Genesee County Asthma Network (GCAN)

Controlling Asthma in Genesee County, Michigan

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GCAN – Scope of Program

Location: Flint, MI
Type: Community Coalition
Service Area: Genesee County and surrounding areas; City of Flint
Population Served: 10,854 children and 30,156 adults with asthma
Key Players: American Lung Association (ALA), a network of 81 churches focused on community health, several local universities, Genesee County Medical Society Environmental Committee, Public Health Department and the local tobacco coalition
Results: In first year, hospital savings of $660,000, 45% decrease in emergency department (ED) visits over two years, 25% decrease in hospitalizations and decreased missed school days.
GCAN – Scope of Program

Serves both adult and child with focus on inter-city children in Genessee county and surrounding area’s

Number of Patients Served
- 150-200 patients served per year through the disease management
- Approx. 2000 people served through health fairs, school and church education and presentations/year

GCAN – Asthma Camp
**GCAN – 5 Key Elements**

**Tailored Environmental Interventions**
- IHAT – In Home Assessment tool (developed with U of M Flint)
- Habitat for Humanities (trigger free home for patient)
- Local Health Department (Environmental Sanitarian)

**Integrated Health Care Services**
- Local Physician Education
- Hospital based – closely associated with Asthma Clinic

**Effective Care for People with Asthma**

**Committed Program Champions**
- Hurley Medical Center
- American Lung Association
- Local Universities
- Local Health Program
- Pharmaceutical Companies
- Mott Children's Health Center

**Strong Community Ties**
- Faith Based Community – FACED
- Local Health Department
- SMART Coalition (tobacco)
- Local Intermediate School Districts

**High-Performing Collaboration & Partnerships**
- Asthma Camp (in collaboration with U of M Flint)
- Health Department (home screening for mold)

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**GCAN – Key Process & Health Outcome Goals**

**Process Outcome Goals**
- Complete home assessments including all rooms of the house
- Telephone coaching
- Emergency Department interventions

**Health Outcome Goals**
- Decrease Emergency Department visits
- Decrease asthma hospitalizations
- Improved quality of life factors (eg. Missed school days)
GCAN – Key Health Outcomes

In 1st year had $660,000 in cost savings
- ED visits ↓ 45%
- Hospitalizations ↓ 25%
- Intensive Care ↓ 18%

For 2006 – 2008
- ED visits from 516 --> 61
- Hospital stays from 283 --> 42
- IHAT ↓ 55% in second hand smoke for those who received in home asthma education

GCAN – Financing

- Hurley Medical Center is our primary funding source with in-kind funds
- Secondary funding sources are Federal, State and Local Grants
- Funding Issues:
  - Working with Hurley Medical Center as a fiduciary has enabled us to develop our programs goals and initiatives
  - Because we are not our own 501-C3 limits our ability to get grant funding and other sustainable funding
- Proposed Solution:
  - Seeking health plan reimbursement and other sustainable sources of funding
The causes and impacts of asthma are identified and managed in our community.

To continue to improve the quality of life with asthma and their families through research, education, advocacy and community partnership

- Funding will be actively sought to maintain stability and sustainability

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**GCAN - Summary**

Asthma management is effectively facilitated with expertise from diversified community partners.

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