



RAMP's Technical Assistance on Asthma-related Medi-Cal Policies

The mission of Regional Asthma Management & Prevention (RAMP) is to reduce the burden of asthma with a focus on health equity. Based at the Public Health Institute in Oakland, CA, RAMP emphasizes both prevention and management to build capacity, create linkages, and mobilize networks to advocate for policy and systems changes targeting the root causes of asthma disparities.

Combining decades of experience, strong relationships with diverse stakeholders, and deep knowledge of asthma best practices and the Medi-Cal landscape, RAMP is the leading asthma technical assistance (TA) provider in California.

We provide TA on a wide range of topics, including program design and implementation, workforce development, data collection, partnership cultivation, and best practices for environmental asthma trigger remediation.

We provide direct, flexible, responsive TA to existing asthma home visiting programs, organizations just beginning work on asthma, and managed care plans. We also respond to common needs across programs through capacity-building workshops, facilitated peer learning discussions, and tool development. We have developed tools on an array of topics such as incorporating [virtual visits](#) into home-based asthma services and selecting safe and effective [air purifiers](#).

RAMP successfully advocated for the inclusion of Asthma Remediation in the Community Supports program and worked with DHCS on its design. Additionally, RAMP serves as the TA provider for the Asthma Mitigation Project, which DHCS funded and used as a model for Asthma Remediation.

We are excited to continue and expand our TA role through the CalAIM TA Marketplace, both to existing asthma home visiting programs and those that are new to the field. We also continue to offer support to managed care plans on Asthma Remediation implementation.



“Through the Asthma Mitigation Project, RAMP has worked directly with different types of organizations, including community-based organizations, local health departments and clinics, all serving diverse populations. RAMP has provided one-on-one technical assistance, planned large convenings, organized trainings, and made connections to additional resources. These organizations have varying levels of experience providing asthma home visits and RAMP has been able to help some strengthen the impact of their work, and help others develop a program from the ground up. One organization noted that RAMP ‘provided the best technical assistance I have ever received...’ Additionally, the Asthma Mitigation Project Year Two Evaluation Report notes the importance of the work RAMP has provided and additional praise from the organizations served.”

--Madeline Sabatoni, Senior Program Officer,
Sierra Health Foundation

RAMP also provides TA on the new Medi-Cal [Asthma Preventive Services](#) benefit, which allows reimbursement to non-licensed professionals like Community Health Workers/*promotoras* for asthma self-management education and in-home environmental asthma trigger assessments. Combined, the Asthma Preventive Services benefit and Asthma Remediation support comprehensive, sustainable asthma home visiting services. These services are proven to improve asthma outcomes, reduce healthcare costs, and reduce disparities.



“RAMP has been an invaluable resource for our new Asthma Home Visiting Program. Partnering with RAMP has allowed us to focus on delivering effective services without having to completely invent a new program. The RAMP team are knowledgeable about best practices, resources, and policy and made themselves available for any questions or concerns along the way. RAMP is consistently responsive to our questions and needs and made sure that we knew that no question was too big or too small. Our program would not have been as successful without their support.”

--Robin Baker, McKinleyville Family Resource Center

RAMP offers the opportunity for programs to engage in peer learning, including through our Asthma Remediation Learning Collaborative. With over 25 organizations participating, RAMP facilitates meetings to discuss updates, successes, and challenges in Asthma Remediation implementation. We also provide peer learning and continuing education meetings for a network of asthma-focused Community Health Workers/*promotoras*. RAMP leads other networks for collective action, such as the Community Action to Fight Asthma Network, the California Asthma Financing Workgroup, and the California Healthy Housing Coalition.

RAMP's leadership has nearly forty years of combined experience providing high-quality, responsive TA to diverse asthma stakeholders across California. Anne Kelsey Lamb, Director, and Joel Ervice, Associate Director, have the subject matter expertise, institutional knowledge, trust-based relationships, and hands-on experience that ensure effective TA for a wide range of organizations. They also bring in external partners, such as the National Center for Healthy Housing, to provide additional expertise when needed.