

**ASTHMA COALITION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
GENERAL COALITION MEETING**

**Meeting Notes
July 22, 2013**

ISSUE/TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FINDINGS
Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Minutes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer introduced herself as the new Co-chair. All members introduced themselves. • No additions or corrections. Minutes were approved. 	
General Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of the ACLAC Strategic Plan • ACLAC Actions & Legislative Support • World Asthma Day • Potential Funding Opportunity • Financial Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janet reviewed the status of the 5-year strategic plan. Thus far, goals and objectives have been developed and approved by SC. Workgroups have created strategies that have been approved by SC. Next task is for each workgroup to create work plans for next fiscal year. A draft document will then be compiled for coalition review. The completed document will be ready by September 2013 (tentative). Janet reviewed workgroup and cross-cutting goals. • Recent coalition legislation support/action: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monica participated in meeting to support AB32 on 4/19/13 ACLAC sent letter of support for AB967/SB488 to governor on 7/19/2013 Monica provided public comment at SCAG meeting on 6/6/13 Participated in meeting on LCFS on 6/7/13 • World Asthma Day event was on 5/7/13. Partnered with St. John's, SAJE and Esperanza. Hosted event at apartment complex in South LA on substandard housing and the effects on tenants' health. • Janet presented potential funding opportunity through the LA County Productivity Investment Fund (PIF). Applications are due quarterly. Next application due 10/11/13. Up to \$250,000 available. Monica and Janet are working with the DPH representative to apply for these funds. Process includes application development, review for approval by advisory committee, review by PIB, and then to Quality and Productivity Commission for final approval. The proposal idea is to provide asthma provider trainings to high-need providers in LA County. • Financial Report April-July 2013. Remaining balance is \$1748.36 in budget and \$172.27 in petty cash. 	
Pass the Hat & Take a Break	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The "Hat" was passed for participants to contribute donations for lunch. 	

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<p>Presentation: “Integrated Pest Management and Asthma”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martha Arguello, Executive Director for Physicians for Social Responsibility, was the presenter. • PSR has been working on issue of pesticides and their health impact for over 14 years. The goal of their integrated pest management (IPM) intervention study was “to address the overuse and misuse of pesticides to control pest infestations in substandard housing by increasing access to safe and more effective pest management methods via adoption of IPM practices by tenants, maintenance personnel and apartment managers/owners.” • IPM is like an inverted pyramid. At top (widest part) is exclusion (removal of food, items that attract pests) and at bottom of pyramid are chemicals/low-risk products. “Trap before treat.” • Tenants didn’t know what IPM was so they referred to it as green cleaning. • Many cleaning chemicals are asthma allergens and carcinogens. • 32 tenants surveyed (7 from S LA, 7 from Highland Park, 18 from Mid-Wilshire) • Survey results: The majority of pests present were cockroaches (31), Bedbugs (11), mice and rats (6). Major methods participants used to eradicate pests – fly swatter, Chinese chalk, sprays and gels, and traps. Many participants used 3 foggers at a time. This is a huge hazard for people and pets and the residue can persist for a long time. Safety measures reported by participants – open windows/doors, do not wear gloves or masks. Most pesticides participants purchased were from grocery stores. 50% of landlords sprayed/fumigated Most landlords don’t notify tenants of spraying/applying pesticides and spray whole unit Most buildings received no fumigation, once a year, or the participant didn’t know frequency. • Martha said she has a sample contract that can be provided to coalition members for use with companies to ensure they use IPM and no chemicals. • Jennifer Flores from LAUSD advised that the focus is not which company to use, but to specify as the customer what you want and don’t want in the contract. She said she has found most companies are willing to work with customers on IPM but it must be specified. LAUSD does not use pesticides at their sites. • Survey conclusions: (1)Need for behavior change and education Most building applications conducted by tenants, not building personnel Directions and labels not always read Assumption that using pesticides is more effective Harsh products like bleach are associated with effectiveness Pesticide applications are perceived as the solution to pest problems despite their ineffectiveness (2)Children’s health is affected the most by pesticide use Majority of respondents felt that children were most affected by pesticide applications • Issues in buildings (photos presented) – uncovered and broken kitchen fans, gaps between kitchen cabinets, external water pipes – damaged and corroded, cracks and crevices – hiding 	<p>Several members expressed interest in additional resources. Martha will send Janet the following resources later this week:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The model IPM contract template/guidelines 2. A do’s and don’ts guide (if available) 3. IPM Fact Sheets 4. Any LA based case studies 5. Any other relevant IPM info

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	<p>places for roaches, mice = entryway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Results show: IPM methods must be ongoing Decrease in roaches after consistent use of IPM – usually within 10-12 weeks Communication and coordination must exist between tenant, manager, and pest control operator Green cleaning had to be done throughout the project to consistently decrease roach population Strong correlation between high roach population and water leaks Monitoring by the owner has to take place every three months to control infestations Age and maintenance of the building is important to note before starting an IPM project. Policy Recommendations: Healthy housing policy should integrate all home-based environmental threats Education to building managers on the cost savings of using IPM approaches must be available Improve medical management and reporting of urban pesticide illness Create IPM task force in LA that will develop a plan to combat cockroaches, review health and housing codes, and incentivize IPM. 	
<p>Presentation: “Overview of the California Asthma Surveillance Report, 2013”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jennifer Clark, ACLAC Co-chair, was the presenter. Report is comprehensive picture of the burden of asthma in CA Uses CDC Asthma Surveillance Pyramid Blacks, AI/AN, Puerto Ricans, Hispanics, PI, Filipinos have higher asthma, Female adults, male children have higher asthma Report looks at 9 key area – asthma prevalence, asthma morbidity/management, health status of people with asthma, environmental trigger for asthma, work-related asthma, asthma ED visits, asthma hospitalizations, asthma among Medi-Cal beneficiaries, and asthma mortality Report identifies CA focus based on comparisons to Healthy People 2010/2020 objectives Decrease hospitalization among 65+ Decrease ED visits among children (ages 0-4) and elderly Key Findings: 1 in 8 diagnosed with asthma 2010 over \$1 billion in annual charges Blacks have 40% higher asthma prevalence, 4x higher ED visit and hospitalization rates, and 2x higher death rates than whites. 	
<p>Workgroup Break-Out Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updates Strategic Planning Next Meeting Date 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workgroups met to discuss strategic planning and schedule the next workgroup meeting. 	

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Announcements from the Floor <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Membership Agreements• Medicaid and Community-Based Asthma Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete membership form• Complete meeting evaluation form• CAP webinar on IPM tomorrow• Please like ACLAC on Facebook• Send Monica updates and stories to post on Facebook and website	

Recorded by Aarti Harper and Janet Scully