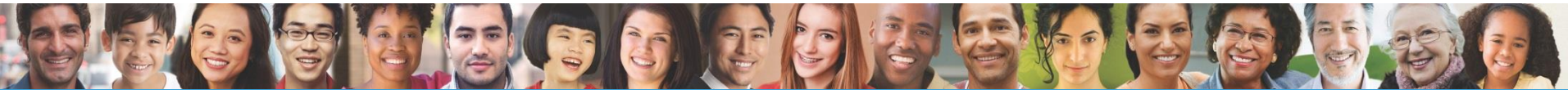


# Using State Plan Amendments (SPAs) to Support Community Health Workers

CHW Sustainability Collaborative Webinar  
June 20, 2018



**FAMILIESUSA**   
THE VOICE FOR HEALTH CARE CONSUMERS

# Housekeeping

- Today's presentation is being **recorded**
- The Q&A will **not** be recorded
- All participants are currently muted
- To ask questions:
  - During presentation, type in chat box
  - During Q&A, **unmute** by pressing **\*7**
  - You can **re-mute** your line by pressing **\*6**
- Please fill out evaluation at the end!
- To join the CHW Sustainability Collaborative, please email [CHWCollaborative@familiesusa.org](mailto:CHWCollaborative@familiesusa.org)

# Today's Speakers

- **Ellen Albritton**, Senior Policy Analyst, Families USA
- **Joel Ervice**, Associate Director, Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP)
- **Jessica Holmes**, Principal Strategist, St. Louis Integrated Health Network
- **Erika Saleski**, ES Advisors, LLC

# Families USA: Who We Are

**Families USA**, a leading national voice for health care consumers, is dedicated to the achievement of high-quality, affordable health care and improved health for all. We advance our mission through public policy analysis, advocacy, and collaboration with partners to promote a patient-and community centered health system.

**Working at the national, state and community level for over 35 years.**



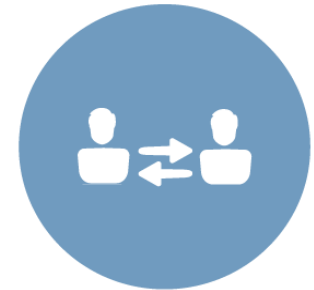
COVERAGE



HEALTH EQUITY



HEALTH CARE  
VALUE



CONSUMER  
ENGAGEMENT

# Who are Community Health Workers?

- Trusted members of their community
- Bridge between health care system, social services, and their community

*Promotores*

Lay Health Worker

Peer Educator

Peer Health Advisor

Community Health Representative

Community Health Aide

Lay Health Advisor

Patient Navigator

Health Educator

Peer Health Worker

# What is a State Plan Amendment?

- Change to a state's Medicaid program that a state has to submit to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approval
- Relatively easy/straightforward (compared to a Medicaid waiver)
- CMS Rule Change: allows for non-licensed providers (like CHWs) to provide preventive services recommended by a licensed provider
- Limitations/Considerations: fee-for-service, definition of preventive services, intersection with certification



# California's Experience

June 20th, 2018

Joel Ervice  
Associate Director

## About RAMP

- RAMP reduces the burden of asthma through a comprehensive approach, ranging from clinical management to environmental protection
- We collaborate, coordinate, share resources, and advocate to reduce inequities, strengthen asthma prevention efforts, improve management for all communities
- Goals:
  - Improving indoor air quality in housing and schools
  - Reducing outdoor air pollution
  - Linking clinical care with prevention



# California's Experience

- What are we trying to do?
- How are do trying to do it?
- Status of our SPA
- Lessons Learned
  - Perseverance, flexibility and a willingness to learn
  - Pursuing multiple policies and funding streams
  - Deciding to take a broad or disease-specific approach
  - Partnership infrastructure and related resources
  - Making complex information accessible
  - Navigating challenges related to non-licensed professionals

## What are We Trying to Do?

- Increase access to patient education and in-home environmental trigger remediation
- Improve the sustainability of new and existing in-home asthma programs
- Strengthen the health care workforce, including Community Health Workers and other non-licensed professionals

