



Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma



What is the Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma?

The Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA), started in 1999, is a partnership to improve the lives of children with asthma in the Long Beach community. LBACA is one of 7 sites in the US and Puerto Rico awarded grants under the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's *Allies Against Asthma* program, and one of 12 sites in California awarded grants under The California Endowment's *Community Action to Fight Asthma* (CAFA) Program. Focus is on the community of Long Beach as a whole and zip code 90813 – the most impacted area in the city where model programs will first be developed and tested.



What are the coalition's current activities?

LBACA's activities include a community health worker home visiting program, an asthma resource center, Physician Asthma Care Education training to improve physician asthma management skills and training medical assistants to provide asthma education to patients at provider sites. LBACA is also teaming up with schools, after-school programs, parks and recreational centers to develop asthma-friendly environments and policies; and mobilizing the community to respond to air quality issues, both indoors and outdoors.



What are the coalition's long-term objectives?

- 1) To change the profile of childhood asthma in the most affected areas of the City of Long Beach through improved healthcare delivery and quality, outreach, education, support systems, improved living environments and changes in policy at all levels.
- 2) To improve clinical outcomes including reduction in preventable hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and school absenteeism due to asthma, and enhanced quality of life measures.

Who is represented in the coalition?

Long Beach Memorial Medical Center; Miller Children's Hospital; The Children's Clinic; parents of children with asthma; community residents; the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services; Miller Foundation; Long Beach Unified School District; Families in Good Health at St. Mary's Medical Center; Head Start; Healthy Connections; Greater Long Beach YMCA; American Lung Association of Los Angeles County; Partnership for the Public's Health; Universal Care; LA Care Health Plan; CSULB; USC; Long Beach City College; Community Partners Council; City of Long Beach Neighborhood Improvement Project and Dept of Parks and Recreation; Long Beach Press Telegram; State Assemblymember Betty Karnette's Office; State Senator Alan Lowenthal's Office; Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal's Office; Apartment Association of CA Southern Cities; South Coast Air Quality Management District; Coalition for Clean Air; Sick of the Port; Physicians for Social Responsibility; CORAL After School Program; Legal Aid Foundation; Smokefree Apartment House Registry; Merck & Co.; and GlaxoSmithKline.



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How can I contact LBACA?

If you'd like to join LBACA, or if you would like more information about us, please contact Elisa Nicholas, MD, MSPH, Project Director or Elina Green, MPH, Project Manager at 562-427-4249.