

# KENTUCKY ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (KAMP)

## PROTECTING HEALTH, SAVING COSTS: WHY KENTUCKY NEEDS THE NATIONAL ASTHMA CONTROL PROGRAM

The **Kentucky Asthma Management Program (KAMP)** has been part of CDC's National Asthma Control Program (NACP) since 2000. They work alongside partners to improve the quality of asthma care, improve asthma management in schools, and foster policies to help reduce exposure to asthma triggers in outdoor, indoor, and workplace environments.

### KENTUCKY'S ASTHMA BURDEN:

- Over 455,000 people in Kentucky have asthma, including almost 47,000 children.
- Asthma is the most common chronic condition in Kentucky schools, affecting over 37,000 students during the 2023–2024 school year.
- 20.6% of Kentuckians with asthma have uncontrolled asthma, leading to higher emergency department visits and greater healthcare costs.
- Adults with asthma face considerable health challenges: 20.8% rated their health as poor and 22.4% could not afford to see a doctor.
- Asthma-related school absences cost Kentucky an estimated \$2.35 million annually.

### KEY OUTCOMES FROM KENTUCKY ASTHMA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM:

KAMP leads data-driven initiatives to address asthma in high-burden communities and among pediatric populations.

#### Asthma Quality Improvement Project (AQIP):

- Reduced pediatric uncontrolled asthma by 35% and improved asthma outcomes for over 10,000 children.
- Achieved a 628% increase in completed Asthma Action Plans and a 568% increase in self-management education.

#### Stock Bronchodilator Rescue Inhaler (BRI) Program:

- 17 school districts participated in 2024; 12 emergency uses of stock BRI documented.
- Prevented an estimated \$20,800+ in emergency and follow-up care costs.

#### Community Health Worker (CHW) Healthy Homes Training:

- Over 100 CHWs trained in identifying and mitigating asthma triggers in homes.



- Independent evaluation showed 98% of CHWs increased confidence in improving client outcomes.

#### ECONOMIC IMPACT:

- Kentucky spends \$1,561,434,301.06 on direct (\$1.5 billion) and indirect (\$86.5 million) costs related to asthma annually.
- The estimated cost for a person with asthma in Kentucky is \$5,348.21 annually. A person with uncontrolled asthma spends over double the amount as someone with treated asthma (\$3,396.98 versus \$7,217.67).
- Kentucky is awarded \$520,229 annually under the NACP—the program in turn **saves Kentucky \$36,416,030** in health care costs each year KAMP is funded.

#### WHY FEDERAL FUNDING MATTERS:

KAMP receives essential funding through the NACP, which supports broad-reaching interventions across schools, homes, and healthcare systems.

#### THE RISKS OF DEFUNDING:

- **Increased uncontrolled asthma** in Kentucky—a state already above national averages.
- **Rising school absences and medical costs** for families.
- **Loss of expansive public-private partnerships** that extend asthma services into underserved communities.
- **Job cuts** not only among state staff but throughout KAMP's community-based partner network.

**THE NATIONAL ASTHMA CONTROL PROGRAM** is essential to Kentucky's ability to manage asthma, improve quality of life, and save healthcare costs. Restoring and protecting NACP funding ensures people with asthma in Kentucky—especially the most vulnerable—continue to receive the education, support, and services they need to breathe easier.