



**EPA's Indoor Air Quality
Cooperative Agreement
Partners**

PROJECT SUMMARIES

2007

Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board

www.aatchb.org

The Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairmen's Health Board is collaborating with multiple partners across and between tribal boundaries to provide environmental asthma trigger management education. This will promote the capacity development of tribal healthcare professionals toward assisting patients identify and mitigate asthma triggers in the home. The tribal asthma campaign is also providing education on the management and prevention of environmental asthma triggers to a population of almost 200,000 tribal members residing on seventeen reservation and two urban Indian service areas in North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Iowa. Finally, it is providing effective outreach by merging evidenced based practice with a culturally competent approach.

The Advertising Council

www.adcouncil.org

www.noattacks.org

Since 1991 the Ad Council has been leading the national childhood asthma campaign that has adopted a Goldfish icon to help prevent children with asthma from feeling like a fish out of water. The campaign has garnered more than \$200 million in media donations, in English and Spanish, and reaches across all media forms spanning TV, radio, newspaper, magazine, billboard, bus shelter, and events. A new feature, Radio Disney has joined the campaign by sponsoring "health and wellness" back-to-school events in communities around the country. The Ad Council offers specialized campaign workshops and will train partners about best practices in media outreach and communications. The Goldfish campaign is available free to all partner groups that want to help prevent asthma attacks. Asthma coalitions and stakeholders are invited to join the campaign and get involved—because even one asthma attack is one too many.

Alliance for Healthy Homes

www.afhh.org

The Alliance for Healthy Homes is currently working on its proposed objectives, which are to 1) Increase engagement of public health professionals to raise public radon risk awareness; 2) Encourage housing professionals to adopt Radon-Resistant New Construction and mitigation policies; 3) Advance radon risk reduction action in three high-risk states; and 4) Exchange information and policy recommendations with key stakeholders.

American Association of School Administrators

www.aasa.org

The American Association of School Administrators (AASA) is currently working to increase awareness and understanding of IAQ principles and risks to the school environment through trainings and the development of products geared specifically for Superintendents, such as the IAQ Technical Resource collection. AASA will continue the Urban School Resource Coalition and will soon launch the Rural School Resource Coalition which provides a forum for schools to address and learn about IAQ issues from like peers and develops technical resources for these school groups. The AASA will also be promoting the adoption of IAQ management practices in school districts through trainings (web-based) on specific technical topics and sponsoring AASA members to attend EPA's annual *IAQ TFS* Symposium. AASA provides extensive assistance and support to school districts as they work to adopt IAQ management programs in their school districts.

American College of Chest Physicians

www.chesnet.org

The American College of Chest Physicians is currently working to provide training and networking opportunities for coalition members to learn about the role of environmental factors from national experts as well as their peers.

American College of Preventive Medicine

www.acpm.org

The American College of Preventive Medicine is currently using WebMD/Medscape, skill-building institutes, web-based educational tools and clinical guidelines to provide training, education and outreach on asthma and Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) to hundreds of health care professionals. In turn, these health care professionals will incorporate high quality, effective asthma and ETS management into their daily practice in order to reduce the number of patients, especially children, exposed to asthma triggers and ETS.

American Federation of Teachers

healthandsafety@aft.org

The primary goals of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) are to obtain commitments from school leaders to use the *Tools for Schools* kit to address IAQ in their school facilities, increase awareness of the kit, and support school districts that are in the process of implementing it. To accomplish these goals AFT is recruiting up to four urban local districts and their AFT affiliates on the development of model comprehensive IAQ projects. They are conducting local *TfS* Symposiums in cooperation with US EPA and other local IAQ organizations/experts in 2-3 school districts each year in order to educate board members, administrators, school employees and the community on the value and importance of implementing good IAQ/IEQ programs. AFT also awards a minimum of 20 scholarships a year to the EPA *TfS* Symposium.

American Lung Association

www.lungusa.org

The American Lung Association (ALA) is working with 2,280 children, including a significant proportion from low income and minority communities to increase their knowledge of environmental asthma triggers and other asthma management skills, through participation in Open Airways for Schools. Additionally, the ALA is meeting with a variety of other groups. 1,000 school personnel, including school nurses, are meeting with the ALA to increase their knowledge of asthma and environmental triggers. Key decision makers at 300 schools are being educated about good indoor air quality practices and *IAQ Tools for Schools*. Finally, 15 local Lung Association staff and volunteers are being trained to implement Open Airways for Schools programs in their communities, and 10 local Lung Association staff from around the country were recruited to attend the *IAQ TfS* Symposium.

