

New Mexico Asthma Control Program

Partnering with Communities to Reduce the Burden of Asthma

NMACP Funds Nurses Participating in Summer Asthma Institute at UNM

From June 17-19, 2014 the Pediatric Pulmonary Center at UNM held their latest Summer Asthma Institute (SAI) on managing pediatric asthma, organized by Dr. Marie L. Lobo, PhD, RN, FAAN, at the College of Nursing in Albuquerque. Twenty-three NM registered nurses participated in three days of training and education in order to help their patients, families, schools, and communities better manage the burden of asthma.

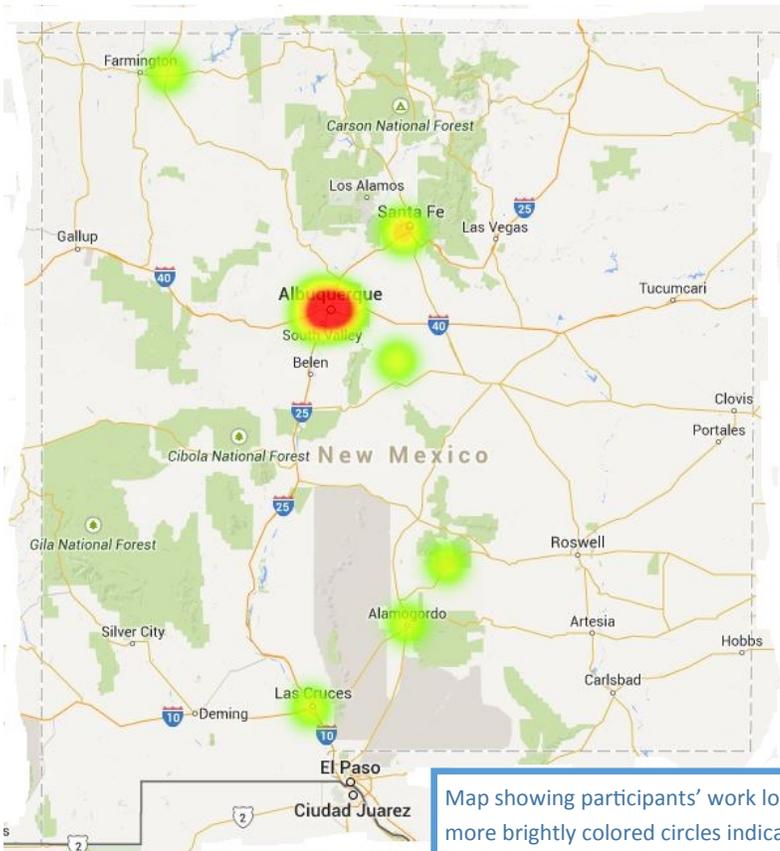
Since the effects of asthma on children's health are felt all around our state, the NM Asthma Control Program (NMACP) was pleased to support school nurses attending the SAI, particularly those who live and work outside of the Albuquerque area, by covering registration costs and providing lodging stipends for those travelling long distances. Approximately two-thirds of the SAI attendees work with Albuquerque Public Schools, and one-third came from other schools and districts: Alamogordo, Bloomfield, Estancia, Las Cruces, Ruidoso, and Santa Fe (indicated on the map below).

During the institute, expert speakers reviewed anatomy and physiology related to asthma; the pathophysiology of respiratory disease; asthma assessment, diagnosis, and treatment; pharmacological interventions (drugs) and delivery devices (inhalers, nebulizers, and compressors); using Asthma Action Plans (ACPs), and environmental triggers of asthma. In addition to Dr. Lobo, speakers included nurses, doctors, pharmacists, and respiratory therapists: Francine Caffey, MD; Susan Fox, PhD, RN; Judy Liesveld, PhD, RN, CPNP; Abby Redway, RCT; Patricia Marshik, PharmD; RuthAnn Goradia, RN, MSN, NCSN; Cynthia Greenberg, RN, MSN, NCSN; Hengameh Raissy, PharmD; and Michelle Wigley, RN. Discussions,

demonstrations, and group scenarios promoted active engagement and learning.

Participating nurses completed pre-tests and post-tests which show that over the course of three busy days at SAI they significantly expanded their asthma-related knowledge, including: the risks and benefits of different kinds of asthma medications; strategies for educating children, parents, and fellow staff about asthma; and how to solve problems related to asthma management in school settings.

To learn more about the Summer Asthma Institutes, contact Dr. Marie Lobo at mlobo@unm.edu. To learn more about the NMACP and its asthma resources for NM, visit our website at <http://nmhealth.org/about/erd/eheb/ap/>.



Map showing participants' work locations. Larger, more brightly colored circles indicate more participants, with the highest number (ABQ) in red.