant

The Department of Housing and Urban, Development recently announced the award of \$18.1 million in grants to 102 groups in 85 cities throughout the nation to help reduce housing discrimination..

The award included \$100,000 for the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis in, Missouri.,

'The grants will help us continue our efforts to educate the public and the housing industry about their rights and responsibilities under the Fair Housing Act,' said Kim Kendrick; HUD's assistant secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity.

"People should not be, denied the opportunity to live where they want because of how they look, or the religion they practice, or because they have a disability."

Grants were awarded under one of two initiatives:

Private Enforcement Initiative grants (PEI) - HUD awarded \$13.9 million to assist groups in the investigation and enforcement of alleged violations of the Fair Housing Act and substantially equivalent state and local fair housing laws.

Education and Outreach Initiative grants (EOI) - HUD awarded \$4.2 million to groups that educate the public, and housing providers about their rights and obligations under federal, state, and local fair housing laws.

HUD ,battles lead paint

Three Missouri ,organizations have



, Kim Kendrick, "HUD's, assistant secretary for Fair Housing and , Equal Opportunity

also .been-awarded \$10,741,122 in lead-based paint grants to be used in various ways to combat lead poisoning and resulting illnesses.

St. Louis County received a \$2.715,390 grant for lead hazard control

Saint Louis University received grants of \$530,000 for lead hazard control and \$495,732 through HUD's "Healthy Homes Initiative.

A variety of preventable health and safety hazards threaten children every year. For example, excessive dust or moisture in the home can trigger asthma. Injuries from scalding, electrical shock or carbon monoxide poisoning can easily be prevented with-modest home repairs. HUD's

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Healthy Homes Initiative addresses these and other childhood diseases and injuries in the home by taking a holistic approach and approaches housing-related hazards in a coordinated fashion, rather than addressing a single hazard at a time.