

Asthma Preventive Services and Asthma Remediation:

Changing Lives One Breath at a Time

Medi-Cal's asthma home visiting services – [Asthma Preventive Services](#) (APS) and [Asthma Remediation](#) (AR) – improve health outcomes, decrease healthcare utilization, and reduce health disparities. Increasing utilization of these services will help reduce the burden of asthma and promote health equity in California. Here are testimonials and stories about the impact of asthma home visiting services in California from Medi-Cal members, medical providers, and home visiting program staff.

“I have moderate to severe asthma and struggle daily with cleaning and keeping my place ventilated and free of dust. [The Asthma Remediation staff] came in with helpful information, tools, and other helpful items to aid in controlling my asthma. My asthma health educator explained what triggers to look out for and helped me identify things in my apartment that might be negatively affecting my asthma. [Asthma Remediation] is a wonderful tool and free service for those with this debilitating disease. It provides helpful information, [and] a look into your home to find asthma [triggers]. My asthma health educator was wonderful, patient, and I felt like he really listened to me speak about my condition and found helpful tools and items for my specific case.” – Member



“Thanks to the asthma program visits, I felt I wasn't alone in managing my asthma. The program gave me practical tools like a HEPA vacuum that really helped with cleaning. The air purifier made a noticeable difference in my breathing. I also received a dehumidifier that helped reduce humidity in my apartment. These tools helped me breathe easier. I appreciate all the support and advice about avoiding asthma triggers such as mold, dust, and poor outdoor air.” – Member



Asthma Remediation has been a breath of fresh air. Literally, thank you guys for helping me catch my breath again.

– Member

“I didn't know my home could be making my asthma worse—now I breathe easier every day. The home visits helped me understand my triggers and take control of my health. [The home visitors] didn't just care about my asthma—they cared about me.”

– Member

"I want to thank the program because all the supplies that [the home visitor] brought me. [She] is a spectacular person who took the time to patiently teach me and explained to me how I can be better with my asthma condition. I want to thank the program, and I hope they continue working with this program with other people, especially those with low resources who cannot buy these expensive products, for example, like the [air] purifier, the mattress protector, and all the things." – Member

"Asthma Remediation gave us tools, education, and support that we never got at the clinic. It changed how we live in our home and gave us peace of mind." – Mother of a member

"I was kind of skeptical but [the asthma home visitor] really understood where I was coming from, when I really said I couldn't breathe. She pinpointed my triggers and for the last past three months I have better rest at night, [and] I'm not as winded doing little activities. She helped me understand that from where I sleep to the cleaning products I use can irritate my respiratory system, but we all got it figured out." – Member

"I'd like to express my deep appreciation to the asthma program. I received essential tools like an air purifier, HEPA vacuum, and a dehumidifier. All these helped improve my quality of life. I sleep better, breathe easier, and have fewer asthma symptoms. I also learned how to reduce asthma triggers inside my home and be cautious of outdoor air. Thank you for supporting me and making my home healthier." – Member

"I struggled with constant breathing problems and shortness of breath. The knowledge that [the home visitor shared] is astounding. My breathing, my asthma, my allergies are so much better. It has significantly changed since my appointment with [the Asthma Remediation program]. My asthma educator is one of the most knowledgeable men I've ever met. The professionalism, the humanity, the kindness was absolutely exemplary. I truly felt that he really does care about my well-being and my health and you don't get that in life. I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this program and for my educator." – Member

"Before the home visits, my son was in the ER almost every month. Since the program helped us remove mold and taught us how to manage triggers, he hasn't had a single emergency visit in over a year." – Mother of a member

"[My] husband has not had an asthma exacerbation for two months thanks to your program. We are very appreciative of everything you guys were able to do for him." – Member's wife



"As a pediatrician caring for children with asthma, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact of the Asthma Remediation Program on my patients' health and daily lives. Many of my patients' asthma symptoms are triggered by environmental factors—such as mold, dust mites embedded in carpeting, and cockroach infestations—in their homes. This program enables us to tackle those root causes. I still remember the look of relief on many parents' faces when I tell them the program is covered by [their Medi-Cal managed care plan]. Asthma medication can be effective but it's really the combination of medical treatment and environmental intervention that truly makes the difference. [F]or a majority of my patients once their environment improves, they end up no longer needing any medication. This program is invaluable and life-changing. It empowers children to breathe easier and live healthier." – Clarisse Casilang, MD, FAAP, Community Pediatrics Lead Physician, Children's Hospital of Orange County



"As a Respiratory Therapist, I've seen firsthand how Asthma Remediation significantly reduces the burden of asthma. Providing simple, tangible interventions to improve home environments has led to a 70% reduction in daily symptoms among our program participants. They report less shortness of breath, fewer limitations in daily activities, and reduced absences from work and school. These improvements not only enhance quality of life but also lower hospital utilization and overall healthcare costs." – Angela Maskill, Respiratory Therapist, Reinvestment Partners

