Asthma Control Program
Indoor Air Quality Project

Sara E. Thuma, MPH
Asthma Control Program manager
October 6, 2023
Goals

• Provide some information on asthma in Pennsylvania
• Describe the indoor air quality demonstration project
Asthma Current Prevalence

• In 2021:
  ▮ 1 in 10 adults ages 18 or older reported currently having asthma in PA
    ▮ General increasing trend from 2011 to 2021
  ▮ 1 in 15 children were reported to currently have asthma in PA
    ▮ General decreasing trend from 2011 to 2021

Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
Asthma Current Prevalence

- **Adult** asthma is generally higher in:
  - Non-Hispanic Black adults
  - Women
  - Younger adults
  - Those with less education
  - Those with an annual income less than $15,000
  - Current smokers
  - Adults with obesity

- **Child** asthma is generally higher in:
  - Boys
  - Those ages 10 to 14 years
  - Non-Hispanic Black children
Asthma Control in Adults

Source: BRFSS Asthma Call-Back Survey
Asthma & Allergy Capitals

- Allentown
- Harrisburg
- Philadelphia
- Pittsburgh
- Scranton

Source: Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America
• Goal:
  - To improve the quality of life for those living with asthma and expand the reach, quality, effectiveness, and sustainability of asthma control services and comprehensively address disparities in outcomes.
Strategic Plan Goals

- Use data to target the implementation of EXHALE strategies in overburdened communities and populations at high-risk for asthma.

- Collaborate with partners to advocate for policies to improve health care access and quality, and the places where people with asthma live, work, learn, and play.

- Replicate regional and local EXHALE strategies and best practices across the state.

- Increase collaboration between service providers, health care workers, government, and individuals and families with asthma.
• To create a replicable and sustainable education and outreach approach to expand the capacity of communities to make policy changes to improve indoor air quality.
## Logic Model

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Short-term Outcomes</th>
<th>Intermediate Outcomes</th>
<th>Long-term Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BHPRR ACP staff</td>
<td>Meetings with CHO supervisor and CHO areas involved</td>
<td># of CHO or HEZ areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACP partners</td>
<td>Listening sessions</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Reduced disparities in asthma outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existing training and resources on indoor air quality and health</td>
<td>Community engagement/Relationship building</td>
<td># of CHO or HEZ areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHO</td>
<td>Identifying community indoor air quality priorities</td>
<td># of CHO or HEZ areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHO supervisor</td>
<td>Communications plan</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEZ contacts</td>
<td>Contract development or SAF</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community partners</td>
<td>Identifying community indoor air quality priorities</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Communications plan</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>Contract development or SAF</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Procurement staff/Contract</td>
<td>System mapping</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>System change tools</td>
<td>Asset mapping</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SWOT analysis</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation and evaluation plan</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data analysis plan</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education/Outreach approach developed</td>
<td># of CHO areas involved</td>
<td>Defined, replicable approach to community engagement/relations and building</td>
<td>Repeat education and outreach approach to other areas through the CHO and HEZ infrastructure</td>
<td>System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

System or policy change for sustainable improvement in indoor air quality.
Process

- Outreach to the Community Health Organizers (CHO’s)
- Developed talking points for the CHO’s.
- Attended a community meeting in Allentown in June and made a request to come back
  - Landlord accountability, tenant’s rights, asbestos in demolition, health impacts of new construction
Next Steps

• Research
• Reconnecting with community
• Redesign of budget
• What connections need to be made
Lessons Learned

• CHO perceived topic importance may be different than the community’s
• Move at the community’s timeline
• Maintain connections and have multiple
• Vagueness makes people uneasy
• Be clear about goals and intentions
Contact Information

- Asthma Control Program (ACP)
  - RA-DHPAASTHMA@pa.gov
- Sara E. Thuma, ACP manager
  - sthuma@pa.gov