American Lung Association of Upper Midwest

www.lungum.org

The American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest plans to demonstrate an innovative model and funding approach for risk reduction and which can be replicated by partnering with non profit, private sector and communities to test and mitigate homes. They plan to target Zone 1 low income rental homes in Minnesota and Indiana (1/3 of homes likely to have elevated radon levels) for a radon testing and mitigation program. From their efforts, the ALA of Upper Midwest expects hundreds of homes with elevated radon levels mitigated through partnerships with the private sector. They will also develop effectiveness tools such as pre and post training evaluations of program components.

American Medical Association

www.ama-assn.org

The American Medical Association (AMA) is currently training physicians on how to educate their patients about secondhand smoke as an asthma trigger and of ways to eliminate their child's exposure. The AMA is developing assessment tools, establishing baseline measures, developing a Grand Rounds curriculum and presentation, producing a streaming video and obtaining approval for continuing medical education credits for this training.

American Respiratory Care Foundation

www.arcfoundation.org

The American Respiratory Care Foundation (ARCF) is a non-profit organization under the American Association for Respiratory Care and is committed to furthering the art, science, quality and technology of respiratory care. ARCF seeks to educate the public and health care professionals about respiratory health, and have developed a training and continuing education program for respiratory therapists about asthma and environmental triggers. In the one-year extension of their cooperative agreement, ARCF is implementing an interactive, on-line environmental asthma education program for respiratory therapists to earn continuing education credits.

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

www.ashrae.org

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) is developing a guidance document to assist building professionals in implementing high performance designs, improving building IAQ performance and decreasing the environmental impact of exposure to air toxics in a broad range of non-residential, public, and commercial building types. The *Advanced Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Design Guide for Non-Residential Buildings* is being developed by ASHRAE and an inter-disciplinary team of organizations, including the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association (SMACNA), and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The book and a companion training course are expected to be completed in 2009. This project also includes an educational outreach effort to disseminate the guide, targeting ASHRAE's 55,000 members, and the hundreds of thousands of members in the other participating organizations.

America's Health Insurance Plans

www.ahip.org

America's Health Insurance Plans, in partnership with Southern California Permanente Medical Group, is evaluating the effectiveness of environmental asthma trigger education using telephonic nurse case management. This project aims to demonstrate that health outcomes for plan members with asthma can be improved through tailored environmental education, patient self-management, and care-giver support and feedback. The content of the patient education intervention is based on national asthma treatment guidelines supplemented with EPA educational materials.

Association of Clinicians for the Underserved

www.clinicians.org

The Association of Clinicians for the Underserved's (ACU) Pediatric Asthma Indoor Air Quality Improvement Project addresses issues regarding the importance of incorporating environmental and clinical management of asthma into comprehensive asthma management plans, clinical practice and standards of care. ACU's project goal is to reduce indoor asthma triggers for pediatric patients by improving clinicians' ability to integrate the assessment of environmental factors into a comprehensive asthma management plan and to recommend specific strategies to reduce exposures to indoor asthma triggers. ACU has implemented and enhanced the continuing professional education program curriculum, clinical tools cards, ACU's pediatric asthma information and resources website, and health disparities advocacy calendar

Association of School Business Officials International

www.asbointl.org

The Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International is currently conducting training at ASBO's national, affiliate, and other regional conferences and recruiting participants for EPA's Annual IAQ Symposium. It is also directing the creation of general ASBO member resources, such as magazine articles, "how to" guidelines, self-assessment checklists, and Web resources. ASBO regularly reports on the IAQ district commitment levels and follows up with school districts developing and IAQ management plan in order to

increase participation and further develop self-sustaining practices for assessment, expansion, and maintenance of IAQ systems.

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

www.aafa.org

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) is currently delivering the AME program to 10 sites in year 1 in order to reach a total of 600 Allied Health Professionals (AH). These professionals are expected to provide up-to-date asthma education and management to an estimated 12,000 individuals with asthma per week. The organization is also identifying sites to reach AH professionals in underserved communities through AAFA chapters, community organizations and at meetings of organizations such as the National Pharmacy Technician Association, Society of Pediatric Nurses, and state/local health departments. Finally, the AAFA is providing program materials, including resources from AAFA, EPA, and NHLBI and coordinating the provision of continuing education credits for each program.

