



THE WEST VIRGINIA ASTHMA EDUCATION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM

The West Virginia Asthma Education and Prevention Program (AEPP) was created by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources through a cooperative grant agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The AEPP is located within the Bureau for Public Health's Division of Health Promotion and Chronic Disease. AEPP works jointly with other programs in Chronic Disease to incorporate the overlapping issues from each disease and to reach a larger population within West Virginia.

The mission of AEPP is to develop, implement, and evaluate a statewide strategic asthma plan in the ultimate interest of reducing the health and economic consequences attributed to asthma in West Virginia. AEPP strives to help the more than **150,000 West Virginians who have asthma** and aspires to highlight asthma as a priority health concern in order to reduce suffering, disability, death, and economic costs related to asthma.

During the first grant period 2001-2004 the AEPP and its partners:

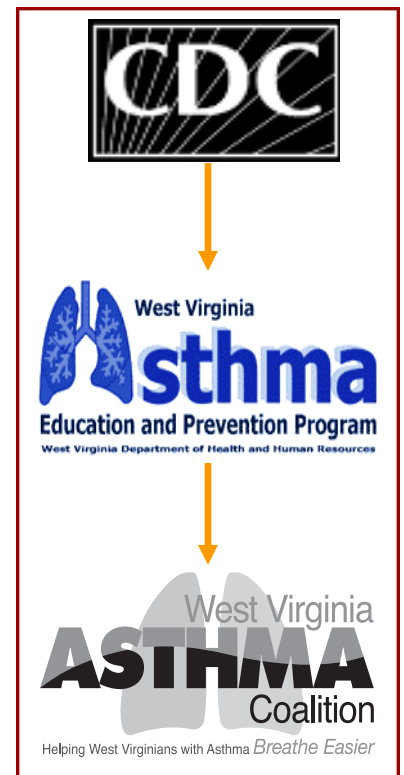
- Initiated an asthma surveillance system.
- Formed the **West Virginia Asthma Coalition** (WVAC).
- Developed a strategic plan to address asthma.

During the second grant period 2004-2007 the goals were to:

- Improve the asthma surveillance system.
- Implement select interventions.
- Complete as many strategic plan activities as possible.

In the grant period 2007-2009, AEPP and its partners:

- Expanded asthma surveillance (including the Asthma Call-back Survey).
- Collaborated with others to integrate activities and facilitate the achievement of mutually beneficial goals.
- Increased membership in the WVAC.
- Increased provider education on the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute's (NHLBI) *Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Asthma* and to improve asthma self-management skills among people with asthma.
- Completed as many strategic plan activities as possible.



West Virginia Asthma Education and Prevention Program

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In the current grant period 2009-2014, AEPP and its partners are:

- Continuing and increasing surveillance for all population groups with asthma in West Virginia;
- Development and implementation of an overall evaluation plan of AEPP, its partners, and the WVAC;
- Collaborating with organizations, groups, and individuals to integrate program activities to facilitate the implementation of the *Strategic Plan for Addressing Asthma 2010-2014* goals and objectives;
- Increasing and diversifying the membership of the West Virginia Asthma Coalition;
- Increasing provider education and adherence of the NHLBI's Asthma Guidelines (including the Guidelines Implementation Panel Report), increasing asthma self-management skills specifically to recognizing asthma triggers, signs & symptoms of asthma, and avoiding environmental triggers.

AEPP FUNDED PARTNERSHIPS

American Lung Association in West Virginia (ALAWV)

Through a contract with the AEPP, ALAWV manages the West Virginia Asthma Coalition (WVAC) via a WVAC Manager. The WVAC Manager works closely with AEPP in the development and facilitation of *The Strategic Plan for Addressing Asthma 2010-2014* in conjunction with managing the activities of the WVAC. The WVAC via the ALAWV and the AEPP work to host activities such as World Asthma Day, Asthma & COPD Awareness Day at the State Capitol, Breathe Well Live Well Trainings, Open Airways for Schools Trainings, and many other activities.

West Virginia University - Office of Health Services Research (OHSR)

A partner with AEPP since 2003, OHSR conducts the Clinic-based Asthma Management Program (C-bAMP) in community health centers throughout the state. C-bAMP promotes utilization of the NHLBI's Asthma Guidelines and empowers health care practitioners to provide the highest quality of care for their patients with asthma. This process is assisted by a chronic registry system called CDEMS (chronic disease electronic management system) which OHSR provides to clinics in West Virginia at NO COST, providing technical support and quality assurance guidance.

West Virginia Division of Tobacco Prevention (WVDTP)

AEPP in partnership with the WVDTP created two 30-second commercials about Asthma and the effects of Second-Hand Smoke and Cigarette Smoking. View them at: www.wvdtp.org. This continued collaboration also developed a *Smoking and Asthma* brochure addressing asthma health issues, smoking, and statistics in West Virginia. These brochures are available by contacting AEPP or by viewing them online at www.wvasthma.org.

Charleston Area Medical Center (CAMC) - Self Care Management Program for Seniors (WVChAMPS)

A partner since 2008, the CAMC - WVChAMPS program provides asthma education to patients and enables them to effectively control their lung condition. Seniors aged 64 and above are the target population of this project.



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