

**Getting Started:  
"Asthma Friendly Child Care" Program**

Child Care Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Child Care Center Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children in child care facility: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children diagnosed with asthma (if known): \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated number of children with asthma: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide demographic information (in percentages) for the children in the child care facility:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Hispanic White
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hispanic
- \_\_\_\_\_ Asian/Pacific Islander
- \_\_\_\_\_ Non-Hispanic Black
- \_\_\_\_\_ American Indian/Alaska Native
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other



*Please send the form to:*

Oklahoma Asthma Initiative  
Marshan Marick, MPH, CHES  
1010 E. 8th Street  
Tulsa, OK 74120

Phone: (918) 747-3441 x 304  
Toll-free: 800-LUNG-USA  
Fax: (918) 747-4629  
email: mmarick@oklung.org

**Oklahoma Asthma Initiative**

The *Oklahoma Asthma Initiative* is a statewide partnership of health and social care organizations and professionals, advocates, and individuals who are working together to reduce the burden of asthma within our state.

Our mission is to improve the health status of Oklahomans affected by asthma. To meet this mission the OAI provides a forum for information exchange among all members of the circle of care for people with asthma and has begun examining the various problems associated with asthma from a systematic perspective.

Asthma is a serious problem in Oklahoma and we need you to help us combat this problem. There are several workgroups working to achieve our goal:

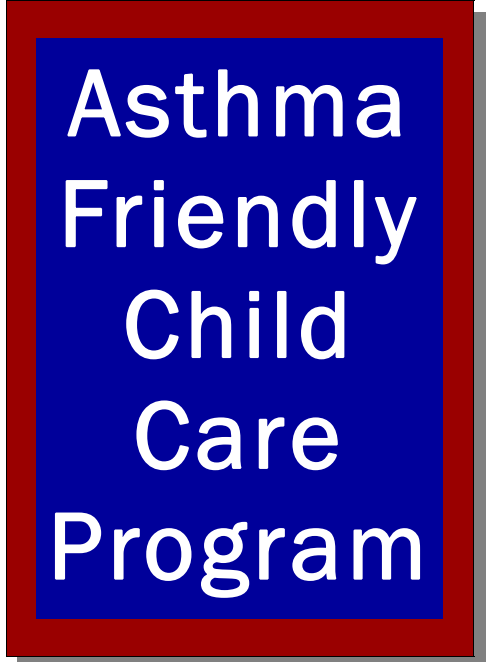
- Medical Professional
- Community
- Patient and Caregiver
- Public Policy
- Public Relations
- Data and Surveillance

Please feel welcome to join us and learn if this is a partnership in which you would like to become involved. Please contact us at (918) 747-3441 for more information or visit [www.asthmaok.org](http://www.asthmaok.org)



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## Reducing the Burden of Asthma

The Oklahoma Asthma Initiative (OAI) is dedicated to reducing the burden of asthma within Oklahoma, and improving health outcomes for people with asthma. Because asthma continues to be a significant chronic disease impacting young children, the OAI is seeking to partner with child care facilities to create an atmosphere that is sensitive to those that are impacted by this serious chronic illness.

- 9.2% of children in Oklahoma have asthma (about 80,000 children)
- 1 out of 13 school aged children in Oklahoma have asthma
- In Oklahoma about 32% of children with asthma live in households where someone uses tobacco
- Asthma is the leading cause of absenteeism from school in OK from a chronic illness
- There were 846 hospital admissions with asthma in 2005
- 64 Oklahomans died from asthma in 2005

## How can my child care facility participate?

To participate in the OAI "Asthma Friendly Child Care" program, child care centers are required to complete the following steps during a year:

1. Implement "Counting on You" training for child care center staff. The OAI staff and volunteers will provide the training.
2. Allow the OAI to conduct confidential asthma awareness questionnaires and surveys
3. Invite parents to an asthma education event provided by the Oklahoma Asthma Initiative
4. Ensure that the child care facility has an emergency plan for taking care of a child's asthma episode (attack). The OAI will provide a model plan.
5. Allow the OAI to conduct an asthma-trigger analysis for the child care facility. The OAI will prepare a confidential report that includes recommendations and resources for reducing any identified asthma triggers.
6. Verify that the child care facility is smoke-free, consistent with the state law

## What we will do for you!

In exchange for participation in the "Asthma Friendly Child Care" program, the OAI will:

- Arrange asthma questionnaires for children in your care
- Publicize your accomplishments to the community and your peers through the local media, trade newsletters, and other information resources used by child care providers
- Provide a certificate announcing and recognizing your participation in the "Asthma Friendly Child Care" program
- Child care center personnel that complete the "Counting on You" training will receive a certificate of completion

## Program Description

### Counting on You

Target Audience: Child care providers, child care staff, parents

- Counting on You is a fun and interactive presentation about asthma for people caring for children with and without asthma
- The program conveys information about breathing, asthma and asthma emergencies

In an effort to partner with child care facilities, the OAI will conduct the necessary personnel and parental trainings, and will serve as a resource to meet the requirements of the program.



For more information please call the **American Lung Association** at (918) 747-3441. Representatives can be sent to your school/organization to implement these programs free of cost.