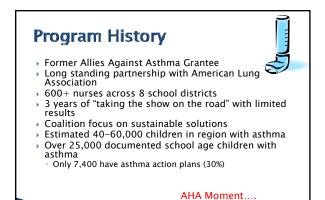


Learning Objectives

- Describe the utility of a virtual learning community approach to implement an NHLBI Guideline compatible regional school nurse champion program.
- Identify key components to preparing school nurses to serve as lead mentors and champions within their school system for best practice asthma management.
- Demonstrate the program components needed to support school nurses in taking and passing the national asthma educators examination.
- Assess the approaches to engaging school systems in participating in a virtual learning community for asthma management.
- Discuss the impact of the Asthma and Allergy (A2) School Nurse Expert Program on asthma management in the southeastern region of Virginia.



Funding

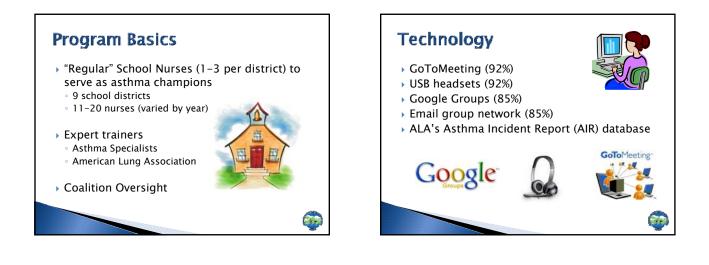


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- Year 1 Virginia Department of Health Asthma Control Project/Virginia Asthma Coalition (\$4,700)
- > Year 2 No Funding maintained by coalition
- Year 3 American Lung Association Asthma Friendly Schools Grant (\$15,000)
- Year 4 No Funding maintained by coalition
- Lots of in-kind staff and logistical support from American Lung Association & Eastern Virginia Medical School

Phila:

Asthma & Allergy School Nurse Expert (A2) Program Goals Improve asthma management in schools through increasing the number of school nurses who are certified asthma educators Develop collaborative network to identify & implement solutions improve asthma management to focus on: Increased staff, student and parent education on asthma basics & emergency response Implementation of supportive policies, procedures, & guidelines Increased use of asthma action plans Disseminate 6 key messages for asthma



Training

- Monthly training via GoToMeeting
- Limited in-person training sessions & materials
- American Lung Association's Asthma Educator Institute
- $^\circ\,$ Nurse Asthma Care and Education (NACE) program
- <u>The Asthma Educator's Handbook</u>
- DVD AE-C prep course from Association of Asthma Educators
- Goal: NAECB Certified Asthma Educator Exam







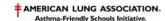
A2 Nurse responsibilities

- Attend web and in-person training
- Utilize e-resources & hard copy materials
- Provide ongoing staff training
- Nurses, teachers, administrators, coaches, bus drivers, etc
- Consultation on tough cases
- Implement educational offerings
- Champion policies



American Lung Association Partnership

- Asthma-Friendly School Initiative_® best practice materials & training
 - **Open Airways For Schools**
 - Asthma 101, What You Need to Know[™]
 - Asthma Educator Institute
- Expertise
- Access to Asthma Friendly Schools Network
- Real partnership



Outcomes

Change in Expertise & Intention

- Pre-program, 77% did not plan to take AE-C exam
- Post-program, 8% did not plan to take AE-C exam
- (p = .02)
- 9 passed AE-C exam, 3 did not pass (75% pass rate)

Education & Expertise

- Average of 800 person-hours of education provided each year to program participants
- > 2010-2011 School Year 9, 746 person hours of participant education
- Yearly in-services to nursing staff Tracking Asthma Action Plan usage
- Increased program participation in 2010-11 81% (11 nurses to 20)
- Maintained participation of 60-70% live web conferences across year

Program challenges

- Difficulties with scheduling online & in-person meetings
- Variable implementation of programs at school sites
- Difficulty tracking outcomes at the school and child level
- Lack of provider utilization of asthma action plans
- Poor parental follow through
- Hesitancy to implement policies by schools
- Lack of technology expertise of nurses
- Firewall issues for web conferencing

Success Stories



- Flooring replacement policy
- Extension of AE-C activities into greater community
- Schools tracking Asthma Action Plans & asthma-related data
- Identification of care continuum issue with emergency services
- Sustainable, cost-effective program for improving asthma management
- One district-wide Tools for Schools program



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Questions?



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