



# MAAG Meeting

January 19, 2023

# MAAG Meeting

Thursday, January 19, 2023

10:00am – 12:00pm

Virtual: Zoom meeting

10:00am – 10:20am

## Welcome & Introductions

10:20am - 11:00am

## MACP Updates/Surveillance & Evaluation

- 2022 in Review
- Surveillance & Evaluation
- 2023 Events on the Calendar
  - Big Sky Pulmonary Conference
  - AAE National Conference
- Strategic Asthma Plan: Looking Forward

11:00am - 11:20am

## Air Purifiers in Schools Program

Medify Air Representatives

11:20am - 11:40pm

## Asthma QI in School Based Health Centers

Christian Curtis, RN- Fort Beck School Based Health Center

11:40am - 12:00pm

## Partner Sharing



# Ice Breaker

***Name 2 things you're excited about in 2023***

1- personal

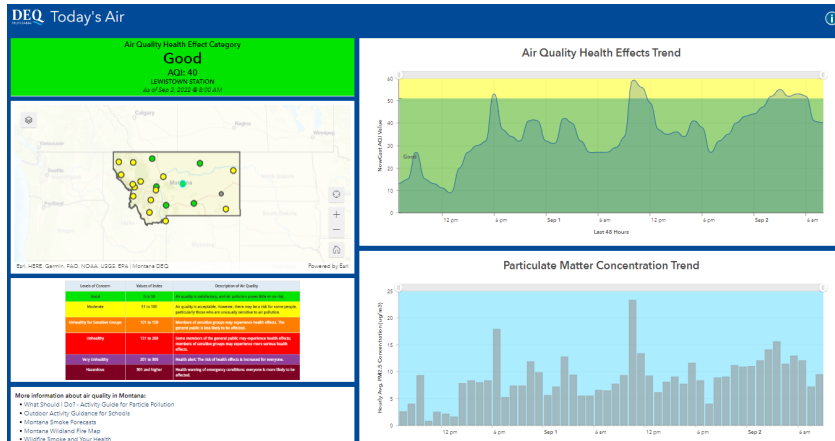
1- professional

# MACP 2022 in Review



# Air Quality & Wildfire Smoke

## New Today's Air Website



## Air Quality & Outdoor Activity Guidelines

Outdoor Activity & Air Quality Guidelines for Schools and Child Care Facilities					
Health Effect Category	Good	Moderate	Unhealthy for sensitive groups*	Unhealthy	Very Unhealthy/ Hazardous
Visibility (miles)	13+	9-13	5-9	2-5	Less than 2
Air Quality Index (AQI)	0-50	51 - 100	101 - 150	151 - 200	201 +
Recess or Other Outdoor Activity (15-30 minutes)	No limitations	No limitations	Keep students with chronic lung or heart conditions indoors. Make indoor space available for all children to be active, especially young children.	Keep all students indoors and limit students to light or moderate activities.	Keep all students indoors and limit students to light activities.
Physical Education Class (1 hour)	No limitations	Monitor sensitive groups and limit their vigorous activities.	Keep students with chronic lung or heart conditions indoors. Limit these students to light activities. Make indoor space available for all students to be active, especially young children. If outdoors, limit students to light or moderate activities.	Conduct P.E. classes in an indoor environment with good air quality and limit students to light or moderate activities.	Conduct P.E. classes in an indoor environment with good air quality and limit students to light activities.
Athletic Events and Practices (2-4 hours)	No limitations	Monitor sensitive groups and limit their vigorous activities.	Students with chronic lung or heart conditions should abstain from outdoor practices and events based on the severity of their condition and sensitivity to smoke. Consider moving practice and events indoors. If events are not cancelled, increase rest periods and substitutions to allow for lower breathing rates.	Reschedule events or relocate to an area with good air quality. Conduct practices in an indoor environment with good air quality and limit students to light activities.	Reschedule/cancel events. Conduct practices in an indoor environment with good air quality and limit students to light activities.

Visit [todayair.mtdeq.us](http://todayair.mtdeq.us) for local air quality conditions and more information.

**Wood Heat and Indoor Air Quality**

Wood provides a local, renewable and affordable heating fuel for many Vermonters. In fact, 38% of Vermont homes burn wood for heat, either as their main or second source of heat.

Using an older stove or not burning wood properly can result in poor air quality both inside and outside your home, which can cause health problems. Following a few simple steps will reduce air pollution, burn less wood, and save you money.

