



Message from the President

Dear Friends of AAFA,
Since 1981, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter (AAFA) has fulfilled its mission to serve those affected by asthma and allergies by providing education, support and medical resources.

Asthma is a chronic disease in which the airways become blocked or narrowed. This disease can cause severe health problems; however, in most cases treatment can manage the symptoms and allow a sufferer to live a normal and active life. Sharing related symptoms, allergies reflect an overreaction of the immune system to substances that usually cause no reaction in most individuals. With proper management and patient education, allergic diseases can be controlled, and people with allergies can lead normal, productive lives.

Developed in 1993 by the St. Louis Chapter of the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America, Project Concern, is a local program that provides prescription assistance to uninsured and underinsured children. No other AAFA chapter provides these services, and there is no other program like this in the United States.

While asthma is a treatable, manageable disease, it is also the number one chronic childhood disease; the number one disease-related reason for school absenteeism; the number one reason children visit hospital emergency departments; and the number one reason for childhood hospitalizations. Life-saving medications and equipment are available to help control asthma, but children must have access to those medications and equipment.

Thanks to AAFA's staff and volunteer efforts, House Bill 1188 was passed by both the Missouri House and Senate this year. This bill allows school nurses and trained employees to stock and administer albuterol as a rescue medication for any child who may be suffering from an asthma attack. For several years, AAFA has been providing support to the school nurses through both equipment and training of staff and outreach educational programs. Through AAFA's support of the school nurses, these schools will be receiving their albuterol through AAFA's partner pharmacy, Beverly Hills Pharmacy, at no cost.

We thank you for your support of AAFA in 2011 and look forward to your continued support in 2012. Together we can help those living with asthma achieve *life without limits*.™

Sincerely,

J.D. Glisson
President

Mission

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

HISTORY OF NATIONAL AAFA

The Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) was founded in 1953 and has since become the leading national patient and consumer organization helping people with asthma and allergic diseases through education, advocacy, and research. To date, there are eight local chapters throughout the United States.

Alaska, California, Kansas City, Maryland-Greater Washington, D.C., Michigan, New England, St. Louis, and Texas

HISTORY OF THE ST. LOUIS CHAPTER

According to the National AAFA findings, St. Louis has consistently ranked in the top 10 for the highest incidence of asthma and allergies. One reason for this ranking is St. Louis's geographic location between the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, causing air to linger for long periods of time between the rivers. In response to this historically poor air quality, the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter (AAFA) was founded in 1981 by a group of Board Certified Allergists and interested volunteers. The organization elected its first Board President and began offering public and professional education programs. A full-time Executive Director was hired in 1985, and AAFA expanded the reach of its educational programs by organizing a speaker's bureau to deliver presentations to school districts and public forums.

1989 was a year of significant changes as the St. Louis Chapter of AAFA was incorporated as a not-for-profit in the State of Missouri.

In 1993, the Foundation started Project Concern, a program that provided medication assistance and equipment to children from lower income families suffering from asthma and allergies and hired a full-time Director of Programs to handle case management for Project Concern.

Currently, AAFA has a staff of six, including an Executive Director, Program Director, Development Director/Grant Writer, Director of Public Awareness, Program Assistant/Volunteer Coordinator, and an Office Manager. Funding is provided through the support of the United Way, Corporate and Foundation Grants, Individual Donations, three signature events and several small fundraising events each year. The signature fundraising events held annually are the Orchid AAFAir, the Golf Classic, and Trivia Night.



EDUCATION

ABC'S OF ASTHMA AND ALLERGIES

Our program educates school personnel about the symptoms and triggers of and treatments and support for asthma, allergies, and food allergies by participating in community health fairs and science fairs as well as through presentations to schools, staff, parents, students, hospitals, clinics, and workplaces. This course offers one professional clock-hour certificate to child-care provider participants.

Our chapter reached 23,622 people in our community through our educational programs in 2011.

ASTHMA AND ALLERGY ESSENTIALS

We educate child care providers on caring for children with asthma and allergies and providing a safe and healthy environment for children with these chronic diseases. This course offers three professional clock-hour certificates to child-care provider participants.

FOOD ALLERGY MANAGEMENT

This program educates school staff, parents, and students about food allergies and how to manage them in a school setting. We host information on our website for two food allergy support groups: GatewayFEAST (Food Allergies, Eczema, Asthma Support Team) and FAAN (Food Allergy Anaphylactic Network).

