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Asthma / Allergies / Tobacco Use

2019 Collaborative CHNA Health Issue Key Findings

The Pinellas County School Nurses report supports the data collected during the 2019 Community Health Needs Assessment, which reflected that more children face asthma than any other health issue.

- 44.4% of parent survey respondents reported children in their home have faced allergies.
- 19.9% of parent survey respondents reported children in their home have faced asthma.
- A sample from four Pinellas hospitals from 2018, reported that there were 227 Emergency Center visits for uncontrolled asthma for children 17 years old and younger.

Outcomes-Driven Activities

Promotion

Promote a non-smoking environment and lifestyle for children to make school campuses a “smoke-free” zone for anyone present. Advocate to secure commitments from community grant funders that all grants awarded for children’s activities must be tobacco free worksites, which will limit smoking environments around children

Access

Reduce asthmatic episodes by increasing the number of home assessments to identify environmental triggers and resolution for triggers.

Improve

Enhance nursing education on how to better manage daily asthma symptoms and prevent emergencies. Provide school nurses with nebulizers to assist in manage disease and reduce time away from the classroom.

PROPOSED OBJECTIVES

1. Increase parental awareness of tobacco free policies — including vaping and e-cigarettes — by adding updated “tobacco free” signage at 80% of Pinellas County Schools, by Dec. 31, 2022.
2. Increase number of outpatient referrals to home assessment providers (pulmonologists/APRNs) to reduce the impact of asthma triggers in home environment to Pinellas County children with persistent asthma by 2020 year-end.
3. Partner with funding or regulatory providers of children’s services to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke by increasing the number of smoke free worksites by at least 2% by Dec. 31, 2022.
4. Increase access to supplemental medical equipment (nebulizers, aero chambers) to improve use of prescription medications at Pinellas County Schools by Dec. 31, 2022.

