

BREATHING EASIER *in*

MICHIGAN



SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE
MICHIGAN ASTHMA PREVENTION
AND CONTROL PROGRAM

“Asthma is a public health issue because it is a chronic disease that needs management in every aspect of daily life, not just in the doctor’s office. Interventions and policy efforts by our program that impact asthma care and environments cannot be sustained without CDC’s support.”

JOHN DOWLING

lead asthma coordinator
MICHIGAN ASTHMA PREVENTION
AND CONTROL PROGRAM

All information and data provided
by the Michigan Department of
Community Health Asthma Prevention
and Control Program

THE PROBLEMS:

- As of 2011, 10 percent of Michigan children and adults were currently living with asthma and 14 percent had been diagnosed with the chronic respiratory disease at some point in their lives.
- In 2010, Michigan residents were hospitalized for asthma more than 15,000 times. That same year, there were 15,000 emergency department visits for asthma among children in Medicaid.
- Almost a third of the time children in Medicaid with persistent asthma see a doctor for asthma, it is in the emergency department.



THE PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE TO ASTHMA:

The Michigan Asthma Prevention and Control Program and its partners focus on groups with the greatest needs. They increase asthma awareness, educate people on how to avoid environmental asthma triggers, partner with local stakeholders, and help residents manage their own health. And their efforts are paying off.

- The Michigan Asthma Prevention and Control Program helps implement and promote Managing Asthma Through Case-Management in Homes (MATCH) in four regions with high asthma rates. MATCH offers home visits, an environmental assessment, access to a certified asthma educator, and a physician care conference. The results? A 60 percent decrease in asthma-related emergency department visits and an 82 percent decrease in hospitalizations within the previous six months; a 58 percent decrease in the number of children who missed one or more school days due to asthma; and a 145 percent increase in the number of patients with asthma action plans. As of spring 2013, three out of four programs were sustainable through health plan reimbursement.
- The Michigan asthma program and its healthy homes partners work with families living in low-income, multi-unit housing via Asthma Control through Education and Environment (ACE). Such residents tend to be at higher risk of serious asthma complications. ACE participants meet with a certified asthma educator and community health worker, who spend months working with families on triggers and asthma self-management. ACE also engages housing authorities directly. For example, asthma staff facilitated an integrated pest management training for the Lansing Housing Commission staff.
- Since 2010, the Michigan asthma program has been promoting its Guideline Implementation Steps and Tools, a set of five tools that primary care providers can use to provide simplified, guidelines-based asthma care. Many practices are now working to integrate the tools into their electronic medical records systems.
- In Michigan, asthma results in millions of dollars in health care costs — costs that are largely preventable through an evidence-based, public health approach to asthma control.

CDC’s National Asthma Control Program

Michigan is one of 36 states that receives funding and technical support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s National Asthma Control Program. Since 1999, CDC has been leading public health efforts to prevent costly asthma complications, create asthma-friendly environments, and empower people living with asthma with the tools they need to better manage their own health. **Find out more at www.cdc.gov/asthma.**

