



CITY OF ELIZABETH P R E S S R E L E A S E



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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THE CITY OF ELIZABETH IS NAMED THE FUNDRED DOLLAR BILL PROJECT CHAMPS

ELIZABETH, June 7, 2010 – Mayor J. Christian Bollwage was on hand to receive an award from the Fundred Dollar Organization for the City of Elizabeth collecting the most fundred dollars. The Fundred Dollar Project is a national project to raise awareness on the dangers of lead poisoning, to generate funds to make a safe environment for children of New Orleans, a city hard hit by the devastating effects of lead pollutants. Various day care centers throughout the city participated in this project. Also present at this event was the New Jersey Office of the Child Advocate, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Deborah Cohen, New Jersey Department of Human Services, Crystal Motlasz, New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, and Lorraine Nietos, New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

“The Fundred Dollar Project is a great way to increase lead poisoning awareness to those that are most affected; our children” said Mayor J. Christian Bollwage. “All the participating partners did a wonderful job educating and involving children in this important project.”

The City of Elizabeth and other cities in New Jersey that have established Model Lead-Safe City relationships with the New Jersey Office of the Child Advocate gathered at this public event on Thursday, June 3, 2010 in the Elizabethport Presbyterian Child Care Center, 154 1st Street. Prior to the ceremony, guests and children from the day care center were entertained by the Elizabeth High School Marching Band and the children were allowed to place their fundred dollars in the clean energy armored vehicle.

The special vehicle has been deployed across the nation to pick up the drawings and deliver the art currency to Washington, D.C.

“I am always drawn to causes that affect our children”, stated Assemblywoman Annette Quijano. “This is a disease that is preventable and the more we can educate families and children, the more we can avoid this disease from spreading.”

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Tory Tepp, the Fundred Armored Truck Driver and Touring Representative, was on hand to receive the art currency. “This event was great because it included all of the components of public health, community groups, and public officials.” “Many facets of the community were represented and stepped forth to support the event. Everyone is together on the case.”

The Fundred event in New Jersey is designed to provide educational opportunities about the dangers of lead poisoning and to increase overall awareness about the dangers of lead contamination. Local organizers also hope that increased federal funding for lead remediation would be directed to all states, including New Jersey. For more information visit: (www.fundred.org)