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## MEDIA RELEASE

**Date:** March 1, 2016

**Release Date:** Immediately

**End date:** March 19, 2016

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**Re:** Massive Lead Screening Clinic at New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church in Collaboration with the Genesee County Health Department

Genesee County Health Department in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and our community partners: University of Michigan-Flint School of Health Professions, Molina Health Care and McLaren Health Plan will host a massive lead screening event on Saturday, March 19 from 9:00am to 5:00pm at New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist Church. The goal of this clinic is to have all babies and children living in the high risk zip codes, 48501 through 48507 and those living in Burton and Flint Township receiving Flint water be tested for lead by April 1, 2016.

“Lead poisoning is a very serious condition that can cause delays and difficulty learning for babies and young children. The Genesee County Health Department would like to remind parents that it is vitally important to get your baby and young child tested for lead poisoning if they have not been tested since October 1, 2015. Yes, lead does stay in the blood for a short period of time, however there are potentially multiple sources of lead exposure particularly if you live in older housing,” stated Genesee County Health Department, Nurse Director, Toni LaRocco. The lead test also provides a benchmark for our babies and young children as a health monitor tool in the future.

The New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist church lead clinic will provide blood testing at no charge to children age newborn to age of 17 years old. Please bring your insurance card if you have insurance. There will be lead poisoning education, nutrition advice, information on how to keep your family safe, as well as giveaways. A health care provider will be available at the clinic to explain your child’s test results. Adults who bring their babies and children may also be tested for lead at no charge.

New Jerusalem Full Gospel Baptist church is located at 1035 E. Carpenter Road, Flint, 48505 and is handicap accessible. If you have questions regarding this and future lead clinics, go to the Genesee County Health Department’s website at [http://www.gchd.us/flint\\_drinking\\_water\\_resources.php](http://www.gchd.us/flint_drinking_water_resources.php) and click on the Lead Community Awareness Events link.

Genesee County Health Department.

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