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Asthma / Allergies

Key findings from the JHACH CHNA:

More children face allergies and asthma than any other health issue. When grouped together, asthma and allergies were, by far, the health issues most often cited by parents.

- 55% of parents reported allergies as a health issue their children have faced.
- 28% of parents reported asthma as a health issue their children have faced.
- According to the 2014 Florida Youth Tobacco Study, 22.4% of Pinellas high school students have lifetime asthma, and are highly vulnerable to secondhand smoke.

Outcome-Driven Activities:

Reinstate the Suncoast Pediatric Asthma Coalition

Reinstating the SPAC will assist St. Petersburg in gaining access to grant opportunities and resources as well as provide an organization to lead the proposed solution efforts around asthma.

Changes to municipal codes

To address the home environments of the most vulnerable children, there will be advocacy for change to any City of St. Petersburg municipal codes related to carpeting, second-hand and third-hand tobacco smoke. Specific codes are being identified.

Improve coordination of care

Establish processes to improve coordination of care (i.e., interaction and communication between providers, schools, and parents) to reduce school absenteeism and hindrances preventing a child's ability to thrive due to asthma/allergy considerations. Increase number of post-hospitalization home visits to identify asthma/allergy triggers at home and school.



PROPOSED OBJECTIVES

1. Establish an agreement based collaborative effort or partnership between the school district and health care provider(s) to reduce chronic absenteeism of school aged children and adolescents that have an EC visit for persistent asthma by at least 1%.
2. Modify a minimum of one municipal/county public housing code relating to carpeting, second-hand and third-hand tobacco smoke in residential housing that improves in-home air quality to decrease persistent asthmatic school aged children and adolescents.
3. Decrease asthma inpatient admissions/readmissions by increasing the number of home assessments following a hospital visit by at least 1% in order to identify and reduce the impact of asthma triggers in home environments.

Tobacco-related solutions have merged into the efforts of the Asthma/Allergies Community Connector Group.