

Practical Tips for a Healthy Homes Program

Sue Taylor, MS
Manager, Early Childhood Services
Memorial Hospital, South Bend

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Be intimately involved with the writing of your grant.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Be prepared for a lot of paperwork and phone calls.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Don't reinvent the wheel.

Find a program that is already being tried.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Have someone on your staff that has excellent computer skills, especially databases.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Get agreements in writing.

Get permission in writing.

Get everything in writing.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Write into the grant
"solutions" or "fixes".

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Hire the right people and especially someone who speaks the language.



Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Help people, but build responsibility too.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Be prepared for last minute requests of information.

Be patient.

Be flexible.

Be patient some more.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Have access to college students who can help.

They can be invaluable.

Asthma?
574-647-2225

Take a Closer Look!

Memorial
Health System



Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Purchasing items is a big deal.
Have a good method of tracking and inventory.

Buy a lot at once if there is a discount.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Memorial
Health System™



**Cockroaches
can trigger
asthma
attacks.**

**Call 647-2225 for a
FREE home visit and
qualify for a HEPA vacuum.**



TAKE A CLOSER LOOK. HEALTHY. SAFE. CLEAN.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Cockroaches don't work.

Inside bus ads don't work.

Dust mites probably won't work either.

Billboards and ads on minority radio stations work.

Have access to a great marketing department.



Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

- Radio: 60:
- Asthma Radio Script
-
- *Does your child have asthma?* Most of us take breathing for granted, but it can be very difficult when you have asthma, especially for children. Things like dust, dirt, mold, animal fur and cigarette smoke *all* trigger asthma symptoms.
-
- "Take a Closer Look" is a free program that aims to improve the health of families with asthmatic children.
-
- If you qualify for the "Take a Closer Look" program, you will receive a home environmental assessment. And if you remain in the program you will also receive free items, like mattress covers, green cleaning products, food storage containers, and a HEPA vacuum, all of which help reduce asthma triggers and allergens.
-
- For more information about this free program, call
- 574-647-2225. That's 574-647-2225. "Take a Closer Look" is a service brought to you by Memorial Health System.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Find a doctor that you can use as a referral source and a source of referrals.

Work with the health professionals at a WIC Clinic.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

There are biases out there...not every contractor wants to work with the low income population.

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

The diagram illustrates a small-scale house with a rear panel display. The house is divided into three colored circular zones: a green zone labeled 'Mold', a pink zone labeled 'Pet', and an orange zone labeled 'Dust'. Each zone contains a transparent vacuum bag and a pair of lungs, showing the accumulation of airborne particles (A) and a restricted air-passage (B). To the right of the house, the text 'Clean It or Breathe It' is displayed in blue and brown, with two vacuum cleaners. Below this, a video monitor displays a video story titled 'A Video Story Gaspin Passages' with the subtitle 'What's it Like?'. The video monitor shows a person's torso with a vacuum cleaner hose connected to their lungs, illustrating the impact of allergens on the respiratory system.

Rear Panel Display

Mold

Pet

Dust

Clean It or Breathe It

A Video Story
Gaspin Passages
Video Monitor
What's it Like?

Easy buttons dispense allergens into a small-scale house.
Transparent vacuum bag, lungs and hose reveal the accumulation of airborne particles (A) and a restricted air-passage (B).

Floor Plan 2

Rear Panel Display 7

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Does your
Child
have
Asthma?



Take a Closer Look

A health enhancement and awareness initiative targeting low-income families with young, asthmatic children.

Created in April 2009 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Commission (HUD), **Take a Closer Look** aims to improve the health of families with asthmatic children, particularly children younger than six.

You may qualify for:

- A free home assessment on air quality and other asthma triggers
- FREE Items to reduce asthma symptoms such as: mattress covers, cleaning products and storage containers

For more information, contact:

Bricelda Edwards
Take a Closer Look Interventionist
325 N. Lafayette Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601
574-647-2225 • Fax: 574-647-2230
bedwards1@memorialsb.org

Incentives

Interview	Incentive Received Upon Completion
Initial Interview: Home Visit	"Clean Green" cleaning kit; Spacer for inhaler
Second Home Visit	Smoke/carbon monoxide detector, batteries, safety kit
Third Home Visit	Allergen reduction kit (dryer balls, mattress dust covers, furnace filters)
Phone interview 1	B.A.B.E. coupon
Fourth Home Visit	HEPA vacuum (home owners may keep if they complete the study), vacuum cleaner bag, door mat, food container, trash container
Phone interview 2	B.A.B.E. coupon
Fifth Home Visit	Asthma peak flow meter, B.A.B.E. coupon

A service of:
Memorial Health System

Practical tips for a Healthy homes program

Sue Taylor

staylor@memorialsb.org

574-647-2173

Good luck!