- 1. Burn dry wood.** Wood that isn't properly dried won't burn easily and will produce a lot of smoke.
  - "Season" split cord wood for six months to one year.
- 2. Use a chimney cap.** A chimney cap prevents rain, snow, and debris from entering your chimney, and builds up creosote in your chimney. Don't overload the fire box or close the damper. For overnight use, burn it hot in the evening and re-light it in the morning.
- 3. Switch to a cleaner, more efficient stove.** Modern wood stoves are certified by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). They reduce wood smoke and burn less wood for the same level of heat as older stoves. Older, uncertified stoves should be recycled or thrown away. Pellet stoves are even more efficient and generate less pollution and wood ash. Wood pellets have a very low moisture content that provides a cleaner, more consistent fire. Pellet stoves can be loaded with several days' worth of pellets that are automatically fed to the fire. Ask your stove dealer for more information.

**ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet**

**MONTANA DPHHS**  
Healthy People. Health Communities.  
Division of Public Health & Human Services

**Wood Stoves and Air Pollution**  
Clean Burning Wood Stoves Minimize Health Risks

Many Montana households use wood as a primary heating fuel, while other households use wood stoves and fireplaces as supplementary heating sources. For many people, the sight and smell of wood smoke curling out of a chimney brings back fond memories of warmth and home. Wood is a renewable resource, unlike fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas, which are non-renewable. In fact, if firewood is harvested in a sustainable way, woodlots can provide an abundant source of fuel for years to come.

Unfortunately, smoke and soot from wood-burning stoves and fireplaces can be a significant source of air pollution, negatively impacting public health and the environment. People can reduce the amount of smoke from their wood stoves by choosing low-emission, EPA-certified stoves, operating them properly and using seasoned firewood. This will improve combustion efficiency, reduce emissions, help protect public health and the environment, and save fuel costs.

**The Problem: Smoke from Wood Stoves is a Public Health Risk**

The smoke produced from wood stoves and fireplaces contains over 100 different chemical compounds, many of which are harmful and potentially carcinogenic. Wood smoke pollutants include fine particulates, nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, dioxins, and furans. Breathing air containing wood smoke can cause a number of serious respiratory and cardiovascular health problems. Those at greatest health risk from wood smoke include infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, and those suffering from allergies, asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, pneumonia, or any other heart or lung disease.

**Fine particulate matter, the very small particles that make up smoke and soot, may be the most dangerous component of wood smoke pollution.** The most harmful particles are those ten microns or less in diameter (a human hair is approximately 70 microns in diameter). These particles can easily be inhaled deep into the lungs, collecting in the tiny air sacs (called alveoli) where oxygen enters the blood, causing breathing difficulties and sometimes permanent lung damage. Inhalation of fine particulate matter can increase cardiovascular problems, irritate lungs and eyes, trigger headaches and allergic reactions, and worsen respiratory diseases such as asthma, emphysema, and bronchitis, which could result in premature deaths.

**Wildfire Smoke & Employee Health**

Employers should be aware that wildfire smoke may adversely affect the health of their workforce and prepare to take action to limit their workers' exposures when wildfire smoke is impacting a work environment.

**Check PM2.5**  
Today's Air PM2.5 levels at [todayair.mtdeq.us](http://todayair.mtdeq.us) or by using good ambient air quality monitor designed for the workplace.

**Communication**  
Implement a system for communicating about the health risks of wildfire smoke exposure in a manner understandable by all employees. Create a supportive environment for employees to express health concerns.

**Reduce Exposure**  
If engineering controls, when feasible, to improve exposure to PM2.5. Examples include enclosed structures or vehicles for employees or take a break in where the air is filtered.

**Workplace Controls**  
Implement changes to work procedures or schedules when practical. Examples include changing work schedules or the location where employees work, reducing levels of strenuous physical activity, and taking frequent breaks when air quality is poor.

**Respirators**  
If engineering controls, when feasible, to improve exposure to PM2.5 levels are elevated due to wildfires and other comprehensive environmental controls have been implemented. Information on the voluntary use of respirators is available on the [OSHA website](http://OSHA website) if respirator use is required, the employer must institute a comprehensive [respiratory protection program](http://respiratory protection program).

**Hydration**  
Wildfire smoke can contribute to the effects of heat stress. Provide cool drinking water on the work site and encourage frequent rest breaks on hot days. Remind your workers to drink a glass of water at least every 15 to 20 minutes even if they aren't feeling thirsty.

