

## Healthy Environments and Living Places for Kids (H.E.L.P. for Kids) Indoor Environments Team



### What is the H.E.L.P. for Kids program?

H.E.L.P. for Kids is a train the trainer program developed by Region 6. We provide training to community groups and home based daycares on how to identify and remove environmental hazards where children live, learn, and play. There is a special focus on allergy and asthma-related conditions. The overall goals of the program are to:

- Identify environmental health and safety hazards in 3 indoor environments (homes, schools, and home based daycares);
- Raise awareness of the importance of these hazards;
- Develop prevention and mitigation action plans that emphasize low-cost or no-cost approaches; and
- Provide training to community groups, school districts, government agencies, and other partners.

### What are the program components?

#### ***Home Module***

The home environmental review module is based on materials originally created by the Master Home Environmentalist Program through the American Lung Association of Washington State. Modifications have been made to emphasize asthma concerns, identify high priority critical hazards, expand on preventive and corrective actions, and provide additional resources. The major hazard areas include: asthma and allergies, outdoor pollutant sources, moisture and mold, lead and dust, hazardous household products, pest control and pesticides, indoor air pollutants, cleaning activities, drinking water, heating and cooling equipment, and injury prevention.

Download the Home Environmental Review (PDF, 18 pp. 482 Kb).  
Download the Personal Checklist (PDF, 2 pp. 109 Kb).

### ***School Module***

The school environmental assessment module is based on the EPA's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools (TfS) program which covers indoor air pollution sources, ventilation, and control (EPA, 1995). This project adds supplemental material to cover other environmental hazards that might be found in schools such as lead, pest control, and others. Some of the topic areas found in the TfS kit and supplemental materials may already be part of a school's maintenance, health and safety, or risk management programs.

Download the IAQ Tools for Schools Kit (<http://www.epa.gov/iaq/schools/toolkit.html>).

### ***Childcare Module***

Designed for smaller, home-based childcare, this environmental assessment module has been derived from the home methodologies. Larger, center-based, childcare facilities may be more appropriately assessed using the school methodologies.

Three separate sets of assessment materials have been prepared assuming that two different groups will be performing the reviews in childcare homes. The first group consists of trained laypersons from the community who, in the process of conducting home reviews, encounter a childcare in the home. The second group of reviewers is State and locally sponsored monitors and inspectors of home-based childcare. For State program purposes, two sets of shorter checklists and action plans have been created.

Download the Childcare Home Environmental Review Checklist (PDF, 17 pp. 443 Kb) or download the State Childcare Home Environmental Review Checklist (PDF, 15 pp. 380 Kb) to download the .

### **How can I learn more about H.E.L.P. for Kids?**

For more information or to request a H.E.L.P. for Kids CD Rom, please contact Stacy Murphy (214-665-7116) or email: [murphy.stacy@epa.gov](mailto:murphy.stacy@epa.gov)

## Are there any other EPA programs I should learn about?

- ✓ Region 6 [Lead Paint](http://www.epa.gov/region6/6pd/lead/index.htm) (<http://www.epa.gov/region6/6pd/lead/index.htm>) Program
- ✓ EPA [Lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead) (<http://www.epa.gov/lead>) Program
- ✓ [Lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/leadinfo.htm) Tips (<http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/leadinfo.htm>) for Parents
- ✓ EPA [Mercury](http://www.epa.gov/mercury) (<http://www.epa.gov/mercury>) Program
- ✓ Region 6 [Pesticides](http://www.epa.gov/region6/6pd/pd-p/index.htm) (<http://www.epa.gov/region6/6pd/pd-p/index.htm>) Program
- ✓ Region 6 Resource Conservation Challenge ([RCC](http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/wastemin)) (<http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/wastemin>) Team
- ✓ Region 6 [Scrap Tire](http://www.epa.gov/region6/tires) (<http://www.epa.gov/region6/tires>) Program
- ✓ EPA's [HealthySEAT](http://www.epa.gov/schools/) (<http://www.epa.gov/schools/>)

