

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

101A



**FROM:** Community Health Agency, Department of Public Health

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
April 5, 2005

**SUBJECT:** Asthma Awareness Month – May 2005

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors:

Recognize and proclaim the month of May 2005 as Asthma Awareness Month and approve the attached proclamation.

**BACKGROUND:** Asthma Awareness Month acknowledges asthma as the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year. Riverside County Department of Public Health will observe Asthma Awareness Month by promoting the importance of asthma education for county residents with asthma. The Childhood Asthma Program and its partners, First 5 Riverside, Riverside County Regional Medical Center, Hemet Valley Medical Center, John F. Kennedy Hospital, Inland Empire Health Plan, Desert Healthcare District Foundation, Eastside Health Center, and the Office of Industrial Hygiene, will educate the public and promote the support services available to families with children who have been diagnosed with asthma.

Departmental Concurrence

*Susan D. Harrington*

Susan Harrington, Director of Public Health

<b>FINANCIAL DATA</b>	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	04/05

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A</b>	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** **APPROVE**

**County Executive Office Signature** *Dan Marting*

Dept't Recomm.:  Consent  Policy  
 Per Exec. Ofc.:  Consent  Policy

**Prev. Agn. Ref.:** | **District:** | **Agenda Number:**



Riverside

County of Riverside

Riverside County Board of Supervisors  
Proclamation in Support of Asthma Awareness Month  
In Riverside County

- WHEREAS,** asthma has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, affecting about 20 million people; and
- WHEREAS,** asthma is the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year; and
- WHEREAS,** each year 2 million people are rushed to the emergency room and 5,000 people die from asthma; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS) from UCLA, 173,000 Riverside County residents experienced asthma symptoms in 2001; and
- WHEREAS,** asthma is a long-term, inflammatory disease in which the airways of the lungs constrict, causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing; and
- WHEREAS,** exposure to allergens and irritants such as dust mites, mold, cockroaches, pet dander, and secondhand smoke can bring on an asthma episode; and
- WHEREAS,** secondhand smoke worsens children's asthma in up to one million children; and
- WHEREAS,** there are simple steps people can take to reduce their exposure to environmental asthma triggers; and
- WHEREAS,** the Riverside County Childhood Asthma Program and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are encouraging Americans to identify and reduce their exposure to environmental asthma triggers in homes and schools, and incorporate environmental controls into their asthma management plans.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN** that the **Board of Supervisors of Riverside County** does hereby proclaim:

May 2005  
**Asthma Awareness Month**  
In Riverside County, California