For more information on how to protect your health during poor air quality conditions, visit [dphhs.mt.gov/airquality](http://dphhs.mt.gov/airquality).



## **AE-C Review Course**

47 attendees

## **2022 Big Sky Pulmonary Conference**

110 attendees

96% Overall Satisfaction

## **DLI Safety Fest**

Coordinated a training on IAQ ASHRAE Standards





# Asthma in Schools

## School Health Mini-Grants 2022-2023

Anaconda Public Schools  
Clancy School District  
Great Falls Public School District  
Monforton School District  
Nashua School District  
Twin Bridges School  
Wibaux Public Schools

School Staff Trained  
119



# COVID-19 Relief Funding & Indoor Air Quality

## ELC School Reopening Grants

- Round 3 funding still available for schools
- \$50,000-\$100,000 for school districts to support continued COVID-19 testing and mitigation efforts
- Portable air cleaners & HVAC system inspections/assessments

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/ARPA/SchoolHealth/ELC>



# MAP in 2022

68 Clients  
Enrolled in 2022

25 Clients  
Enrolled in 2021



116 Referrals to the MAP (110 Self-Referrals)

**BREATHE EASY**  
with the Montana Asthma Home Visiting Program

VIRTUAL OPTIONS AVAILABLE IN ALL 56 COUNTIES

GET FREE HELP WITH YOUR ASTHMA TODAY

You'll receive for FREE:

- Allergy Proof Mattress & Pillowcase Covers
- Portable Air Purifier
- Asthma Education & Learning Material
- Home Environmental Assessment to Help Identify Asthma Triggers

PLUS CONNECTION TO OTHER COMMUNITY PROGRAMS OR SERVICES

OPEN TO ALL AGES. ENROLL NOW, IT'S EASY!

Why Should You Participate?

- Gain Skills to Manage Asthma
- Learn How to Communicate About Your Asthma
- Reduce Asthma Symptoms
- Reduce ED Visits and Healthcare Costs

Learn More at [asthma.mt.gov](http://asthma.mt.gov)

