



THE FACTS THAT DRIVE OUR MISSION

CONSIDER THESE FACTS:

- Asthma is the leading chronic disease in children. It is also the top reason for missed school days.
- In 2015, 1 in 12 children had asthma.
- About 25 million Americans have asthma. This is 7.6 percent of adults and 8.4 percent of children. Asthma has been increasing since the early 1980s in all age, sex and racial groups.
- The annual economic cost of asthma is more than \$56 billion, including medical costs and lost work and school days.
- An estimated 40% of diagnosed asthma cases among children is believed to be attributable to exposure in the home (i.e. mold, mildew, indoor allergens, pest infestations) [Braveman, et. al, 2011]

LOOKING FORWARD... AND REACHING MORE CHILDREN HHDSM WILL:

- Provide home remediation and health education to reduce the burden of childhood asthma.
- Increase asthma-related housing mitigation efforts.
- Enhance resources for tenants by strengthening housing inspections, ordinances and state law.
- Focus on the social, environmental and economic factors that have the greatest influence on the health of the Des Moines community.
- Embed the program in the community by securing reimbursement and solidifying the collaboration.

PARTNERS

HHDSM brings together diverse partners, including housing, public health, education, foundations, family support and health systems.



CONTACT US

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HEALTHY HOMES des moines

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2015-2017

OUR PURPOSE

Healthy Homes Des Moines (HHDSM) offers patients and providers a solution to children suffering from asthma symptoms. The program provides tools to address the environmental risk factors that impact the child beyond the clinic walls, allowing sustainable health improvements for our community.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE

Over the course of two years, Healthy Homes Des Moines created an upstream health care solution for children who suffer from asthma symptoms. Forty-two families completed the HHDSM assessment during that period and we saw an increase in CACT scores from 16.5 to 19.3 after HHDSM intervention. CACT score measures how well a child's asthma is controlled. Here are a few highlights:



The number of days children reported missing school because of their asthma was **reduced from twice per month to less than one day per month**



The number of days parents/caregivers missed work because of their child's asthma was **reduced by half**.



Children averaged **six more symptom-free days** per month.



Both adults' and children's **understanding of asthma care and management increased**.

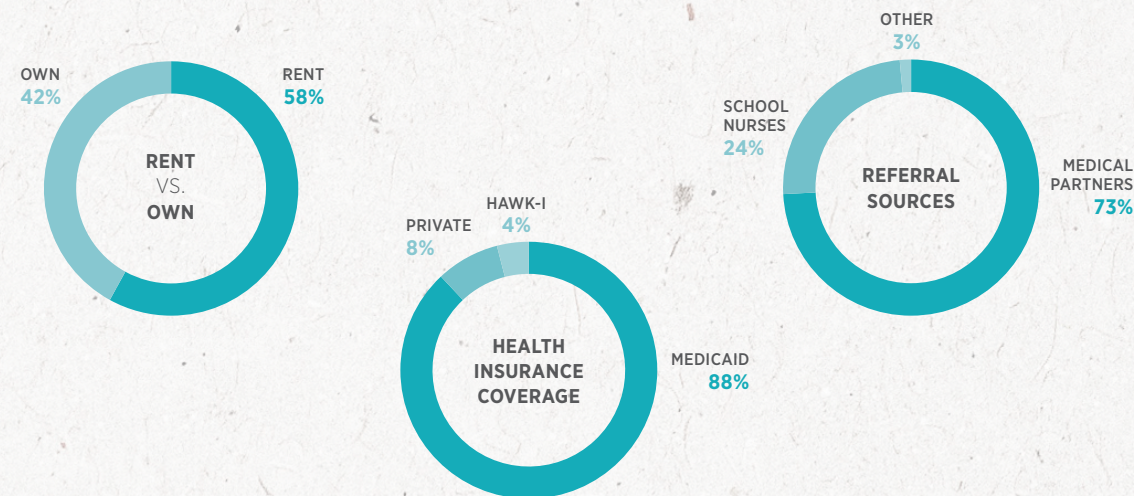
REDUCING EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS TO REDUCE HEALTH CARE COSTS

A goal of the program is to reduce the number of emergency room visits by improving the child's environment through reducing factors that trigger asthma symptoms. Families referred to HHDSM reported, on average, one asthma-related emergency department visit over the previous six months. Each asthma-related emergency department visit costs approximately \$700 for children on Medicaid or CHIP in Iowa.

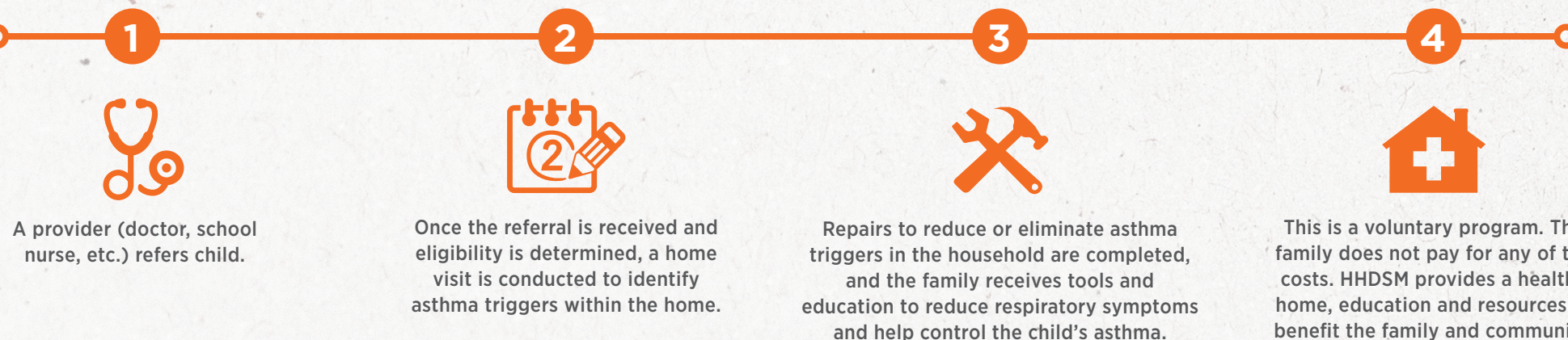
CONNECTING FAMILIES WITH RESOURCES

HHDSM has received 137 referrals from two main sources — health systems and school nurses. The HHDSM program connects referred families to resources in the community to help improve their overall health, well-being and economic security. In addition, HHDSM connects families with energy assistance programs, employment assistance programs, early childhood development programs and other home health improvement programs. During the first two years of the pilot program, 44 families received supplies and 38 families received home remediation. The average cost of household supplies was \$520 and the average cost of home remediation was \$4,369, all provided at no cost to the families.

A CLOSER LOOK AT WHO WE SERVE



HOW IT WORKS



ABOUT US

HHDSM is a collaborative effort between the housing community and health care industry to improve the overall health of children. We serve children who suffer from acute asthmatic symptoms as a result of triggers in their home. Through HHDSM, families with children suffering from asthma are referred to the program to receive tailored health education and supplies to help reduce factors that can trigger asthma. Families can also receive home repairs to remediate asthma triggers and maintain a healthy home. HHDSM serves families with children 2 through 12 years of age who live in Des Moines proper and earn 80 percent or less of area median income.

