

2020 CCARE Highlighted Activities

October 2019 to September 2020

In 2019, the Asthma and Community Health Branch (ACHB) initiated a 5-year initiative called [CCARE](#), or Controlling Childhood Asthma and Reducing Emergencies, with a target of preventing 500,000 hospitalizations and emergency department visits due to asthma in children over 5 years. CCARE seeks to reach this objective by increasing the reach of six evidence-based strategies for asthma control known as “[EXHALE](#)”. Despite the challenges of 2020, we were able to both engage partners and create resources in CCARE’s first year. Here are some highlighted activities:

Federal Partners

- The **Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)** launched a [Learning Collaborative](#) to support state Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) agencies’ efforts to improve health outcomes among beneficiaries with asthma.
- Eight state programs participate in an asthma affinity group. The affinity group supports states as they identify, implement, and scale asthma initiatives. CDC provides asthma subject matter expertise.

National Non-Governmental Organizations

- The **National Environmental Education Foundation (NEEF)** has partnered with CDC to launch a new free online certification course for [Pediatric Asthma Management](#). This accredited eLearning program was developed to help pediatric healthcare providers manage environmental asthma triggers and interventions. The course has been accessed over 250,000 times since it was launch in May 2020.
- The **Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA)** produced a [2020 Asthma Disparities Report](#) that synthesized current knowledge related to health disparities—and where available, asthma in particular—and offers recommendations for action. The 2020 AAFA Disparities Report incorporates the National Asthma Control Program’s CCARE goal and EXHALE Strategies.
- The EXHALE Technical Package strategies will be used as one of the elements in the updated **American Lung Association’s (ALA)** [National Asthma Public Policy Agenda](#).

State partners

- The purpose of funding opportunity EH19-1902, **A Comprehensive Public Health Approach to Asthma Control Through Evidence-Based Interventions**, is to support asthma control services and to reduce asthma morbidity, mortality, and disparities. The 25 state and local recipients funded under this initiative are strengthening their organizations and expanding the reach of services through the six EXHALE strategies.

Tools

- With the help of the Agency for Healthcare Research (AHRQ), we created materials to support the EXHALE strategies:
 - » A report that describes community health worker certification and its relationship with outcomes for people with asthma and other illnesses: [Impact of Community Health Worker Certification on Workforce and Service Delivery for Asthma and Other Selected Chronic Diseases](#)
 - » A report that describes the attributes and contents of Asthma Self-Management Education Packages: [Characteristics of Existing Asthma Self-Management Education Packages](#)



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