DIRECT SERVICES

Project Concern

Project Concern is a comprehensive asthma management program that provides medications, equipment, education, and support to children and young adults with asthma and allergies.

Who Does Project Concern Serve?

- Children and young adults under the age of 22 who:
- Are from low-income families, as determined by the Federal Poverty Guidelines;
- Have no medical coverage; or have private insurance or Medicaid, but need resources not covered under those plans;
- Are in the process of applying for *MO HealthNet for Kids* or *Illinois All Kids* or are waiting for coverage to become effective;
- Are in need of assistance with prescription co-pays;
- Live in the Missouri counties of St. Louis City, St. Louis County, Jefferson, and St. Charles; or in the Illinois counties of Madison and St. Clair.

How Does Project Concern Work?

- If a child sees a physician at one of the children's hospitals or at a neighborhood clinic, a nurse or a social worker can assist with a Project Concern application and mail or fax it to the AAFA office. All applications are reviewed individually and quickly to provide immediate assistance.
- Coverage for an uninsured client lasts for a period of 3 months or a \$925 limit and coverage for our under-insured client lasts until an annual limit of \$925 is reached.
- Our partner pharmacy is Beverly Hills Pharmacy.
- All children enrolled in Project Concern are evaluated on a regular basis for continued eligibility.
- Individual caregivers can contact the Asthma and Allergy Foundation to obtain an application by phone or by use of our website.

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What Is Covered By Project Concern?

- Asthma and Allergy Medicines that are on our approved formulary
- Nebulizers and Attachments
- Peak Flow Meters
- Spacers
- Allergic Bed Encasings
- Asthma Management/Educational Materials

2011 Project Concern Statistics

- Number of children served: 502
- Number of prescriptions filled for children: 925
- Number of durables and encasings provided for children: 739

SPECIAL FUNDING

"Life Without Limits" Fund

Established by AAFA in 2010 to honor the founding physicians, Dr. Raymond Slavin, Dr. Phillip Korenblat, and Dr. Michael Borts, an allergist instrumental in the continued success of AAFA. This fund was created to provide additional support for special requests made by local citizens who are within our scope of service and mission, but outside scope of Project Concern.



VOLUNTEERS

AAFA is supported by a volunteer Board of Directors representing the fields of education, finance, insurance, law, marketing, public relations, and health care. Volunteers are involved and needed in all program areas and fundraising and to assist with professional education seminars, local health screenings/fairs, and the Speakers Bureau.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The complete financial statements, from which the financial highlights were derived, have been determined to present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, St. Louis Chapter, as of December 31, 2011, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. For a complete set of the audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2011, contact the AAFA office.

2011 Revenue



2011 Total Revenues = \$647,310

2011 Total Expenses = \$526,517

2011 Surplus = \$120,793

Funding Sources

FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

- Boling Community Fund
Cardinals Care Foundation
Centene Corporation
Clifford Willard Gaylord Foundation
Covidien Foundation
Dana Brown Charitable Trust
Edward & Thea Lawton Foundation
Emerson
Express Scripts Foundation
John R. Goodall Trust
Missouri Foundation for Health
Old Newsboys Day
Pott Foundation
Sanofi/Aventis Pharmaceuticals
St. Louis Blues/ 14 Fund
St. Louis Christmas Carols Association
St. Louis Philanthropic Foundation
St. Steven ECD & Preschool
Stevens Foundation
The 100 + Project
United Way
United Way of Greater St. Louis
Variety Club

CORPORATIONS

- Adler Photography
Allergan USA, Inc.
Allergy East, Inc.
Allergy, Asthma & Sinus Care Center
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American Air Charter
AT&T Matching Gifts Fund

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BJC Healthcare
Buckingham Asset Management
Centene Corporation
Central Allergy Care
Clarkson Wilson Veterinary Clinic
Clean, The Uniform Company
Conference Technologies
Consumer Healthcare Products
Cordell & Cordell, P.C.
Ductz of West St. Louis
Enterprise Holdings
Express Scripts, Inc.
Garco Wine Company
Genentech Biomedical Corp.
Gershman Mortgage
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How Can You Help?

- Make a donation to increase AAFA's support for medication assistance, durable equipment, & educational programs
- Volunteer your time
- Sponsor and/or attend an AAFA fundraising event
- Consider AAFA in your planned giving
- Honor the memory of a friend or loved one through a memorial gift
- Show your support through workplace giving or matching gifts program

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for life without limits™