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# MAP in 2023



+1 New Site



Targeted  
communication in  
underserved counties

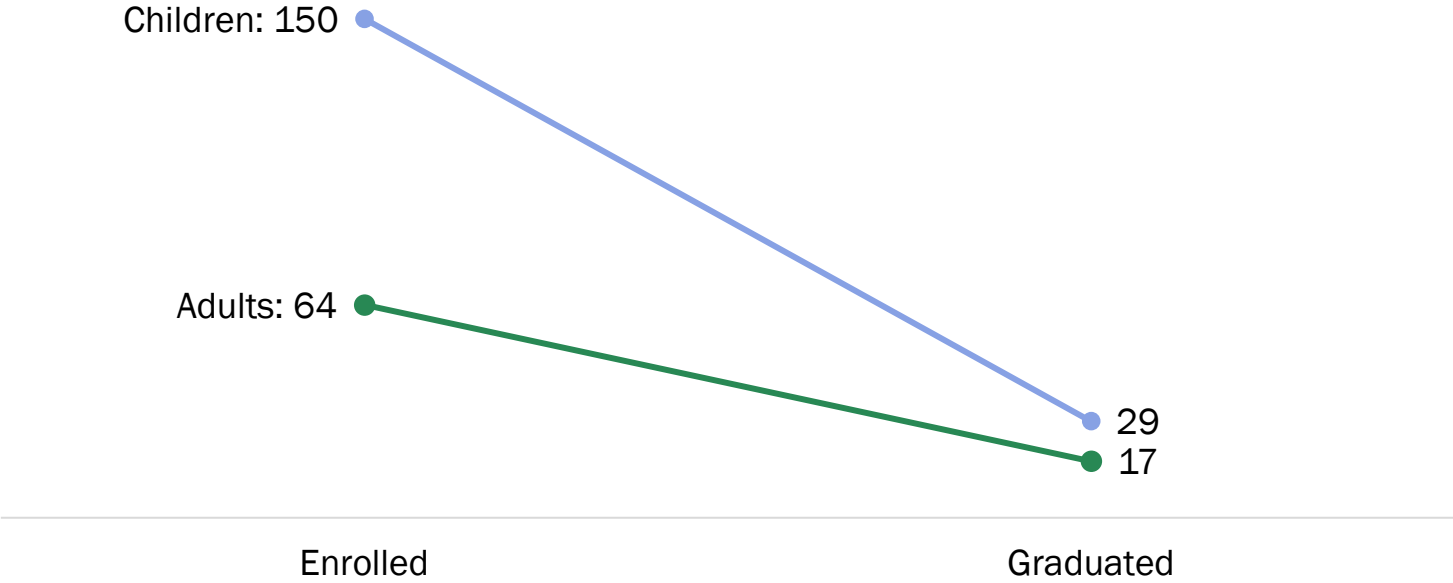


100+ clients enrolled

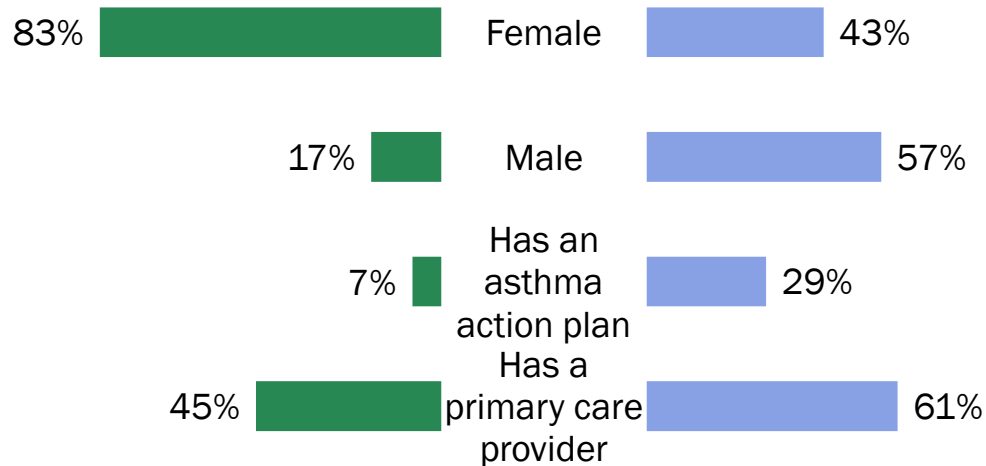
# Asthma Quality Improvement

# Evaluation & Surveillance

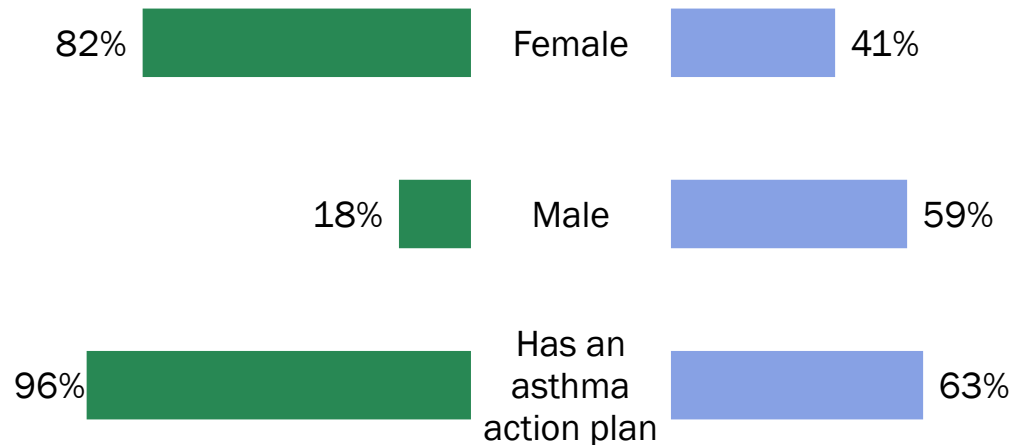
Since 2018, there have been 214 MAP enrollees: 150 children and 64 adults.



Only 7% of adults had an asthma action plan at enrollment, compared to 29% of children.

