Healthy Homes Grantees in Region V, Midwest

Name of Grantee: Cook County Ohio Department of Public Health
Name of Project: Cook County Healthy Homes Demonstration Program
Amount Awarded: $ 760,259
Year of Grant: 2006
Contact info:
- Project Director, Ebony Lynch, 708-492-2079, eblynch@cookcountygov.com
- Environmental Quality Manager, LaTrice Porter-Thomas, 708-492-2035, laporte@cookcountygov.com

Project Partners: American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago-Great Lakes Centers

Summary of Project Activities:
The Cook County Healthy Homes Program will target efforts in the communities of Harvey, Robbins and Riverdale; areas that have been identified as having high rates of children with asthma. An objective of the program is to conduct assessments in homes of children between the ages of 0-15, with priority given to children who have been medically diagnosed as having asthma or other respiratory illnesses, to identify conditions in the home that may contribute to adverse health effects.

CCDPH will assess multiple hazards in 350 units by using a standardized, in-home assessment tool that will identify hazards in order to reduce risks to injuries, environmental asthma triggers, such as mold and pests, environmental tobacco smoke, lead-based paint and carbon monoxide (level 1 intervention). Of the 350 units identified, 75 units will receive an enhanced level 2 intervention that will consist of intervention supplies, such as a vacuum with hepa-filtration, smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and pest control supplies. CCDPH has also partnered with a community-based contractor, the Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc. (CEDA), to provide intensive remediation in 40 of these units (level 3 intervention). All families receiving level 2 and level 3 interventions will also receive a post- intervention survey that will document self-reported health improvements, as well as, behavior changes. As referral sources, CCDPH has partnered with local community groups, the local municipalities, CEDA, and several medical groups in the targeted areas.

To promote sustainability after program completion, CCDPH has also partnered with the American Lung Association of Metropolitan Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago-Great Lakes Centers, to provide training to community groups, residents and the medical community in the targeted areas, on asthma management and controlling housing-based health hazards.

Product Outcomes/Outputs:
Outcomes of the project will include:
- Multiple hazards identified in 350 housing units
- 75 housing units to receive non-physical interventions
- 40 housing units to receive remediation of housing-based hazards