



Asthma and Allergy
Foundation of America®
MICHIGAN CHAPTER

AAFA-MI

Annual Report 2021

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*Thank you to all those who
have contributed time,
support and funds – without
you – we could not exist!*

*Our biggest donors this
year include:*

Janz & Knight PLC:

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Each year, AAFA-MI works tirelessly to fulfill our mission to improve the quality of life for those affected by asthma and allergies through education, training and advocacy. 2021 proved to be a challenge but through innovative programming and perseverance, we prevailed.

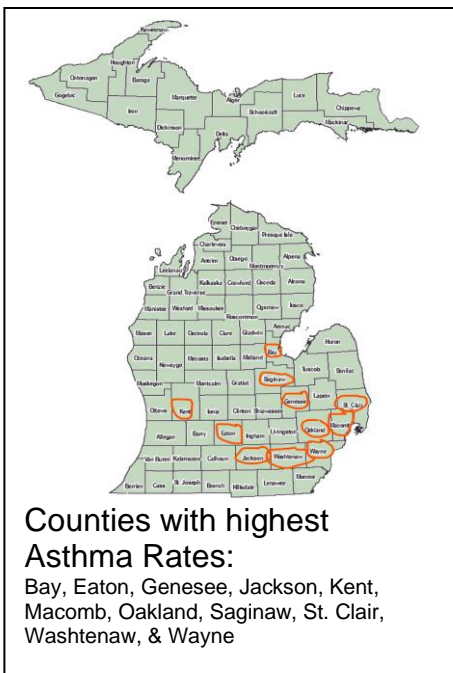
We inspired thousands across Michigan to improve their health through our many programs, but this year focused on delivering these programs in virtual formats. This includes: Facebook Live presentations, workshops presented on video platforms and one-on-one discussions with our asthma educator. We also continued our focus to educate our Legislators on the importance of health first in all policy decisions.

Asthma and allergies (including food) are still one of the most common and most costly chronic diseases. These diseases affect more than 75 million Americans. This is more than diabetes, cancer, heart disease, stroke, Alzheimer's & Parkinson's **combined!** Asthma accounts for over 1.6 million annual emergency department visits. Food Allergies account for over 200 thousand ED visits. Asthma alone accounts for \$82 billion in yearly direct and indirect costs. Helping people get better control will save healthcare dollars and improve quality of life.

Michigan has close to a million people with asthma; about 25% are just kids! In fact, it's a big reason why children miss school, go to the emergency room, or are hospitalized. Total annual costs for asthma in Michigan exceed \$395 million - much of this is associated with out-of-control asthma. Which we work every day to help people get better control.

The good news is deaths from asthma are declining. And childhood asthma rates have leveled off. However, racial disparities still persist among the poorest families and asthma is far more common among African-American children than white children.

Thanks to our Executive Director, Board Members, and volunteers we are changing these startling facts for so many in Michigan through our quality programs, services and our passion to do what's best for those affected by asthma and allergies.



- 63,000 people miss school or work due to asthma
- 4,700 people visit the emergency room due to asthma
- 82 people visit the emergency room due to food allergies
- 10 people die from asthma
- median annual medical cost of asthma was \$983 in the U.S. This ranged from an average low of \$833 in Arizona to an average high of \$1,121 in Michigan

◀ **Every Day in America**

AAFA-MI is seeking dedicated volunteers. If you're interested, please contact our Executive Director

"You make a living by what you get,
but you make a life by what you give."

Winston Churchill



↑	↑	↑
75¢ of every dollar spent supported Programs & Services	25¢ supported Administrative costs	0¢ went to Fundraising

For Life Without Limits!

We are proud to have reached thousands with our programs and services provided. Here is a sampling:

Public Outreach

- ⊙ Over 3,000 individuals were reached through our involvement with virtual events and workshops, media appearances, workplace programs, lectures, and phone & website interactions

Professional Outreach

- ⊙ 326 Doctors, Nurses, Respiratory Therapists, and other professionals were educated and trained through our medical educational programs & consulting work

Legislative Outreach

- ⊙ Throughout the year, we had thoughtful conversations regarding asthma, allergies, air quality and renewable energy with over 20 state and federal Legislators and their staff

Public Health, Non-profits & other Non-Governmental Organizations

- ⊙ Training and consulting services given to over 400 individuals and organizations across Michigan

Collaborations, Coalitions & Progress

- ⊙ AAFA-MI is an active participant on the Michigan Asthma Advisory Council (MAAC) a panel of asthma experts consulting with the state on policy, management, health disparities, and guidelines
- ⊙ We are active with state-wide coalitions working on environmental and energy issues that result in cleaner air, water and land to improve conditions that will lead to less asthma
- ⊙ *Asthma & Allergy Friendly® Certification Program* (assists consumers with choosing "friendly" products) AsthmaandAllergyFriendly.com
- ⊙ Kids With Food Allergies, a patient organization with the largest online community for families is a division of AAFA. This is an exciting and important partnership which allows us to provide expertise to those affected by food allergies
- ⊙ Our Facebook & Twitter get nearly 100,000 likes and are a great place to get the latest news, tips etc. Please visit and like our page at facebook.com/aafami or at twitter.com/aafami

For details on these or any of our programs and services - visit: www.aafamich.org

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"Thank you so much for the warm response! I will review everything you have sent which will help us get through this winter season healthier..." Grateful Mom