

HOME AIR FILTRATION PROGRAM FOR ASTHMA MITIGATION

The Air District's Home Air Filtration Program supports the state's Asthma Mitigation Project, which provides a series of in-home visits by Community Health Workers, Promotoras, and other qualified staff to provide asthma self-management education, environmental asthma trigger assessment and remediation. By partnering with the Asthma Mitigation Project, with technical assistance support from Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP), the Air District will be able to reach approximately 2,000 low-income individuals with asthma living in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Sonoma and Santa Clara counties and provide home air filtration units to those who are most vulnerable to wildfire smoke and who are enrolled in the state's asthma home visiting program.

As part of the in-home visits, this highly vulnerable population is provided individualized guidance and instruction about how to optimally place, use and maintain the air filtration units during wildfire smoke events. During the in-home visits, the asthma home visitors also will provide the guidance document, "Best Ways to Use an Air Purifier," made available by the Air District in six languages—English, Spanish, Tagalog, Chinese, Vietnamese and Arabic. This guide provides instructions on safe and efficient placement, use and maintenance of these devices, such as:

- Place the air purifier 6" away from the nearest object or walls;
- Run the purifier on high in a closed room during a wildfire smoke event;
- Replace the filters when the filter sensor turns on; and
- Change the filter outdoors so dust/particles collected on filter do not re-enter the home.

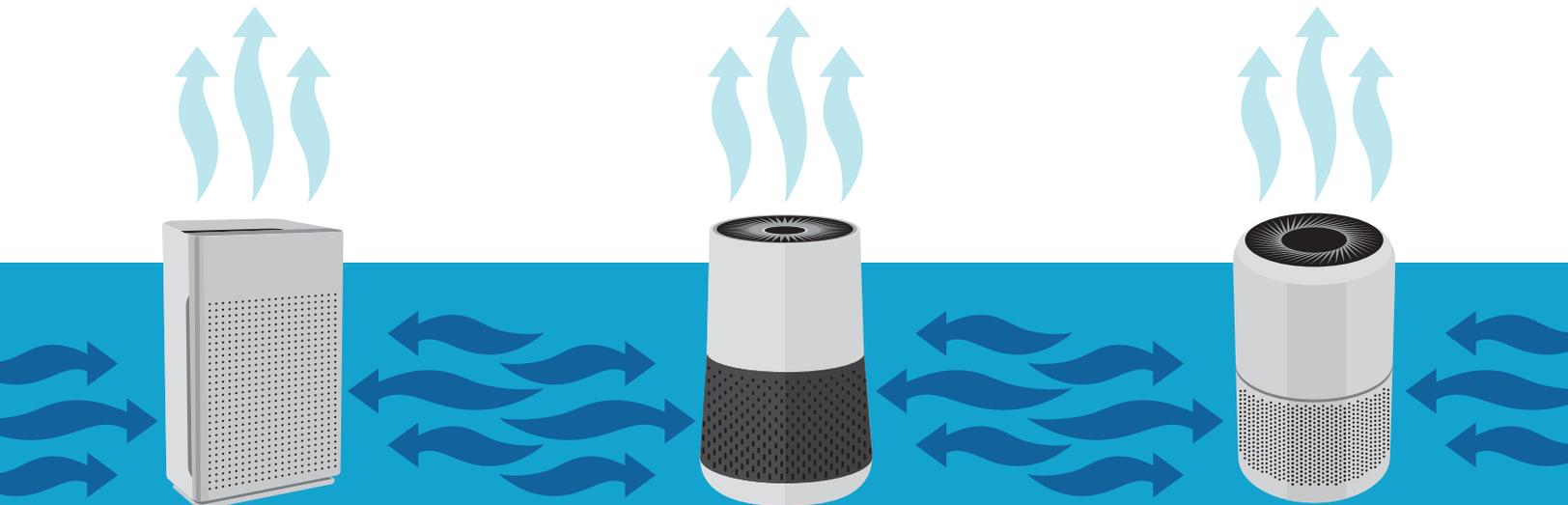
BAY AREA ASTHMA HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

These programs were awarded funding through the Asthma Mitigation Project, a partnership between the State of California and the Center at Sierra Health Foundation, to provide asthma home visits and support asthma self-management education and environmental trigger mitigation for people with poorly-controlled asthma, with a focus on Medi-Cal patients.

County	Asthma Home Visiting Programs
Alameda	Alameda County Department of Public Health Roots Community Health Center
Contra Costa	Contra Costa Health Services LifeLong Medical Care
San Mateo	San Mateo County Family Health Services
Sonoma	Santa Rosa Community Health Centers
Santa Clara	Breathe California, based in San Jose—home filtration units to be distributed in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara Counties



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AIR FILTRATION UNIT REQUIREMENTS

The units being distributed through this program meet the following specifications:

- true high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter (rated to remove 99.97% of particles measuring 0.3 micrometers or greater) for efficient wildfire smoke mitigation;
- certified by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to ensure they do not produce unsafe levels of ozone (i.e., emits no more than 0.050 parts per million of ozone);
- ENERGY STAR certified to ensure energy-efficient operation;
- certified by the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) to ensure independent, third-party verification of the 'clean air delivery rating' (CADR) for cleaning efficiency; and
- units selected are sized for 155 ft², 230 ft², 310 ft² and 360 ft² rooms.

BACKGROUND ON THE ASTHMA MITIGATION PROJECT

The 2019 Budget Act allocated to the Department of Health Care Services a one-time appropriation of \$15 million from the General Fund for the Asthma Mitigation Project. The Sierra Health Foundation's Center for Health Program Management was selected to administer the project, and in August 2020 awarded \$10 million to 22 nonprofit organizations, community-based health care providers, health departments and managed care organizations to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate asthma home visiting services to individuals with poorly controlled asthma. The project focuses on low-income communities and communities of color who have disproportionate rates of asthma. RAMP, a project of the Public Health Institute, provides technical assistance to the asthma home visiting programs funded by the Asthma Mitigation Project.

For more on air quality and wildfire safety:
<http://baaqmd.gov/wildfiresafety>



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