

## **LBACA Community Health Worker Successes**

- Desire on the part of the parents to be educated and make changes to lifestyle and home life
- Commitment to make, in some cases, drastic changes to family life and commit to these changes possibly for life.
- Educate the entire nuclear and extended family on the changes necessary to successfully control the child's asthma.
- The parents must realize some of their actions (i.e. smoking, unbalanced diet, unclean home, inconsistent medical follow up and treatment) has an effect on their child's asthma and they must change their own actions
- Be a role model to their child and follow all medical instructions for themselves
- Learn to be an advocate for their health and their child's health
- Keep up to date and learn all they can about asthma and asthma control even after the CHW relationship has ended
- Continue to develop relationships with medical providers
- Communicate openly with medical providers about asthma and other health issues as the child matures and needs change
- Be involved with the child's school and child-care providers to educate and enforce necessary treatments and awareness regarding child's asthma
- Provide, to the best of their ability, a trigger-free environment. Acknowledge what things they cannot control and which things they can control and do their best to control the controllable.

## **Barriers to successful outcomes of CHW intervention**

- Parents overwhelmed by economic, medical, family, mental and social problems.
- Low educational background that makes understanding the medical condition and treatment difficult. For example, low or no literacy level and cannot read literature provided, even when provided in language of their choice. If literature is explained they can't reference material at a later date. Little or no basic knowledge of anatomy and other scientific facts, such as gravity will aid food traveling to the stomach.
- Lack of parenting skills to supervise and enforce medication treatment, particularly to tweens and teens
- Lack of legal immigration status.
- Fear of reprisals from property owners due to illegal immigration status, owing back rent, and threats of eviction.