"Asthma management is not simply a question of medication, but also health equity. Community Health Workers are trained to evaluate for pests, mold/moisture, odors and chemical irritants and other health hazards that the family may not realize are affecting the child's asthma and allergies. To visit a patient in the place where they sleep, play, eat and bathe gives us an understanding of the things they are exposed to every day. Caregivers feel at ease in the comfort of their own house, and this is instrumental for teaching self-management, and ultimately essential in the holistic care of children with asthma and allergies." – Kimberlee Honda, Nurse Practitioner, Clinic Director, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center



"As a clinician, I have seen firsthand the impact the Asthma Home Remediation program has on families. Just yesterday, I spoke with a mother who was so grateful for the support and resources provided for her daughter. Programs like this are essential because they extend the care we provide in the clinic into the home. By reducing triggers and supporting families the program helps us achieve better asthma control for our patients." – Linda Mendoza, Nurse Practitioner and Asthma Educator, Children's Hospital of Orange County

"Educating clients about asthma is essential for effective management of the condition. [But it's] not just about education – it's about building trust and resilience. We see lives change when families feel empowered in their own homes. Asthma home visits bridge the gap between clinical care and real-life solutions." – Home visiting staff, Watts Healthcare, Inc.

"As someone deeply involved in providing Asthma Remediation Services to underserved communities, I have seen firsthand just how life-changing home visits can be. Asthma isn't just managed in doctor's offices; it's managed in the daily lives of families, right inside their homes. Each home is different, with unique triggers and challenges that can't be understood without stepping into their world. For the underserved communities I assist, home visits represent a lifeline—a bridge to better health, fewer emergencies, and improved quality of life. Without this proactive care, families face much greater risks of hospital visits, missed school and work days, and ongoing anxiety about health. Asthma Remediation goes beyond traditional healthcare and reaches into the very heart of each home and family, bringing lasting change where it's needed most." – Rosie Cruz-Pina, Oxnard Family Circle

"We have heard over and over again how essential asthma home visits have been from community members, our frontline Community Health Workers, and clinic partners. It is saving lives. We share the same goals as Medi-Cal to reduce asthma hospitalizations, emergency room visits, and fatalities from an asthma attack." Jenny Ton, Safer Together



"The client, a five-year-old girl, initially scored five on the children's Asthma Control Test (ACT), indicating severe asthma [a score of 19 or lower indicates poorly controlled asthma]. She was unable to play without experiencing symptoms, had difficulty sleeping, was being homeschooled due to concerns about asthma attacks, and had a history of frequent ED visits. The mother, desperate for help, did her research and found us online. We visited the home and installed two HEPA air purifiers. During the visit, dinner preparation coincided with the patient experiencing breathing difficulties. Our team provided education regarding proper ventilation. Since the initial intervention, we have maintained contact and observed notable improvement in the child's well-being." – Cal Carrera, Soteria Home Health Agency, Inc.



"The asthma program serves as an invaluable community resource, offering comprehensive support that directly translates into improved health outcomes for participants. I have personally observed the profound and positive impact that targeted home modifications can have on a client's asthma control. By the time clients complete the program, their Asthma Control Test scores are noticeably higher, signifying a substantial improvement in their asthma management and overall quality of life." – Home visiting staff, Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals



Learn about the impact of Asthma Remediation on Sherida's life, in her own words, by watching [this short video](#).

"[Asthma Remediation] has been invaluable, allowing us to make a profound impact on the health and well-being of over 400 families. Through this program, we've been able to provide families with the tools and knowledge to effectively remediate their homes. Our dedicated Promotores have worked directly with participants, offering culturally and environmentally appropriate education. This has empowered families to not only identify and remove asthma triggers but also to actively manage their uncontrolled asthma symptoms. [We] are incredibly proud of the progress our participants have made." – Home visiting staff, Latino Health Access

"Patients who welcome us so kindly into their homes do so because they know that our only goal is to help make their living environments a safe and healthy space for them. Doctors and nurses already have so much on their plates that they might not be able to look into the home environment to pinpoint what may be triggering asthma symptoms for a patient. [Home visitors are able] to spend that time getting to know each patient and their living spaces. Asthma Remediation has helped hundreds of asthma patients in our community breathe easier and live better." – Asthma Health Educator, Breathe California of the Bay Area, Golden Gate, and Central Coast

"It is truly rewarding to work in the asthma management program, as it allows me to educate children, parents, and adults about asthma. [It] is inspiring to see clients, especially children, thrive once they understand and avoid their asthma triggers. They overcome health challenges and experience the freedom of easy breathing. Empowering individuals with a thorough understanding of asthma's various components enables them to regain control of their lives." – Home visiting staff, Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals

No-cost Support is Available from RAMP

We're here to help managed care plans and asthma home visiting programs increase utilization of these important services. Reach out to us at TA@rampasthma.org!



Client testimony and/or home visiting visuals were generously shared by the following organizations: Breathe California of the Bay Area, Golden Gate, and Central Coast, Breathe Southern California, Dignity Health Mercy & Memorial Hospitals, La Maestra Community Health Centers, Latino Health Access, Somali Family Services of San Diego, Vision y Compromiso, and Watts Healthcare, Inc.