



**ASTHMA & ALLERGY
FOUNDATION OF AMERICA
MICHIGAN
(AAFA-MI)**

WHO WE ARE

- Not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) founded in 1984
- Part of the oldest (1953) asthma and allergy patient group in the world
- **Our mission is to improve quality of life for individuals & communities affected by asthma and allergies through education, training and advocacy**

We are Michigan's only asthma & allergy charity!

FOCUS AREAS & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

AAFA offers many educational programs and tools, such as:

- Programs for all ages
- Programs for caregivers and health care providers
- Printed materials and tools
- Online resources
- Newsletters and magazines
- Resources and tools in Spanish



PROGRAM AREAS

Patients and Caregivers

- Asthma Care for Adults
- Wee Breathers
- Managing Food Allergies
- Certified Asthma & Allergy Friendly products

Health Care Professionals

- Asthma Management Education (AME-O)
- Ready? Set? Go with Asthma! Exercise-Induced Asthma
- Asthma and Allergy Education for Worksite Clinicians

FOCUS AREAS & PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Advocacy

- We work with the government to create laws that improve and protect quality of life.
- We support policies that include:
 - Clinical diagnosis, treatment and management
 - Outdoor and indoor air quality
 - Healthy settings in homes, schools and communities

ADVOCACY AREAS

Access to Medication

Albuterol in Schools

Clean Air

Climate and Health

Food Allergies

Food Allergies in Child Care
Settings (Elijah's Law)

Healthy Settings

National Asthma Control
Program

Patient and Family
Engagement

Research

FOCUS AREA: DISPARITIES

Asthma Disparities in America: A Roadmap to Reducing Burden on Racial and Ethnic Minorities

Sept 2020 Report (an update of the 2005 Report)

- Not many improvements noted from the 2005 report
- Differences in asthma prevalence, morbidity and mortality are highly correlated with poverty, urban air quality, indoor allergens, lack of patient education and inadequate medical care continue to be critical issues

FOCUS AREA: DISPARITIES

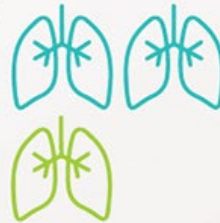
Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous individuals in the U.S. face THE HIGHEST BURDEN OF ASTHMA.

These disparities are caused by complex factors including systemic and structural racism.

Compared to white Americans:



Black Americans are nearly **1.5 times** more likely to have asthma



Puerto Rican Americans are nearly **2 times** more likely to have asthma



Black Americans are **5 times** more likely to visit the emergency department due to asthma



Black Americans are **3 times** more likely to die from asthma



When sex is factored in, **BLACK WOMEN** have the highest rates of death due to asthma



Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America

aafa.org/asthmadisparities

FOCUS AREA: DISPARITIES

Strategies to Improve Asthma Health in Underserved Populations

The focus now has shifted from describing this problem to finding solutions for it. There is no single, specific solution to the problem of disparities. Solutions must be holistic and target the complex factors that lead to increased burden on racial and ethnic minority populations.

- Public policy reform
- Direct interventions to improve asthma self-management
- Community-based programs
- Advancement in research and science

AAFA's Asthma Disparities in America report identifies 69 strategies to address disparities.



HEAL INNOVATION

- Three-year project with the goal of building and supporting effective, multi-component community-based interventions for asthma
- Strategic focus on populations where we can make the biggest difference:
 - Adults and adolescents (unmet need)
 - Racial/ethnic minority populations (higher risk)
 - Socioeconomically disadvantaged populations (higher risk)
- Four local programs supported per year – 2022 will be Chicago, Connecticut, Los Angeles and Detroit

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Michigan



CARE COORDINATION

- Specialty care: Coordinate 2x/year visits to an asthma specialist
- Primary care: Coordinate care with primary healthcare provider



ASTHMA SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

- Implement ASTHMA Care for Adults program
- Includes education on asthma symptoms, treatment adherence, trigger reduction, communicating with asthma care team, etc.



GENERAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Coordinate & cover cost 2x/year visits to a nutritionist
- Provide vouchers (Rx for Health) to local farmers' market
- Facilitate use of regular exercise and offer free access to exercise classes/programs



HOME ASSESSMENT AND TOOLS

- Implement virtual home visit
- Apply AAFA's *TakeControl* texting program
- Air Cleaner & Water Filter incentives
- Provide education on green cleaning practices and offer an initial product supply



OTHER TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- Support tech needs (internet & hardware)
- Share local, state, or federal programs for participants who are uninsured
- Develop resource list (healthcare resources, other agencies, legal/housing/landlord, etc.)

