

Through the Community Action to Fight Asthma (CAFA) Initiative, five local asthma coalitions and one regional center have been working to combat asthma in the Bay Area. By sharing some of our successes, we hope that you'll be inspired to join us in continuing efforts to reduce the burden of asthma in the Bay Area.



*Oakland-Berkeley  
Community Action  
to Fight Asthma  
(510) 869-8226*

---

*San Francisco  
Asthma Task Force  
(650) 994-5864*

---

*Solano  
Asthma Coalition  
(707) 434-9685*

---

*Sonoma County  
Asthma Coalition  
(707) 527-5864*

---

*West County  
Asthma Coalition  
(925) 313-6764*

REGIONAL **ramp**  
ASTHMA MANAGEMENT  
& PREVENTION

*All of these coalitions are supported by RAMP — the Regional Asthma Management and Prevention Initiative. A project of the Public Health Institute, RAMP serves as a technical assistance provider, a clearinghouse of asthma information, a regional convener, and a collective voice for policy change. For more information about Bay Area efforts, contact RAMP at [info@rampasthma.org](mailto:info@rampasthma.org) or call (510) 302-3365.*

*The CAFA Initiative is funded by The California Endowment.*



the  
good  
news  
on  
asthma

*in the San Francisco Bay Area*



## what we've accomplished

### Some Highlights...

**Oakland-Berkeley Community Action to Fight Asthma** successfully worked with targeted pilot schools in the Oakland and Berkeley Unified School Districts to identify students with asthma, educate staff and students, and reduce indoor asthma triggers. It also produced a video designed to promote the use of the EPA's indoor air quality program, "Tools for Schools."

**San Francisco Asthma Task Force** passed a policy requiring every student with asthma to have an emergency plan on file at school. It also got the Board of Supervisors to schedule a hearing to hold the San Francisco housing authority accountable for improving its inspection and remediation processes to ensure that housing conditions do not exacerbate or lead to the onset of asthma.

**Solano Asthma Coalition** successfully passed the first city wood burning appliance ordinance in the county to protect people with asthma from harmful particulate matter. It also created and distributed a tool kit for addressing asthma in school to every school nurse in the county.

**Sonoma County Asthma Coalition** encouraged Sonoma County Department of Health Services to track six asthma indicators in their county health profile based on the coalition's data report to the community. The Coalition also passed a resolution to support further public education to enhance residential indoor air quality and reduce asthma risks in the community.

**West County Asthma Coalition** in Contra Costa recruited and trained 23 West County residents to serve as Community Advocates providing education about asthma and In Home Asthma Trigger Check-ups for families of children with asthma. WCAC is also involved in diesel pollution reduction activities in West Contra Costa.



Despite our successes, with a problem as large as asthma, there's more to be done. One in ten children in the Bay Area has asthma and in many Bay Area communities, that number is one in five. Uncontrolled asthma causes kids to miss school. It keeps them from playing with their friends. Too often, it sends them to the hospital. In the worst cases, it can lead to death.

We hope that you'll join us in continuing efforts to reduce the burden of asthma in the Bay Area. One way is to create policy change. We support policies that:

- ▶ *Reduce exposure to particulate matter and ozone, especially in communities disproportionately affected by asthma and environmental injustices;*
- ▶ *Support tenants' rights to healthy indoor air quality;*
- ▶ *Promote in-home education that helps residents control their asthma and reduce environmental triggers in the home;*
- ▶ *Encourage schools to become asthma-friendly, including staff and student education, establishment of management and support systems, and promotion of healthy indoor air quality;*
- ▶ *Promote implementation of the national clinical guidelines on the management of asthma; and*
- ▶ *Promote access to quality health care that is culturally competent and includes support for self-management.*

***We need help in sustaining the fight!***