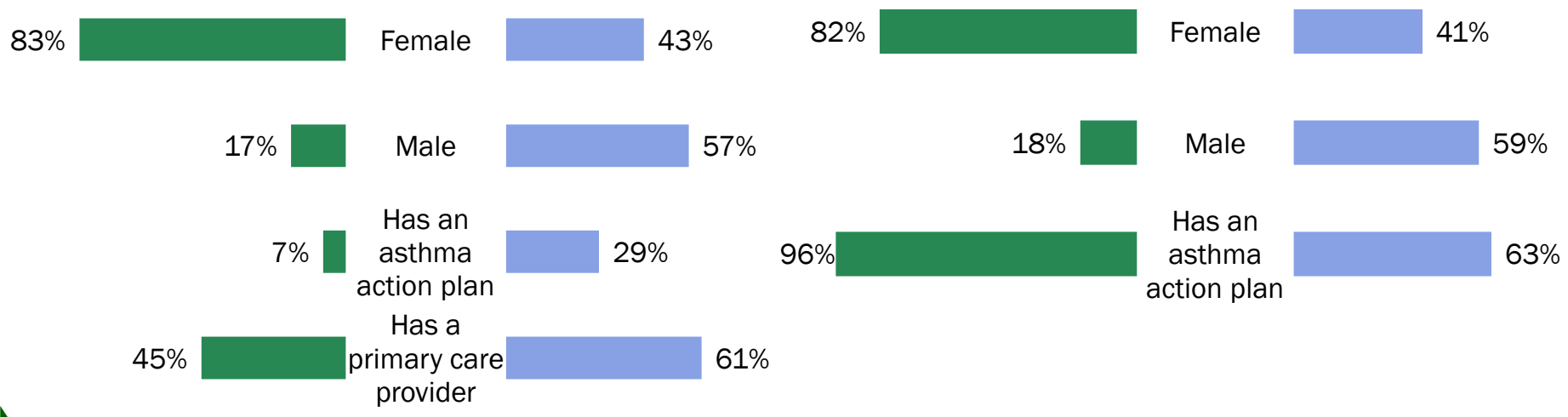
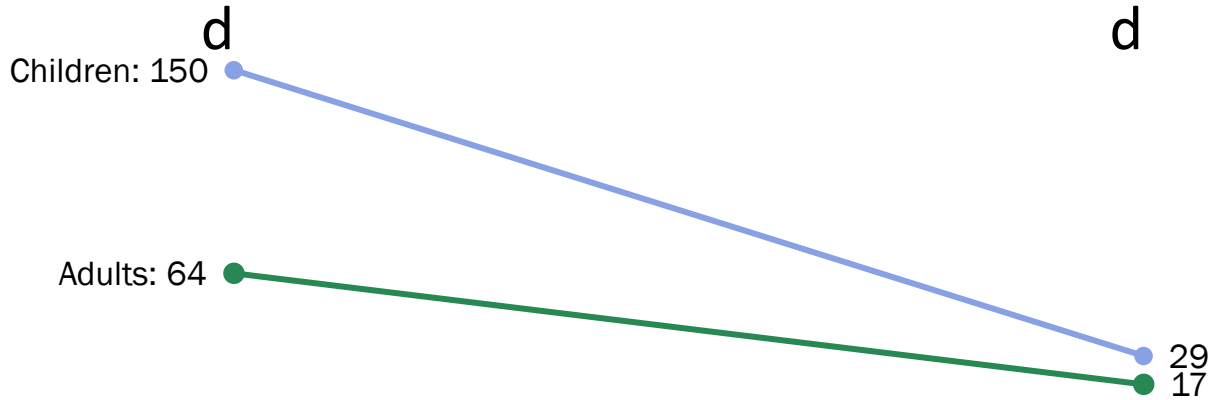


At graduation, 96% of adults had an asthma action plan, as well as 63% of children.



# Enrolled

# Graduated





# Planned reports and presentations for 2023

- Syndromic surveillance: what is it and what can we learn from it regarding asthma?
- Community health linkages
- ASME Reimbursement



Carroll College



# CLIMATE & HEALTH IN THE 406



MONTANA  
ASTHMA CONTROL  
PROGRAM



Center for American Indian  
and Rural Health Equity



Sat, February 18, 2023,  
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM MST

Carroll College Campus Center - All Saints Hall ("The Cube")  
1601 North Benton Avenue Helena, MT 59625



# AAE Conference Coming to Montana!



The poster features a dark blue background with a white and light blue geometric design. On the right side, there is a photograph of a mountain resort town with a large white building and a mountain in the background. The text is arranged in a clear, hierarchical manner, starting with the AAE logo and registration status at the top, followed by the event title, dates, location, and a QR code for registration.

