Asthma Disparities Initiative –
Linking Asthma Self-Management Education
to Community Mobilization Efforts

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Disclaimer

This presentation is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention cooperative agreement number 1U59EH000502-01. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
Objectives of Presentation

• Describe an overview of APCP
• Review disparities in asthma hospitalizations among Massachusetts residents
• Describe the Asthma Disparities Initiative model
• Present the evidence supporting a hybrid model to address asthma disparities in local communities
Asthma Prevention and Control Program (APCP)

• Mission: Improve quality of life for all people with asthma and reduce asthma disparities
• Funded by CDC and NIH
• Statewide Partnership: Massachusetts Asthma Action Partnership (MAAP)
• In 2009 APCP released:
  – The Burden of Asthma in Massachusetts
  – A Strategic Plan for Asthma in Massachusetts 2009-2014
Strategic Plan for Asthma in MA

Goal 2: Improve asthma management for MA residents

Objective A: Reduce disparities in asthma outcomes

www.mass.gov/dph/asthma
Massachusetts:
A High Burden of Asthma

Current Asthma Prevalence Among Children (Age < 18), 2009

Data Sources: Massachusetts – MA BRFSS, 2009; United States – CDC National BRFSS, 2009
Age-adjusted Rate of Inpatient Hospitalization for Asthma by Race/Ethnicity in Massachusetts, 2000-2006

Source: 2000-2006 MA Inpatient Hospital Discharge Database, MA Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
Age-adjusted Rate of Inpatient Hospitalization due to Asthma by Community Health Network Area of Residence, 2004-2006

Source: 2004-2006 MA Inpatient Hospital Discharge Database, MA Division of Health Care Finance and Policy
Asthma Disparities Initiative Model

- Community Health Centers
  - Provide home asthma education and environmental assessment
    - Using Community Health Worker
- Asthma Coalitions
  - Improve environment in housing, schools, day care through local policy and systems change
- Linkage of efforts
• Community and health efforts are often conducted in silos

• Not enough progress using standard clinical methods to reduce disparities

• Community efforts often don’t focus on improving health

Institutes of Medicine - Hybrid Model

- Paper presented by Drs Horowitz and Lawlor
- Unified approach: combines both clinical and community efforts
  - Implement clinically sound interventions
  - Empower and mobilize community
  - Coordinate efforts

Asthma Disparities Initiative: Overview

• Long Term Goals
  – Reduce the rate of asthma hospitalization for Black and Hispanic children
  – Reduce disparities in poor asthma outcomes between Black and Hispanic children and White children
• Short Term Goal: develop best practices to disseminate across state
• Timeline: January 2010 – June 2012
Asthma Disparities Initiative: Roles and Resources

- APCP provides technical assistance, monthly conference calls, 1 site visit, 2 trainings a year, evaluate ADI
- MAAP provided technical assistance to the coalitions
  - Local policy tool kit
- Community Health Center
  - Reach target population, implement asthma self-management education in home, participate on coalition
  - $45,000 per CHC per year
- Local Asthma Coalition
  - Focus on local policy change, raise awareness of asthma, participate on MAAP, support CHC
  - $40,000 per Coalition per year
Home Visiting Components

• Home visit
  – multiple sessions
• Asthma self-management education
• Multi-trigger education
• Home environmental assessment
• Link to community resources
Evidence for Environmental Interventions in the Home

• Guide to Community Preventive Services, Asthma Control
  http://www.thecommunityguide.org/asthma/index
  – Systematic review of evidence:
    • Assessment of the home environment
    • Changing the indoor home environment to reduce exposure to asthma triggers
    • Education about the home environment
  – Included an economic analysis
Community Guide Findings

• Home-based multi-trigger, multi-component interventions with an environmental focus for children and adolescents with asthma
  – Improved overall quality of life
  – Improved asthma symptoms
  – Reduced school days missed due to asthma

• Interventions coupled with minor or moderate remediation and an educational component:
  – Provided good value for money invested
Resources

- CDC National Asthma Control Program
  - [http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/nacp.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/asthma/nacp.htm)
  - (770) 488-3700
  - Can provide TA to unfunded states
- CDC Community Guide
  - [www.thecommunityguide.org/asthma/index](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/asthma/index)
- AHRQ Asthma ROI Calculator
  - [http://statesnapshots.ahrq.gov/asthma/](http://statesnapshots.ahrq.gov/asthma/)