Asthma and Allergy Network – Mothers of Asthmatics

www.aanma.org

The Asthma and Allergy Network – Mothers of Asthmatics (AANMA) is currently working to develop several resources. First, it is developing content for culturally relevant Indoor AIRepair at Home, School and Play kits for both urban and Hispanic audiences. Next, it is working on curriculum and educational materials for home health care training. Finally, it is creating all evaluations for the program. The AANMA is also identifying and recruiting 50 home health care providers for training.

Auburn University

www.auburn.edu

Auburn University will conduct additional activities of a limited field study to determine the impact of radon mitigations systems on moisture control and entry in homes.

Boston Public Health Commission

www.bphc.org

The Boston Public Health Commission is currently training four Resident Health Advocates, completing public information campaign materials, and implementing a public information campaign to reach 800 residents. It is also providing outreach and education to residents through Public Health Van and expanding the Breathe Easy at Home program through the training of 60 health care providers.

Center for Ecological Technology

www.cetonline.org

The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) is working to educate parents, especially new mothers with low socio-economic status, how to protect their children from Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) exposure and potentially reduce the incidence of asthma through prevention education, training and outreach. CET is providing environmental health assessment training to health care professionals on how to assess homes and lifestyles for ETS risks. The health care professionals are also counseling parents about practical approaches to reduce their children's risks to ETS exposure. The CET is well positioned to reach the anticipated results of educating approximately 600 parents.

Children's Environmental Health Network

www.cehn.org

The Children's Environmental Health Network is currently training Early Childhood professionals to recognize radon risks, test for radon in their facilities, and implement effective radon remediation methods.

Children's National Medical Center

www.cnmc.org

The Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) has created a consortium with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), the AAP Center for Child Health Research and the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology to address children's exposure to secondhand smoke. The CNMC has been a leader in the care of the nation's most at-risk children, and is the home of the Center to Improve Child Health Disparities. The AAP represents approximately 60,000 pediatricians across the country, providing pediatric policy, guidance, education and direction to both pediatric care providers and parents. This consortium is engaged in developing tools, infrastructure and best practices to affect clinical change that will support an ongoing effort to reduce children's ETS exposure through interventions delivered during the pediatric clinical encounter.

Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors

www.crcpd.org

The Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors is currently working on several projects, including 1) Sponsoring the National Radon Meeting; 2) Providing technical assistance for state and tribal radon programs; and 3) Building technical capacity within state radon programs.

Council of Educational Facility Planners International

www.cefpi.org

The Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI) is currently working to increase awareness and understanding of IAQ principles and risks to the school environment through trainings/demonstration opportunities to members at the CEFPI's national, regional, and chapter conferences and the annual CEFPI High Performance Schools Symposium. CEFPI also recruits participants for EPA's Annual *IAQ TFS* Symposium from its membership and provides extensive assistance and support to school districts as they work to adopt IAQ management programs in their school districts. CEFPI also develops technical resources geared specifically for its members including a comprehensive Healthy Schools Web site and magazine articles on technical topics related to indoor air quality in schools.

Energy and Environmental Building Association

www.eeba.org

The Energy and Environmental Building Association is conducting training of home builders in applying features to protect indoor air quality.

Environmental Law Institute

www.eli.org

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) is responding to public requests for IAQ information and technical assistance via email, telephone, and postal mail. It is producing and distributing analyses on relevant IAQ policies and programs and maintaining a State IAQ Law and Policy Database as a source for public information on schools, radon, and mold. ELI will make presentations at national events to nonprofit organization and tribal representatives on effective state and local government strategies and identify model policies and programs. A series of State IAQ training workshops will be sponsored for state and local governments that will highlight and explore successful strategies for meeting public challenges on IAQ improvement practices.

Erie County

www.erie.gov

Erie County has a rich history of working with local Native American Tribal governments on cooperative environmental programs. As it relates to protecting the environmental needs of Native Americans in Western New York, Erie County has worked closely with the Tonawanda Reservation located northeast of Erie County, and the Tuscarora Reservation located north of Erie County which is home to 10,000 Native Americans

between the two reservations. In 2005, Erie County was selected via a grant competition. The current cooperative agreement focuses primarily to enhance the quality of their indoor/outdoor air specifically Native American communities. These activities focus on conducting indoor and outdoor voluntary risk reduction training and education activities. The agreement assists two tribal communities with developing and implementing IAQ activities to reduce “residential” air pollution sources like ETS, mold, asthma triggers, radon, carbon monoxide, and household hazardous waste and its emissions (i.e., gas cans, automotive fluid, and pesticides.) A chief objective of the reduction of residential environmental hazards is the improvement of indoor air quality. The training and education are intended to reduce indoor air contaminants within Native American homes.

