



City of Grand Rapids, Michigan

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ROSALYNN C. BLISS
MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, home health and safety hazards, including physical safety hazards, lead-based paint, radon, mold, pests and allergens cause or contribute to a wide range of illnesses and diseases such as lead poisoning, asthma, cancer and injuries; and

WHEREAS, these conditions and their health outcomes are known to negatively impact children's readiness for kindergarten, attendance and success in school; and

WHEREAS, there were 465 lead-poisoned children living in the city of Grand Rapids in 2015, and hundreds more are exposed each year; and

WHEREAS, the 49507 ZIP code in Grand Rapids had the most number of children lead poisoned of any ZIP code in the state of Michigan in 2015; and

WHEREAS, asthma is a leading cause of pediatric visits to the emergency room and often is triggered by such things as dampness, mold, dust mites, pests, tobacco smoke and other allergens and irritants in the home; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of children in our city suffer the ill effects of chemicals stored and used improperly in the home, and carbon monoxide poisoning in the home from malfunctioning furnaces, water heaters, stoves, ovens and other gas burning appliances are a constant threat; and

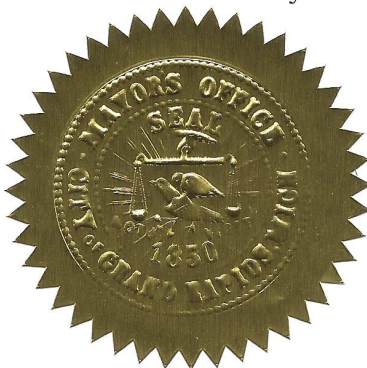
WHEREAS, many families and households in our city are unaware that their homes can have serious health hazards; and

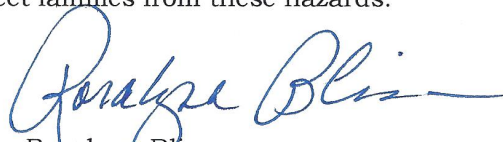
WHEREAS, education and awareness about the dangers of unhealthy or unsafe housing can save lives;

Now, THEREFORE, I, Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor of the City of Grand Rapids, do hereby proclaim June 2017 as

Healthy Homes Month

in Grand Rapids and encourage all citizens and community leaders to participate in programs and activities that enhance public awareness of home health and safety hazards and the ways we can protect families from these hazards.




Rosalynn Bliss