**Advocacy Committee Chair Report February 2025**

The Advocacy Committee is dedicated to empowering and elevating the voices of directly impacted families from Milwaukee’s northside to equitably end lead poisoning in the city. The committee focuses on **three key advocacy goals**:

**Top Three Advocacy Goals and Objectives**:

1. Proactive Lead Prevention Policies:

○ Achieve policies that prevent lead exposure before children are poisoned.

○ Hold landlords accountable for maintaining lead-safe properties, including regular

inspections and compliance with lead safety standards.

2. Comprehensive Lead Lateral Replacement:

○ Replace all lead laterals in Milwaukee within ten years.

○ Ensure all affected households have access to water filters during the

replacement process to guarantee safe drinking water.

3. Consistent Lead Testing Protocols:

○ Ensure that lead protocols for testing are consistently followed for all children.

○ Engage MPS, MHD, and WDHS and other agencies to provide/increase lead testing on a consistent basis.

A significant action was the successful Town Hall meeting held on October 12th, 2024 which brought attention to the urgent need for replacing Milwaukee’s 65,000 lead service lines. Notable attendees included José Pérez, President of the Milwaukee City Council, and Patrick Pauly, Superintendent of Milwaukee Water Works. Following the event, Milwaukee Water Works requested additional state funding to replace an extra 500 lead laterals in 2026.

The next Town Hall meeting is scheduled for **February 17, 2025 at 3:00 PM at Hephatha Lutheran Church**. This meeting, entitled "Low Maintenance/High Rent," will focus on addressing high rent and low-quality housing, with the goal of holding landlords accountable for maintaining lead-safe

**Chair:** Tony Wilkin Gibart **Contact at**: tgibart@midwestadvocates.org