Contra Costa County Asthma Initiative
Connecting Medically Vulnerable Residents with Energy Efficiency Services

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Population: 1,150,215
• 20% Over 60 Years Old
• 7.8% in Poverty
• 19 Cities

Population by Race
• White: 43.2%
• Hispanic Latino: 25.8%
• Asian: 18%
• African American: 9.5%
• American Indian: 1%
• Other: 2.5%
Public Health and Climate Change

The impacts of climate change will disproportionately impact vulnerable populations already suffering health inequities.
2015

Climate Change Vulnerability in Contra Costa County: A Focus on Heat
Figure 21: Average Z-Scores Of Heat Vulnerability Indicators By Census Tract, Showing An Equal Number Of Census Tracts In Each Category.
The Social Determinates of Health
My Experience


Therms  655/yr > 29% > 464/yr > 37% > 291/yr  56%

$40 per month savings
The Climate Change and Health Benefits of Weatherization

- Reduces energy consumption
- Keeps homes cooler in the summer if no air conditioning (or if power goes out) and more comfortable in the winter
- Reduce energy costs, leaving more $ for essentials, and less likely to lead to disconnection
- Keeps out particulate matter, making the air easier to breath for people with respiratory problems
- Keeps out moisture, which can help reduce insect pests and mold, both asthma triggers
Connecting Health and Energy Efficiency

**Resources**

**Health**
- County Health Department
  - Have approx. 45 Public Health Nurses
    - Conduct 20,000 home visits per year to approximately 3,000 clients in all age groups
  - Operates its own Health Plan
    - Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP)

**Energy Efficiency**
- Low-Income Federal Weatherization Program, Contra Costa County (LIHEAP)
- Low-Income State Cap & Trade, Build It Green (LIWP)
2017/2018: Pilot Project

• Integrated PHNs Process with Weatherization Services
  • 6 screening questions
  • 32 referrals
  • 17 different PHNs
  • 8 completed referrals

• Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP)
  • Funded by State to coordinate written report
Contra Costa Asthma Initiative
A business plan for a comprehensive home-based asthma program

“Our communities don’t get the attention we need. I feel most healthcare services are negligent towards us. I’m thankful that our communities are being targeted. It’s making a difference for my family and is very helpful.”

– Contra Costa Health Plan asthma pilot participant
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative

• 2018/2019: Awarded Phase I Technical Assistance Grant to Develop Business Plan to Expand Services to improve Health Outcomes for Asthma

• 2019/2020 (Now): Awarded Phase II Technical Assistance Grant
  • Research feasibility of integrating Project into the State health care billing system
Current Asthma Initiative Project

• Grant from State of California Department of Health Care Services through the Sierra Health Foundation
  Three years, 150 assessments

• Grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District
  One year, 38 assessments augmented
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Component</th>
<th>Staffing Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Home Visits</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 Home Visits for Asthma Education</strong></td>
<td>CONTRA COSTA HEALTH SERVICES</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinate with PCP on Asthma Action Plan; medication usage training; environmental triggers training; follow up with PCP and care managers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Consumer Supplies to reduce asthma triggers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>e.g. green cleaning supplies, hypo-allergenic mattress and pillow covers, integrated pest management, food storage containers</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Home Assessment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental assessment</strong></td>
<td>County Weatherization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Identify home-based asthma triggers and write remediation scope</td>
<td>Association for Energy Affordability</td>
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<td><strong>Trigger Remediation</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Remove asthma triggers from home</strong></td>
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<td>Moisture issues (mold removal, ventilation, plumbing leaks) Allergens (carpet removal/cleaning), and Irritants (HVAC, combustion gases, VOCs)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EE/Weatherization</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Lower energy bills and improve comfort of home</strong></td>
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<td>Leveraged funds Lighting, heat pumps, energy-efficient appliances, HVAC</td>
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Questions?

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