



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Environmental Health Division



Asthma Intervention Program

Home Asthma Trigger Assessment for Children

If you live in Chatham County and struggle to control your child’s asthma, ask your doctor or school nurse for a referral for a FREE Asthma Trigger Assessment.

Asthma Trigger Assessments are free for families with children who have one or more of the following criteria of poorly controlled asthma:

- ◇ **Persistent asthma, as diagnosed by a medical provider or identified by a school nurse**
- ◇ **Hospital admission for asthma exacerbation in past 12 months**
- ◇ **Repeated emergency room or urgent care visits for asthma within past 6 months**
- ◇ **Overuse of rescue medication in last 6 months**
- ◇ **More than one course of oral steroids in the last 6 months**

This program serves families who:

- Have a child under the age of 18 with poorly controlled asthma
- Live in Chatham County



Addressing asthma triggers in the home has been proven to significantly reduce emergency room visits and improve asthma symptoms.

The Asthma Trigger Assessment Team will visit you at home. They will identify things that may be making your child’s asthma worse and provide you and your healthcare provider with a report on how to make your home healthier. They will:

- Review what type of treatment(s) have been or are being used to treat your child's asthma
- Provide information and resources to implement low-cost, reliable, and practical methods to reduce asthma triggers

What happens during the first visit? The Asthma Assessment team will:

- **Ask questions about your child’s asthma, reviewing current plans and medications to assist in managing the condition;**
- **Conduct an environmental assessment of the home and share preliminary findings; and**
- **Provide resources to assist in addressing a broad array of housing-related asthma triggers, such as a Green Cleaning kit, dust covers for your child’s mattress and pillow, humidifier, etc.**

What happens after the first visit?

The Chatham County Public Health Department (CCPHD) will provide a final report of the assessment findings to you and your healthcare provider. We may offer to do additional visits to help you address asthma triggers, as needed.

You will be asked to complete surveys at 4 weeks, 3 months, and 6 months after the assessment to evaluate the impact and quality of the services.

Who will come to my home?

The visit will be coordinated and staffed by the Chatham County Public Health Department, which includes a Nurse, an Environmental Health Technician, and an Outreach worker.

For more information, contact Nellie Benitez at Nellie.Benitez@chathamnc.org or 919-545-8340.

This service is part of a pilot program offered by the Chatham County Public Health Department and will continue as funding permits.