



## Dear AAFA-STL Supporter:

2014 was a year of incredible growth, new opportunities and great successes for the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter (AAFA-STL). Through our comprehensive asthma and allergy management program, Project Concern (now called Bridging Resources to Encourage Asthma Treatment and Health, or BREATH), 693 clients were served, a whopping 36% increase from 2013. A critical reason for this surge was due to an outbreak of the enterovirus D-68 in the fall, which hit many metro areas hard and proved a challenging illness for children with asthma. In order to respond to the substantial increase in client applications, AAFA-STL was the beneficiary of emergency funding from the Missouri Foundation for Health, which provided a \$20,000 grant to support our Rx assistance program.

AAFA-STL's school nurse asthma equipment program, Resources for Every School Confronting Unexpected Emergencies (RESCUE), continued to see positive growth, with 176 area schools served (up from 155 schools in 2013) and nearly 3,000 pieces of durable medical equipment provided! Our reporting concluded that when a student used a piece of asthma equipment supplied by AAFA-STL in the school setting, they were able to return to the classroom over 82% of the time.

Additionally, AAFA-STL's policy and advocacy efforts continued to gain momentum at the Missouri State Capitol, and for the second time in four years, the organization was successful in passing a bill related to asthma care. The budget bill, HB 2011.528, allows for Medicaid reimbursement to specialists who perform home assessments and also for asthma education to low-income patients with severe asthma. Although not fully implemented and funded until 2015, this was a huge victory for our policy committee and for asthma advocates across the state!

Please take a moment to find additional information on our program outcomes, outreach numbers, financials and valued partnerships throughout this report. Simply put, AAFA-STL's life-saving programs and services exist and continue to grow due to the incredible support we receive from the community--from one-time donors to corporate sponsors to community foundations. For this, we are thankful.

Sincerely,

H. James Wedner, M.D., FACP President

### Words from a Client Family

"My son Kyle suffers from a variety of allergies (seasonal, environmental and worst of all, food allergies). With the diagnosis came the hefty co-pays of \$800 for all 10 of the daily maintenance medications he was to take twice a day. There were many times when I was forced to "stretch" his meds and go without my MS medications just so we could eat and have heat during the winter months. The Asthma and Allergy Foundation, St. Louis Chapter exists so I do not have to make those life-altering decisions any more. In helping Kyle continue to receive his medicine, they have also helped me to manage my MS. I no longer have to decide between his medicine or mine." Mylesa, Client Mother



### Our Mission

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter serves those affected by asthma and allergies of all types through education, support and medical resources.

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Kudos, community partners!

American Lung Association	Schnucks eScrip Program
Asthma Ready Communities	Smoke Free St. Louis City
Advocates for Family Health	Southeast Missouri State University's
Cardinal Glennon Health Care Center	Center for Environmental Analysis
Cardinals Care Redbird Rookies Program	Southwestern Illinois Asthma Coalition
Christian Hospital Asthma Center	St. Louis Children's Hospital (SLCH),
City of St. Louis Department of Health,	(Healthy Kids Express Asthma Program &
(Children's Environmental Health, Asthma	Food Allergy Management and Education
Friendly St. Louis)	Program (FAME))
Gateway FEAST	St. Louis County Department of Health
Kid Friendly Network (IL)	St. Louis Integrated Health Network
Mercy Medical Center	St. Louis Regional Clean Air Coalition
Missouri Asthma Coalition	St. Louis Regional Health Commission
Missouri Asthma Prevention and Control	St. Louis Lead Prevention Coalition
Program	St. Stephen ECD & Preschool
Missouri Foundation for Health	Tobacco Free Missouri
Missouri Primary Care Association	Walter Knoll Florist

## The Facts:

Asthma is a chronic disease that affects your **LUNGS**.



Asthma causes frequent periods of wheezing (a whistling sound when you breathe), chest tightness, shortness of breath, and coughing.

Nationally, 1 in 15 kids has asthma



14 million school days missed

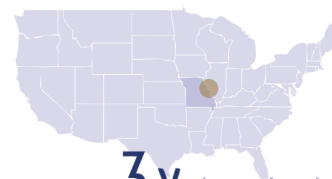
Effective asthma care is expensive



2 in 5 uninsured people with asthma can not afford their prescription medicines

**\$154** average monthly cost for preventative asthma medication - without insurance

Asthma in St. Louis:



asthma rates are **3x** the national average

In St. Louis, asthma is the **#1** reason kids...



visit the ER  
miss school  
are hospitalized

## AAFA-STL's Programs: 2014 Results

### B.R.E.A.T.H

*Bridging Resources to Encourage Asthma Treatment and Health*

AAFA-STL's comprehensive asthma and allergy management program that provides prescription assistance, asthma equipment, education, and support to eligible children that are uninsured or underinsured.

693 Kids

2060

Asthma and Allergy Prescriptions Filled

1032

Allergic Bed Encasings Provided

230

Pieces of Asthma Equipment Provided

61

Referrals to Other Social Service Agencies in St. Louis

75

Percent of Clients Who Had Prescription Coverage Upon Exit

### 2012 - HB1188 Passes in Missouri!



School nurses can stock an asthma rescue medication. The medicine can be used on any child experiencing an asthma attack.



AAFA-STL's R.E.S.C.U.E. Program Continued to Grow in 2014!

176

Schools Received Equipment

1539

Nebulizer Attachments

82

Nebulizer Machines

757

Spacers

83

Percent of Kids Who Were Able to Return to the Classroom After Using a Piece of AAFA-STL Equipment

### R.E.S.C.U.E.

*Resources for Every School Confronting Unexpected Emergencies*

AAFA-STL's school nurse asthma equipment program that provides school nurses the vital tools generally necessary during asthma emergencies.

99

Active Volunteers

People reached through our community outreach efforts

817

Education Classes Taught to School Nurses & Daycare Providers

604

Volunteer Hours

23

United Way  
\$107,921 (17%)

Grants  
\$196,329 (31%)

## FINANCIALS

Special Events  
\$296,049 (47%)

Contributions  
\$34,257 (5%)

**Total Revenue: \$634,640**  
**Total Expenses: \$608,588**



# Thank you to the following corporations, foundations & organizations for their support!

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