Habitat for Humanity

www.habitat.org

Habitat for Humanity is one of the largest builders of single family homes in the United States, a builder dedicated to assisting low income populations and a model for affordable, resource efficient, environmentally responsible building. In recent years, Habitat has added the term healthy to its mission statement, and the national construction office has embraced a commitment to healthy home construction that includes effective integration of indoor air quality concepts. Habitat homeowner families are typically low-income and represent populations that are disproportionately impacted by poor indoor air quality, and suffer substantially higher asthma rates than the general public. Through trainings at the regional state and local levels, intranet tools, workshops, guidance documents, educational materials, technical assistance, identification of best practices, and other means, Habitat addresses asthma triggers, moisture and mold, indoor air ventilation and radon risk reduction.

Healthy Schools Network

www.healthyschools.org

The Healthy Schools Network is developing the National Healthy Schools Day (NHSD) targeted marketing plan and event criteria. It is also developing and providing infrastructures for the NHSD events, including the development of a marketing flyer and new Web page, which will list all local events. Coordinating these NHSD events, Healthy Schools Network activities include encouraging NHSD events and activities. It also sponsors toll-free conference calls to encourage interest and answer questions to help local communities host events.

International Union of Operating Engineers

www.iuoe.org

The International Union of Operating Engineers is working to achieve the goal of an increased number of people breathing healthier air. This is being accomplished by the effective training for skilled facility maintenance personnel who will apply IAQ best practices in public and commercial facilities. Its substantial measurable environmental outcome is providing the training access to 125,000 stationary engineers.

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan

www.itcmi.org

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan’s project is implementing ETS training materials, program curriculum and assessment tools in accordance with current EPA materials. The project is training parents and caregivers of children enrolled in Tribal Head Start Programs, including program staff on the dangers of ETS to reduce the total number of Native American children’s exposure to ETS and increasing the number of Native American specific ETS information materials accessible by parents and caregivers.

Kansas State University

www.k-state.edu

In completing this project, KSU will foster radon awareness among rental property owners and managers who typically rent to socio-economic disadvantaged population through four educational sessions in four states with

known high levels of radon. KSU will assist the anticipated 100 attendees in preparing possible remediation plans to improve indoor air quality by reducing their thousands of tenants' radon exposure.

National Association of Counties

www.naco.org

The National Association of Counties (NACo) serves as the only national organization that represents the interests of America's 3,110 county governments. NACo works to ensure that counties have the resources, tools, and support needed to assist their communities. NACo's Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Education Program targets indoor air quality health risk prevention by providing information, technical assistance, and resources to county governments. Activities include conducting national, regional, and local training and education workshops, funding IAQ activities by local counties, implementing a national education campaign.

National Association of School Nurses

www.nasn.org

The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) is training school nurses on asthma management and improving school environments for the children they serve. Using a tailored curriculum developed specifically for school nurses, *Managing Asthma Triggers II*, NASN trains 500 school nurses annually.

National Center for Healthy Housing

www.centerforhealthyhousing.org

The National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) is working to demonstrate practical measures to reduce health hazards during substantial rehabilitation of affordable housing. The 24 units of Viking Terrace affected by this project will meet the Healthy Living Environment Criteria developed by NCHH for the Enterprise's national Green Communities initiative. These criteria are in alignment with EPA's ENERGY STAR for New Homes Indoor Air Package pilot, and adapted for rehab projects. Based on the Healthy Living Environment Criteria and lessons learned from the demonstration, NCHH is developing training and outreach materials for dissemination through NCHH's national network of affordable housing intermediaries, including Enterprise Green Communities grant recipients.

National Conference of State Legislatures

www.ncsl.org

The National Conference of State Legislatures is currently educating state policymakers and their staff on radon health risks and effective state policies that reduce these risks. In doing so, it is creating and tailoring new and existing radon outreach products for state legislators. It plans to use these products, technical assistance and other described methods to educate and inform policymakers and staff.

