



How Can He Achieve When He Can't Even Breathe?

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
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AASA Powerful Practices

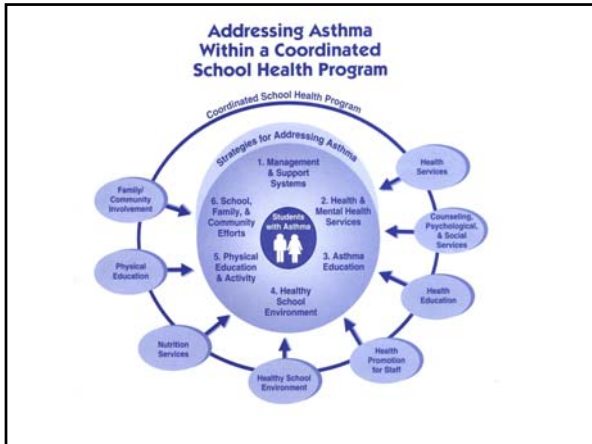
CDC Funded Asthma Education Program (AEP)

- Effective Leadership
- Identify, Monitor, Improve Care
- Reduce Environmental Contributors

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Asthma Education Program

GOAL: To provide a safe, healthy environment in which students can learn, especially those with asthma.

- Urban School District
- 160 Schools
- 134,000 Students
- 116 Nurses: 1/1100
- 8,500 (6%) Students with asthma



Baseline Data

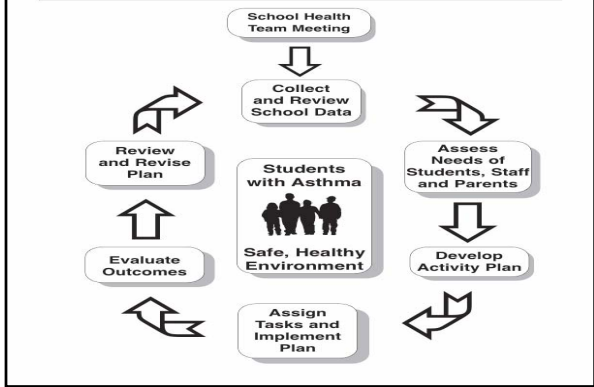
- > 6%(8500) students identified with asthma
- > 18% HS, 16% MS students (2007, YRBS)
- > 25.6% missed >8 days due to asthma
- > 84.7% report physical activity is affected
- > 70% had health issues other than asthma
- > 12% report environmental triggers (clay, glue, bus fumes, cleaning products)

Administrative Buy-In

School Asthma Profile

- > % Students with Asthma
- > # Absences
- > #Students with medication
- > # Action Plans
- > Health Office Visits
- > Staff survey: >90% wanted more information

Figure 2 – Site-Based School Health Team
Steps in Developing a School-Wide Asthma Activity Plan



Benefits of School Health Teams

- > Improve Teamwork
- > Create ownership of school issues
- > Acquire Tools: School Health Index
- > Develop programs specific for school needs & population
- > Increase Internal capacity for change

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Effective Leadership

- School Health Teams
- School Leadership Team
- School Improvement Plan
- Community Partnerships
- Student, Staff, Parents
- School Health Advisory Council



IAQ Problem Solving



Where's Waldo?


IAQ Process Improved

- Issue identified
- Report to property manager
- Report to Health & Safety Manager
- Office of Coordinated School Health notified
- Follow-up within 24 hours
- Report with recommendations
- **Staff and Student Education**

Healthy School Environment

- School Nurses-Student Ratio: 1:2200 to 1:1425
- Case Management, In School Respiratory Care Services
- Open Airways Programs
- Tobacco Free Policy
- No Bus Idling Policy
- Retro-fit diesel busses plan
- Safe Routes to School (SR2S)



 **Next Steps**

- School Health Teams in all Schools
- Managing Asthma Triggers Workshop
- Web based education modules
- 'Tools for Schools' Checklists
- 'Powerful Practices' from Association of School Administrators
- American Lung Assoc. /Mecklenburg Co. Asthma Coalition grant