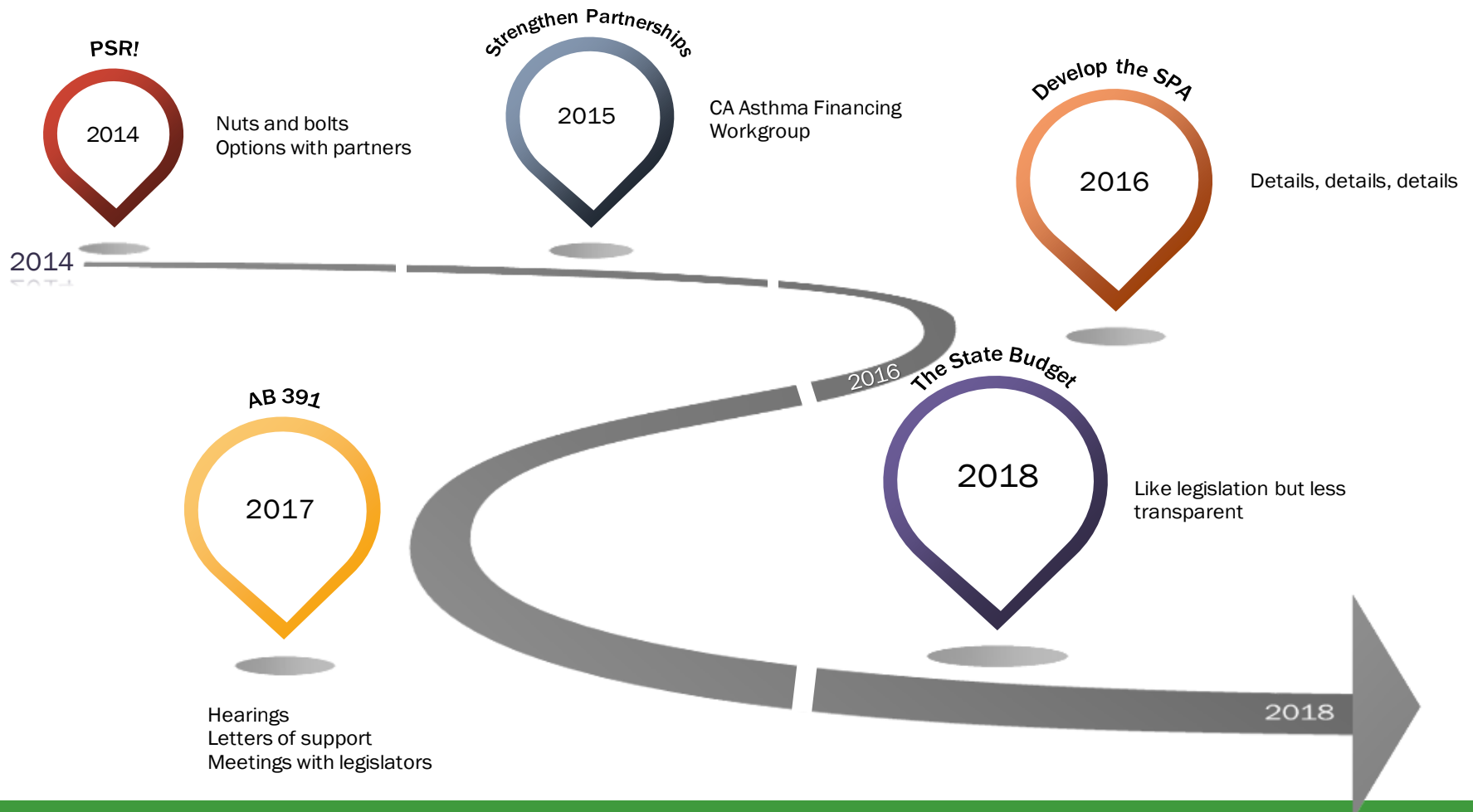
# How Are We Trying to Do It?

- Adopt a State Plan Amendment for Medicaid's Preventive Services Rule...