National Education Association Health Information Network

www.neahin.org

The National Education Association Health Information Network (NEA HIN) is conducting training in various venues, including EPA's *TfS* Symposium, NEA's National ESP Conference, Regional Conferences, National UniServ Skills Training and local/special request trainings. It is also conducting one focus group to identify IAQ and infrastructure problems facing large, urban districts and to identify obstacles and barriers to adopting effective IAQ management plans. The NEA HIN plans to use the annual meeting and print and web mechanisms to increase member IAQ awareness and how to successfully influence schools/districts to integrate *TfS* into School district maintenance plan. It is providing technical assistance through post-training evaluations and "Intake Form."

National Environmental Education and Training

www.neefusa.org

The National Environmental Education and Training Foundation will have Faculty Champions training and activities to incorporate environmental management of pediatric asthma into curricula. This includes developing training curricula and PowerPoint, finalizing letters of agreement for faculty champions, creating a listserv, and holding quarterly conference calls. Second tier faculty members will have train-the-trainer workshops for additional faculty members and residents/medical students.

National Environmental Health Association

www.neha.org

The National Environmental Health Association is working to conduct training courses for Environmental Health Professionals on IAQ topics including asthma triggers, schools, radon, indoor air quality in large buildings, and community outreach. Training participants will then provide information on and assistance with IAQ to the general public, peers, and other with the goal of reducing public exposure to indoor air pollutants such as radon and indoor asthma triggers.

National Safety Council

www.nsc.org

The National Safety Council is currently providing health education and consumer outreach to increase the public's knowledge about the need to test their homes for elevated levels of indoor radon gas. This project offers low cost radon test kits to consumers, these activities lead to increased number of people breathing healthier indoor air.

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin

www.oneidanation.org

The Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin is a federally recognized tribe located near Green Bay, WI. In 2005, Oneida was selected via a grant competition. Oneida has identified two major goals and objectives for the reduction of indoor and outdoor toxic air pollutants on the reservation. The two goals are to provide education and outreach to tribal community members regarding open burning and wood stove use; facilitate tribal member voluntary participation replacement of older, wood burning stoves; and mold assessment and remediation. The indoor air risk reduction activities are directed at all community members with special emphasis on the most at-risk members. These at-risk members are identified as tribal elders, infants and children, and pregnant women.

Rutgers State University

www.rutgers.edu

The goal of Rutgers' Cooperative Agreement is to increase installation and/or activation of radon mitigation systems by 1,000 in homes that have already tested greater than 20pCi/l. Homeowners who tested greater than 20PCi/i are to be contacted by 10 Health Education graduate students, to complete degree requirements using this supervised field project. The expected results are a database of radon programs across the country identifying testing information maintained (or not) in each state and analysis of resources currently available to assist home owner in taking action: low interest loans, radon professional information, local health departments, universities, and other possible ideas.

University of Florida

www.ufl.edu

The University of Florida is focused on developing a moisture control construction checklist program that will enable the building industry to identify, prevent, and mitigate mold, mycobacterial and other moisture-related biologicals during building design, construction and occupancy.

University of Michigan School of Public Health

www.alliesagainstasthma.net

The University of Michigan School of Public Health (UMSPH) is conducting the Asthma Health Outcomes Project to better understand what makes asthma programs successful. A comprehensive process was developed and implemented to identify asthma programs that include an environmental component and have demonstrated a positive impact on asthma-related health outcomes, and to identify the factors that are associated with success. This unique effort reached beyond the peer-reviewed literature, to identify community-level asthma programs and services around the country and internationally. By looking across the breadth of successful programs, AHOP has identified factors associated with success including which activities are associated with successful programs, and how they were implemented.

University of Minnesota

www.umn.org

The University of Minnesota is completing an on-line course that covers all information needed to sit for a national proficiency exam. In consultation with states and tribes, it plans to mitigate 8 homes of low-income residents and complete hands-on training for about 50 mitigators. The University of Minnesota is also developing, marketing and conducting 8 RRNC courses reaching 80 builders or contractors.

Wake Forest University

Wake Forest University School of Medicine (WFUSM) is utilizing existing and creating new educational materials on the health risks to children age six and under who are exposed to ETS. WFUSM is collaborating with the East Coast Migrant Head Start Program (ECMHSP) to train health educators to work with families of migrant farm workers to increase their knowledge and change behaviors that will impact the reduction of ETS-related disease among children in the ECMHSP Head Start centers. The ECMHSP Head Start centers are located in eleven states along the east coast and services approximately 8,500 infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.