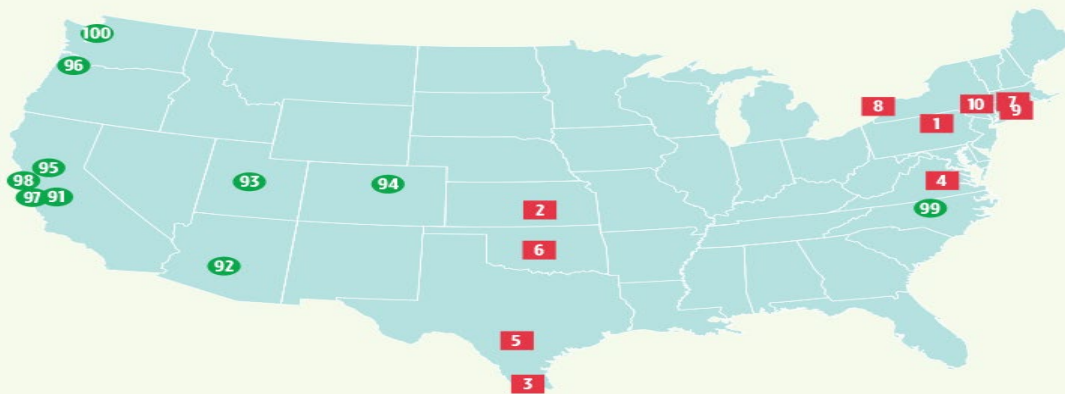


The Most Challenging Places to Live With Asthma

Detroit area ranked 15th in 2021 due to high prevalence & asthma-related deaths. As with other cities in the top 20, high poverty rates & poor air quality are risk factors. These factors likely contribute to the city's high rates of quick-relief medicine use, another risk factor that is linked to poor asthma control.

2022 Allergy Capitals

SEASONAL ALLERGIES The most and least challenging cities for spring and fall pollen allergies



aafa Asthma and Allergy
Foundation of America
allergycapitals.com

MOST Challenging Cities

1. Scranton, PA
2. Wichita, KS
3. McAllen, TX
4. Richmond, VA
5. San Antonio, TX
6. Oklahoma City, OK
7. Hartford, CT
8. Buffalo, NY
9. New Haven, CT
10. Albany, NY

LEAST Challenging Cities

91. Fresno, CA
92. Phoenix, AZ
93. Provo, UT
94. Denver, CO
95. Sacramento, CA
96. Portland, OR
97. San Jose, CA
98. San Francisco, CA
99. Durham, NC
100. Seattle, WA

**Detroit area ranked 56th in Fall & 69th in Spring (63rd overall)
Grand Rapids was 25th in Fall & 23rd in Spring (23rd overall)**

ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE @ AAFAMICH.ORG



AAFA-MI Annual Report 2021

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*Thank you to all those who
have contributed time,
support and funds – without
you – we could not exist!*

*Our biggest donors this
year include:*

Janz & Knight PLC:

Roy Michell Foundation
Keith A. Iverson Foundation

Energy Foundation

Each year, AAFA-MI works tirelessly to fulfill our mission to improve the quality of life for those affected by asthma and allergies through education, training and advocacy. 2021 proved to be a challenge but through innovative programming and perseverance, we prevailed.

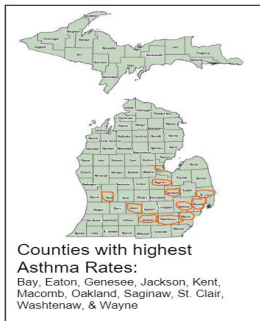
We inspired thousands across Michigan to improve their health through our many programs, but this year focused on delivering these programs in virtual formats. This includes: Facebook Live presentations, workshops presented on video platforms and one-on-one discussions with our asthma educator. We also continued our focus to educate our Legislators on the importance of health first in all policy decisions.

Asthma and allergies (including food) are still one of the most common and most costly chronic diseases. These diseases affect more than 75 million Americans. This is more than diabetes, cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer's & Parkinson's **combined!** Asthma accounts for over 1.6 million annual emergency department visits. Food Allergies account for over 200 thousand ED visits. Asthma alone accounts for \$82 billion in yearly direct and indirect costs. Helping people get better control will save healthcare dollars and improve quality of life.

Michigan has close to a million people with asthma; about 25% are just kids! In fact, it's a big reason why children miss school, go to the emergency room, or are hospitalized. Total annual costs for asthma in Michigan exceed \$395 million - much of this is associated with out-of-control asthma. Which we work every day to help people get better control.

The good news is deaths from asthma are declining. And childhood asthma rates have leveled off. However, racial disparities still persist among the poorest families and asthma is far more common among African-American children than white children.

Thanks to our Executive Director, Board Members, and volunteers we are changing these startling facts for so many in Michigan through our quality programs, services and our passion to do what's best for those affected by asthma and allergies.



- 63,000 people miss school or work due to asthma
- 4,700 people visit the emergency room due to asthma
- 82 people visit the emergency room due to food allergies
- 10 people die from asthma
- median annual medical cost of asthma was \$983 in the U.S. This ranged from an average low of \$833 in Arizona to an average high of \$1,121 in Michigan

◀ Every Day in America

THE BOTTOM LINE

- Proper asthma management has the potential to save at least 25% of total asthma costs—or close to \$5 billion nationwide annually
- Asthma interventions can **save up to \$36** in health care costs and work days lost **for every \$1 spent**
- **FACT:** Targeted Asthma programs improve quality of life, save lives, and enrich community health

CONTACT INFORMATION

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