



Building Bridges: A New School-Based Asthma Program in Hartford!

Building Bridges is a school-based pilot program for elementary school children in Hartford. The program combines Step Up Asthma, a successful school-based asthma program in Denver with Easy Breathing. The goal of the program is to reduce school absenteeism by improving asthma control. In the school year 2013-2014, the program will be implemented in three Hartford Public Elementary Schools: Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, America's Choice at Sand and Burns Latino Studies Academy.

Building Bridges links school nurses, parents, and pediatric practitioners to improve asthma control and is a collaboration between leaders in asthma management, schools, primary care clinicians, and school nurses. The role of the clinician in this program is to provide every child with asthma with a severity-specific Asthma Treatment Plan to give to the child's school nurse and to re-evaluate children with inadequately controlled asthma upon recommendation by the Building Bridges Coordinator. We are very excited about this new pilot program!

If you have any questions or concerns please call Jessica (860) 837-5333.

New asthma medication posters are now available for your office...

Your Easy Breathing® coordinator has new asthma medication posters. These posters are from the Minnesota Department of Health, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Division. Each poster shows a colored picture and short description of inhaled corticosteroids, rescue medications, controllers, and combination therapies.

Each practice will receive a packet of letter sized laminated copies of the poster to use in each exam room along with a few posters to hang on the walls of your office. We hope that you like them and will find they useful.

If you need more posters or if you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Easy Breathing coordinator or our office (860) 837-5333.

New App Helps Asthma Patients with Inhaler Technique



"Assist Me with Inhalers" is a new app available on the App Store that guides users every time they use their inhaler. The app offers real-time audio assistance on inhaler technique and dosage reminders so patients

never forget to take their inhaler. This App is *free*, easy to use, and will soon be available in multiple languages. We think that this is a great tool and may be useful for teens and other tech-savvy users!

[For more information, or to download the app follow this link:](https://itunes.apple.com/app/id590417707)

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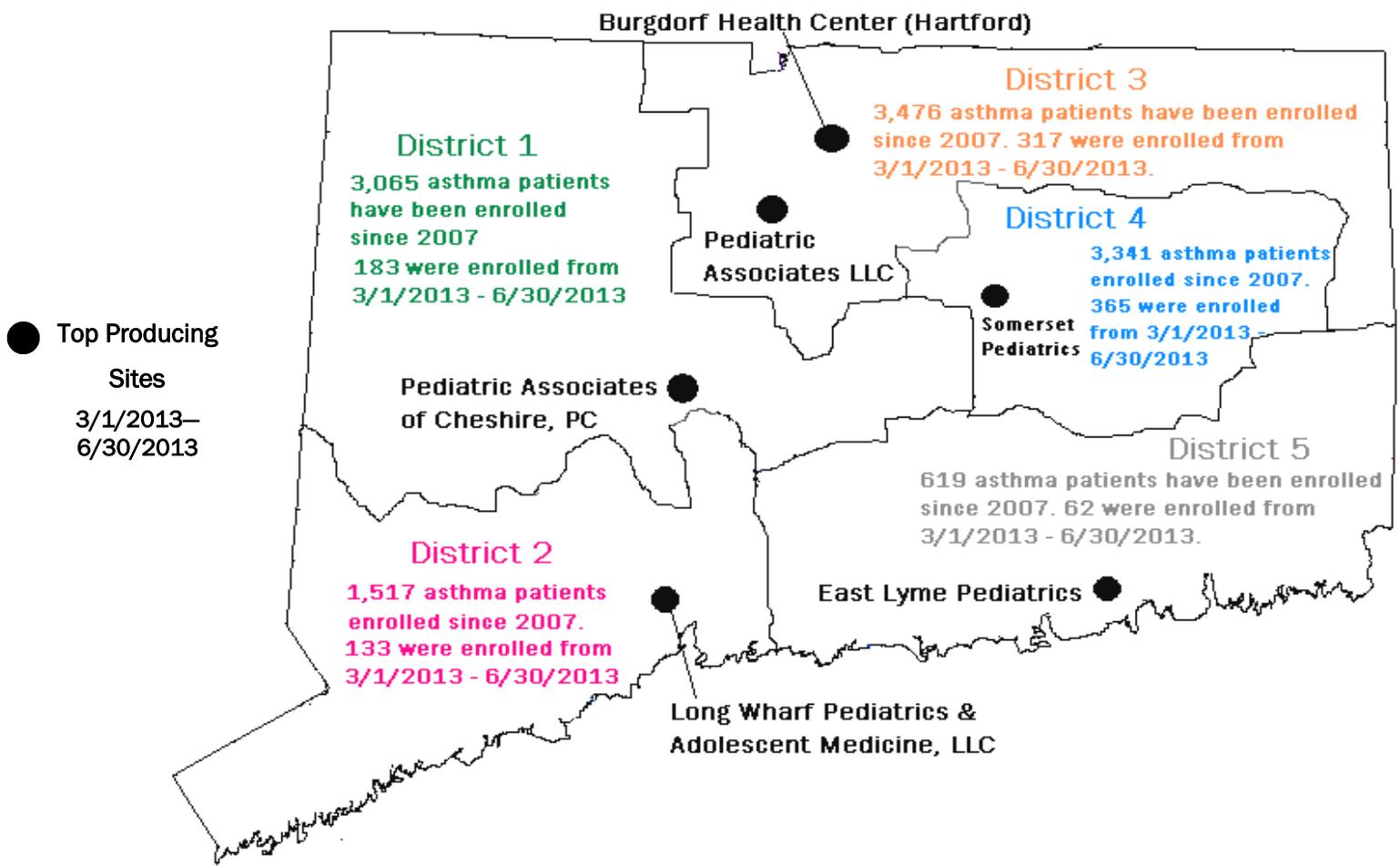
Grand Rounds

Dr. Cloutier will be speaking at Grand Rounds in September! We hope that you are available to come and listen to Dr. Cloutier speak about asthma and the Easy Breathing® program. The dates she will be speaking are:

September 6, 2013 @ 8:00am
Lawrence & Memorial Hospital

September 11, 2013 @ 8:00am
Day Kimball Hospital

From July 2007 to June 2013, Easy Breathing® Statewide has surveyed 47,417 children. Of the children surveyed, 25% have a diagnosis of asthma. In total, 118,864 children have been surveyed since 1998.



Currently, for all 5 Districts combined....

90% of children diagnosed with persistent asthma have a written treatment plan on file in Easy Breathing

96% of children diagnosed with persistent asthma are on a daily Anti-inflammatory therapy

Program Goals

100% for Written Treatment Plans for children diagnosed with persistent asthma.

95% for Anti-inflammatory therapy for children diagnosed with persistent asthma.

*** Important Updates from the Asthma Center ***

CHN-CT has been continuing case management for Easy Breathing enrolled children whose asthma is inadequately controlled. If a child has an ACT that is less than 19, Easy Breathing staff notify Intensive Case Managers (ICM) within 24 hours. The ICMs then contact the patient and assist them in getting their asthma under good control.

If an ICM cannot reach a patient after several attempts, they may call your office and inform you that, due to unsuccessful contact, they will “close the case”. This does **not** mean that the patient will lose their Medicaid coverage—the ICM will simply end attempts to follow up with that patient regarding their asthma control. We encourage you to use the cACT or the ACT for all children with asthma. Those insured by CHN-CT will receive the benefit of case management!

Please call Jessica with any questions: (860) 837-5333.

Also, Please note that the asthma center phone and fax numbers have changed

Main Number: (860) 837-5346
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**Children’s Center for
Community Research**

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