North Carolina went from fifteenth to second in U.S. hog production between the mid-1980s and the mid-1990s. This growth—and the health impacts that accompany it—has clustered largely in the eastern half of the state, where concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) are typically sited in low-income, minority communities. As growing evidence demonstrates the adverse health effects of CAFO emissions, a handful of pioneers are experimenting with environmentally superior technologies in an effort to turn hog farms into better neighbors.
Unsafe Harbor? Elevated Blood Lead Levels in Refugee Children
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Refugee children in the United States have proven to be at particular risk for elevated blood lead. Some arrive in this country with high blood lead levels attributable not only to leaded gasoline and lead-based paint but also culture-specific routes of exposure, including artisanal pottery and traditional folk remedies. Others encounter lead hazards only after they immigrate, often a result of living in older housing with flaking lead-based paint. Educating refugees about lead hazards requires sensitivity to cultural mores and awareness of potential communication barriers.

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