**AAE**  
Association of  
Asthma Educators

**REGISTRATION  
COMING SOON**

**AAE 2023  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**August 3, 4 & 5**  
Pharmacology Session August 2  
Big Sky Montana

THE NATION'S ONLY  
CONFERENCE SPECIFICALLY  
FOR ASTHMA EDUCATORS OF  
ALL PROFESSIONS

**BIG SKY RESORT**  
50 Big Sky Resort Rd  
Big Sky, Montana

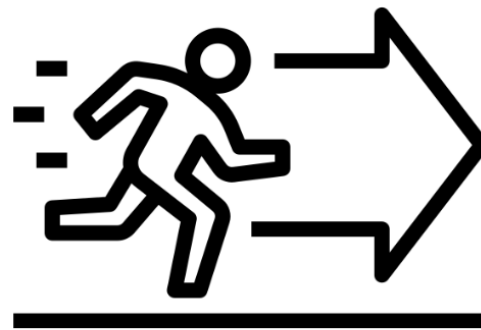
SCAN ME

[www.asthmaeducators.org](http://www.asthmaeducators.org)

# Montana Asthma Plan 2020-2025

MONTANA  
**DPHHS**

*Healthy People. Healthy Communities.*  
Department of Public Health & Human Services



GOOD  
THINGS  
AHEAD

PublicHealth  
IN THE 406

# Social Determinants of Health



The MACP will leverage new and existing partnerships to address the social determinants that lead to asthma disparities in Montana.

## Enhancing Infrastructure/Promoting Care Coordination

**Goal 2:** Increase coverage for comprehensive asthma control services.

**Objective 1:** Secure reimbursement for asthma home visiting services.

- Continue to partner with Montana Medicaid to secure reimbursement for asthma home visiting services.
- Support the work of the Hometown Medication Therapy Management (MTM) program and other programs that provide ASME to employees and their dependents as part of the employee's health insurance coverage.
- Advocate for expanded coverage of asthma self-management education by presenting the business case for asthma home visiting to private insurers.

**Objective 4:** Support culturally appropriate interventions tailored to American Indians living in Montana.

- Promote MACP partnership opportunities to Tribal Health Departments and Indian Health Services.
- Partner with public health programs and non-profit organizations to address social determinants of health on Montana reservations.



## Provider and Patient Education

**Goal 1:** Increase the number of health care providers (HCPs) and allied health providers (e.g. pharmacists, nurses, respiratory therapists) who receive professional development training on evidenced based asthma management practices.

**Objective 1:** Improve access to education and resources for health care professionals needed to effectively manage their patient's asthma.

- Train a variety of school nurses, public health educators, respiratory therapists, and/or asthma educators to implement evidence-based programs.

## Environment and Public Policy

**Goal 1:** Identify and reduce exposure to environmental hazards that contribute to increased asthma prevalence and negative asthma outcomes in settings where Montanans live, learn, work, and play.

**Objective 1:** Inform the public about the relationship between asthma and environmental triggers.

**Objective 3:** Educate decision makers and community business leaders on policies and practices to improve indoor and outdoor air quality.







# Montana K-12 Air Purifier Program



# Agenda

1. About the program
  - a. Why/how it is being conducted
  - b. Intro
    - i. DPHHS
    - ii. Medify
2. Benefits of Air Purifiers
3. Order Process Outline
4. Technical support
5. Questions
  - a. FAQ



# About



The Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services has partnered with Medify Air and Grainger to supply portable air purifiers to K-12 schools throughout the State of Montana. This program is funded through the ARPA ELC Reopening Schools Grant from the CDC and comes at no cost to schools.

## Goal:

To provide air purification units and replacement filters for 3 years to as many K-12 schools in Montana as funding allows to foster safer and healthier learning environments for students, faculty, and staff.

Program Timeline: January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023  
Funding available: \$10 million

# Program Overview

## Eligibility

- All K-12 public schools and private schools  
(*ELC School Reopening Grant participation not a prerequisite*)

## What do Schools Receive?

- Air purifiers to cover every classroom/common space on the school campus
- Technical support from Medify and Grainger representatives

## How to Participate / Where to Go for More Info

- Determine # of purifiers needed and send order forms to Grainger/Medify team

Program website: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/ARPA/SchoolHealth/AirPurifiers>

# Benefits of Air Purifiers

## Benefits:

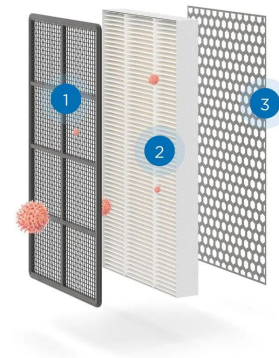
- Improve overall indoor air quality
- Protect from spread of airborne virus carriers
- Improve classroom conditions for students with asthma and other respiratory illness
  - Mitigate triggers for asthma
    - Dust, dander, pollen, smoke, mold
- Improved cognition
- Reduce adverse effects from wildfire smoke
- Backed as effective COVID mitigation strategy by the CDC and EPA
- Other states running similar projects:
  - Utah, Colorado, Vermont, Rhode Island, North Dakota, Alabama, Georgia, Missouri, Michigan, and more

