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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR INFORMATION CALL

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February 7, 2018

**Ald. Tony Zielinski**  
(414) 405-1483

## Alderman Zielinski aims to harness funds from the Department of Health Services for lead awareness

Alderman Tony Zielinski calls on the Department of Health Services (DHS) to allocate funding for community education programs regarding lead exposure. Milwaukee has been dealing with lead laterals that impact the city's drinking water, as well as aging housing units that have lead paint.

Ald. Zielinski is the Co-Chair of the Nutrition & Lead Task Force to increase awareness of the dangers of lead for infants, children through age 6, and women of child bearing age by creating an education campaign. Ald. Zielinski has called upon DHS to allocate \$3.9 million in unexpended SNAP-Ed funding this year that could be applied to the Well Fed Means Less Lead campaign. The unexpended funds are needed to address the critical issue of outreach with an education campaign.

Ald. Zielinski said the allocation of funding is not dispersed appropriately to address the issue, saying, "SNAP-Ed funding allocations are not reflective of community need or the SNAP-Ed population as 35% of SNAP recipients in Wisconsin reside in Milwaukee County. I see an opportunity for the Department of Health Services to provide funding needed for community education on lead exposure, as well as an opportunity to remediate this problematic allocation issue."

Ald. Zielinski is calling on DHS to resolve the issue and be a partner in solving the citywide public health risk.