



Community Grant Outcome Report

Name: Reducing Household Asthma Triggers in Dane County African American Households

Grantee: African American Health Network of Dane County (AAHN)

Academic Partner: Gloria Johnson-Powell, MD, Professor, Psychiatry, UW SMPH

Program: Development

Grant Duration: 01/01/2005 to 12/31/2005 (12 months)

Expenditures: \$23,390 of \$25,000 (94% expended)

Use of Funds: Public awareness

► **Description:** Implement a community-based parent/community mentor model of peer education and home visitation to help reduce asthma risks in African American households. Provide education on ways to identify and manage household asthma triggers.

► **Results:** This community-based participatory project was designed to raise awareness of household asthma triggers and provide education and resources to assist pilot families with the abatement of assessed triggers, as well as enhance community awareness and action around environmental asthma triggers and plan culturally appropriate asthma education and outreach for African American households. Over the year of the project, AAHN successfully engaged key African American community leaders and other partner organizations to highlight the issues of household asthma triggers in African American households, and improved the infrastructure and capacity of a local African American agency to address not only asthma but other pertinent health issues as well. AAHN provided in-home asthma trigger education, follow-up, and supplies to 8 households and held public community education forums on the issue. Finally, they trained 8 community mentors to provide asthma outreach and engaged with other health care providers to address the cultural competence needs of the target families. Despite the non-availability of culturally-specific materials at local asthma clinics, clinics enthusiastically responded to suggestions to obtain new materials. Project staff discovered that a local asthma workgroup (Dane County Asthma Coalition) had developed similar to what the project had envisioned for a collaborative

healthcare provider and community planning around asthma, so AAHN deferred plans to develop a separate planning committee and MOUs and instead chose to participate with the existing coalition.

► **Met Objectives:** Partially met

► **Baseline Progress on SHP Objectives:** Yes – Environmental health

► **Academic Partner Role:** The academic partner served in a limited, consultative role.

► **Matched Dollars (cash or in-kind):** \$2,500

► **Dissemination:** Project was discussed at the 2006 Wisconsin Asthma Coalition meeting with enthusiastic reception, and featured in *Umoja* and *The Madison Times*, local print media widely read by minority community members.

► **Sustained:** No