Addressing Asthma
From a Public Health Perspective:
Healthy Housing in California
Addressing Asthma From A Public Health Perspective

- Asthma in California Conference, “Laying the Foundation for a Statewide Strategy”
- California Advisory Committee, begins development of Strategic Plan
- Dept. of Health Services publishes first Strategic Plan for Asthma in California
- CDC Funding
- Prop 99

Timeline:
- 1998
- 1999
- 2000
- 2001
- 2002
- 2003
- 2004
- 2005
- 2006
- 2007
- 2008
Why a Strategic Plan for Asthma?

5 million Californians with lifetime asthma

3 million with current asthma

Highest burden in young people 5-17 y.o.

<$20,000 annual income 3x higher likelihood of hospitalization

7x higher rate of severe symptoms than >$100,000
Why Housing and Asthma?

• 11% of adults with asthma exposed to tobacco smoke in their homes.
• 13% cockroaches

Data lags behind what we know on:
  • Mold
  • Dust mites
  • Chemical exposure
  • Stress
  • Other triggers
What’s in the Housing Portion of the Asthma Plan?

• Research, assessment, guidance;

Promote standards and model policies;

• Educate stakeholders

Augment home assessment, remediation and legal action
What We Do

• New CB program component

• Builds on success of CB/CAP symposium *Healthy Housing for California: Using Code Enforcement to Reduce the Impact of Asthma (December, 2006)*

• Established active advisory board representing asthma and health advocates, housing advocates, code enforcers, lawyers, property owners/managers, indoor air quality experts and others.

• Supports Indoor Air Quality goals for housing.
The Strategic Plan for Asthma in California: Housing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>SPAC Goal and Objective</th>
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<tr>
<td>Develop and promote standards, guidelines, model policies for asthma-safe healthy housing.</td>
<td>Indoor Environments – Housing, Objective 4C.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Educate various stakeholder groups on reduction of housing-based asthma risk factors</td>
<td>Indoor Environments – Housing, Objective 4C.3</td>
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<td>Augmentation of home assessments, remediation, legal advocacy. Increase understanding of triggers.</td>
<td>Indoor Environments – Housing, Objective 4C.4 and 4C.1</td>
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Activities

“Essentials for Healthy Homes” trainings (11/2007 and 5/2008);

• Legal research to identify promising approaches and practices;

• SPIG grants on mold and moisture intrusion (Sonoma County), and use of pesticides/IPM in home (L.A.); Senior Mobile Home Parks SHS Reduction (Shasta Cty.); Local Planning (Fresno);

• Legal research on local codes and enforcement practices on key issues;

• Participation on planning group for Tobacco Control Program statewide conference on SHS with major MUH component;

• Interviews with county public health officers to identify needs regarding healthy housing (with other branches in EHIB’s division.)
How you can help

• Technical advice and resources

• Share effective approaches:

  1. mold,

  2. SHS,

  3. green/healthy interface,

  4. etc.

• Help to develop and review model policies or recommendations as developed through a healthy housing strategic planning process.