## 3 STAGE FILTER

Pre-filter catches large particles like hair and dust

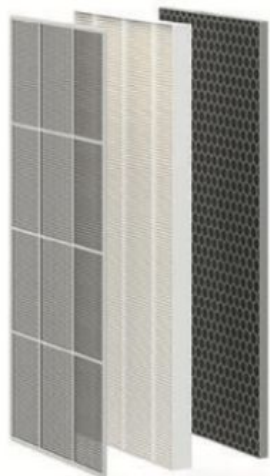
H13 HEPA filter catches 99.9% of particles to 0.1 microns including pet dander and pollen

Activated carbon filter absorbs and eliminates odors



# Medify Air H13 True HEPA Filters

Medify Air Purifiers use H13 True HEPA filter with three levels of filtration to catch and remove allergens, pet dander, and more.



Captures up to  
**99.9%**  
of particles



Maintain your lifetime warranty by using genuine Medify replacement filters



AIR PARTICLES	MOST AIR PURIFIER H11 TRUE HEPA	MEDIFY AIR H13 TRUE HEPA
Pollen	✓	✓
Dust	✓	✓
Mold	✓	✓
Bacteria	✓	✓
Dust Mites	✓	✓
Common Smoke	✓	✓
Lead Dust	✓	✓
Pet Dander	✓	✓
Asbestos		✓
Paint Pigment		✓
Insecticide		✓
Anthrax		✓
Carbon Dust		✓
All Bacteria		✓
Tobacco Smoke		✓
Virus Carrier		✓

# Harvard Study

“... shows the significant acute effects of PM2.5 and ventilation on cognitive test performance. These findings add to a growing body of evidence of how air pollution affects brain health, both **short-** and **long-term**.”

In addition, our paper suggests that the effects of PM25 are not exclusive to **children** or older populations, but are also present among young adults (the mean age of study participants was 33 years old).

Some key takeaways:

- We developed an ecological momentary assessment framework to administer cognitive tests based on real-time indoor PM2.5 and CO2 measurements.
- We found 0.8-0.9% slower response times for every 10ug/m3 increase in PM2.5. Throughput (correct responses per minute) was 0.8-1.7% lower for the same concentration increase.
- We also found effects of CO2 (a proxy for ventilation) on cognitive function. For every 500ppm increase, we saw response times 1.4-1.8% slower, and 2.1-2.4% lower throughput.
- We did not find a lower threshold at which effects from low ventilation are no longer present.

In addition to the well-established health benefits from lower PM2.5 levels (e.g. **reductions in cardiovascular disease, asthma attacks, premature mortality**), and from higher ventilation rates (e.g. **reduced infectious disease transmission, fewer sick-building symptoms, and reduced absenteeism**), our findings provide further incentive to improve air quality in indoor spaces.”



# Order Placement Process

1. Medify Air and Grainger representatives are actively reaching out to school officials to begin the order process.
2. School officials will be given an order form to fill out and return.
3. Orders will go through an approval process by the MDPHHS.
4. Once approved, Medify Air will reach out to the appointed shipment receiving contact to provide shipping information.
5. The receiving contact will account and sign for all items received.

***All attendees will be sent an order form after this meeting, please complete as quickly as possible so we can begin the approval and fulfillment processes!***

# Order Form:



## Montana K-12 School Air Purifier Order Sheet

Email completed form to [Jack@medifyair.com](mailto:Jack@medifyair.com)

Facility (School) Name:

Shipping Address:

POC Name:

Telephone:

Email:

Air Purifier Units (each unit will be delivered with a 3-year supply of HEPA filters, **6 filters per unit**)

### MA-15 For small rooms under 165 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU22, Filter: 78UU24  
 CADR: 150m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 18W  
 Electric Voltage: 110-120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 51dBA | Net Weight: 6.64 LBS  
 Dimensions: 15.5"H x 9.7" W x 9.7" D



Number of rooms =

MA-15 units =

### MA-25 For small rooms under 250 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU27, Filter: 78UU30  
 CADR: 230m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 28W  
 Electric Voltage: 110-120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 52dBA | Net Weight: 7.3 LBS  
 Dimensions: 13.5"H x 8" W x 8" D



Number of rooms =

MA-25 units =

### MA-40 For small rooms under 420 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU25, Filter: 78UU26  
 CADR: 380m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 69W  
 Electric Voltage: 110-120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 66dBA | Net Weight: 15.6 LBS  
 Dimensions: 22"H x 9.9" W x 10.9" D



Number of rooms =

MA-40 units =

### MA-50 For medium rooms under 550 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU19, Filter: 78UU21  
 CADR: 500m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 70W  
 Electric Voltage: 110-120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 56dBA | Net Weight: 16 LBS  
 Dimensions: 12.4"H x 12.4" W x 24.69" D



Number of rooms =

MA-50 units =

### MA-112 for Classrooms up to 1,050 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU16, Filter: 78UU18  
 CADR: 950m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 95W  
 Electric Voltage: 110-120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 70dBA | Net Weight: 33.5 LBS  
 Dimensions: 28.3"H x 15.7" W x 15.4" D



Number of rooms =

MA-112 units =

### MA-125 – Classrooms up to 1025 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UV35 (White), 78UV36 (Black), Filter: 78UV37  
 CADR: 930m<sup>3</sup>/h (547 CFM)  
 Power: 132W | 9 Fan Speeds  
 Max noise: < 67 dB | N.W. 32 LBS  
 Dimensions: 16.6" X 15.7" X 23.4"



Number of rooms =

MA-125 units =

### MA-1000 – For large rooms up to 1,875 sq. ft.

Grainger Product #'s: Unit: 78UU31 Filter: 78UU32  
 CADR: 1700m<sup>3</sup>/h | Power: 200W  
 Electric Voltage: 120V / 60HZ  
 Max Noise: < 66 dBA | Net Weight: 88 LB  
 Dimensions: 22.8" L x 22.8" W x 47.2"H



Number of rooms =

MA-1000 units =

*All above recommendations are for 4 air exchanges per hour*

#### Official Use Only:

Total order:

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-15 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-25 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-40 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-50 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-112 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-125 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

\_\_\_\_\_ = MA-1000 (including 3 years of replacement filters)

**Authorized Signature**

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE



# Unit Selection

1. Measure the square footage of each room, this information can almost always be found on a floor plan.
2. Know your ceiling heights.
3. Select the air purifier closest to the area of each room.
  - a. Size up when between sizes to ensure optimal coverage and air flow.

## **Unit Coverage Areas, based on 10-foot ceilings:**

**MA-15** For small rooms under 165 sq. ft.

**MA-25** For small rooms under 250 sq. ft.

**MA-40** For medium rooms under 420 sq. ft.

**MA-50** For medium rooms under 550 sq. ft.

**MA-112** For large rooms under 1,050 sq. ft.

**MA-125** For large rooms under 1025 sq. ft.

**MA-1000** For large rooms up to 1,875 sq. ft.

# Receiving Shipments

- Within the order form, you will be asked to share the proper contact for receiving the shipment. This person will be contacted as quickly as possible after order forms are approved—generally in 1-3 days.
- Shipments will be drop shipped directly to each school's loading dock. Smaller orders will be sent via UPS, and larger orders will be delivered via freight truck.

# Support



- Medify Air and Grainger are available for support throughout and after the program.
- All Medify Air units have a lifetime warranty as long as filter changes are maintained, if any issues arise with your units, please contact Medify Air's customer service for troubleshooting and replacements.

# Unit Installation

## Follow 7 Simple Steps:



**Unbox Unit**  
(DO NOT Plug in unit yet)



**Easily remove side panels from side of unit**



**Remove plastic protective covering from filter**



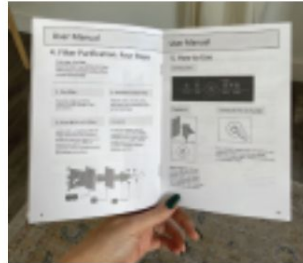
**Replace Filter**



**Replace side panel**



**Plug In unit**



**See Operating Information for next steps**

**Ensure the unit is at least 1-2 feet away from any walls or furniture**

**Place the unit in the back center of the classroom or office, when possible, to mitigate noise and provide maximum airflow**

**If using more than two PAC's in a room, ensure they are evenly spaced throughout the room in order to provide an optimal airflow environment and avoid "dead zones" of air movement**

# Questions?



## FAQ:

1. Do air purifiers help with COVID-19?
2. How frequently do filters need to be changed?
3. Where should we put our air purifiers?
4. What are the benefits of using air purifiers?
  - a. Do they actually work?