- ...as well as pursue many other efforts

# Status of Our SPA



## Lessons Learned

- Flexibility, perseverance and willingness to learn
- Pursuing multiple policies and funding streams
- Deciding to take a broad or disease-specific approach
- Partnership infrastructure and related resources
- Making complex information accessible
- Navigating challenges related to non-licensed professionals

# Perseverance, Flexibility and a Willingness to Learn

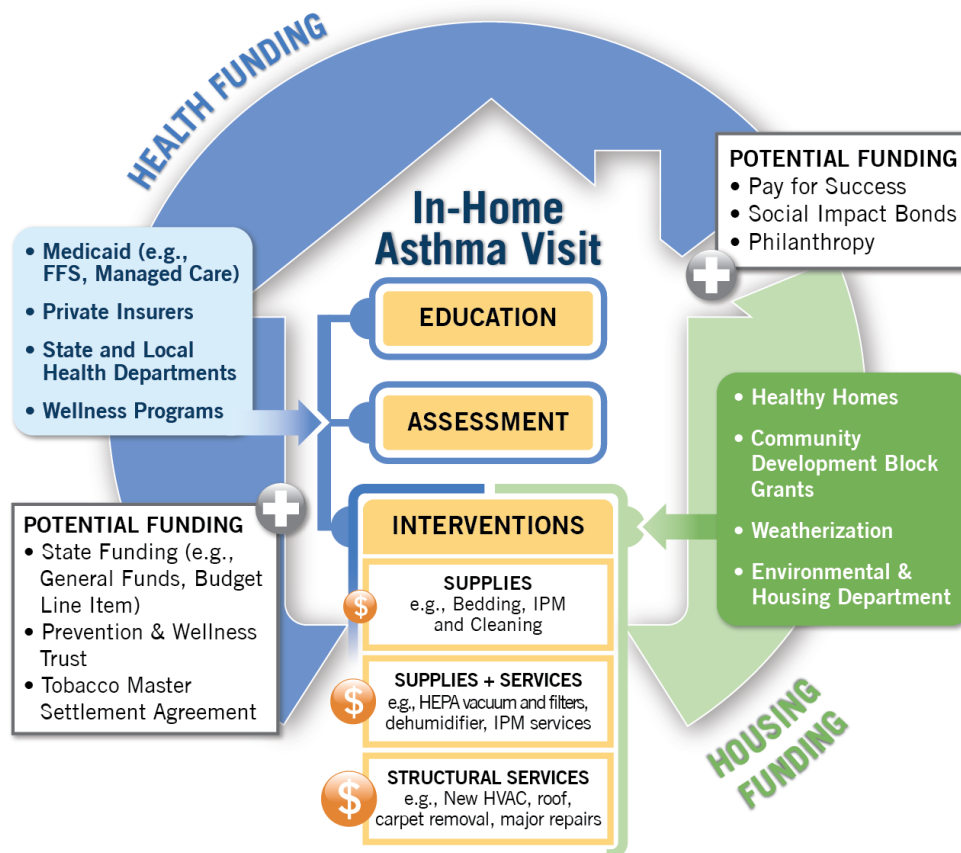
Never ever give up!



# Pursuing Multiple Policies and Funding Streams



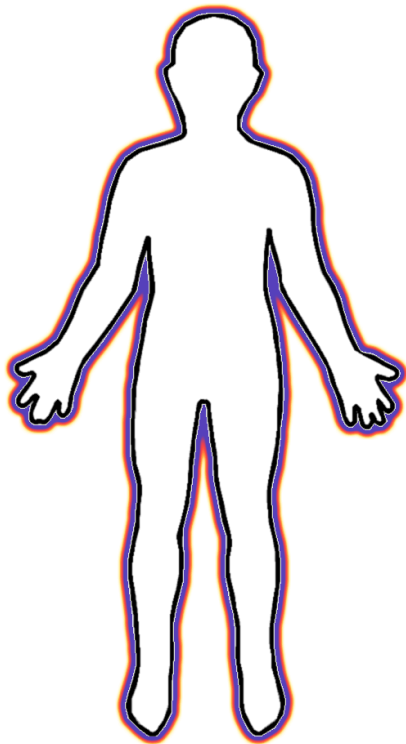
# Pursuing Multiple Policies and Funding Streams



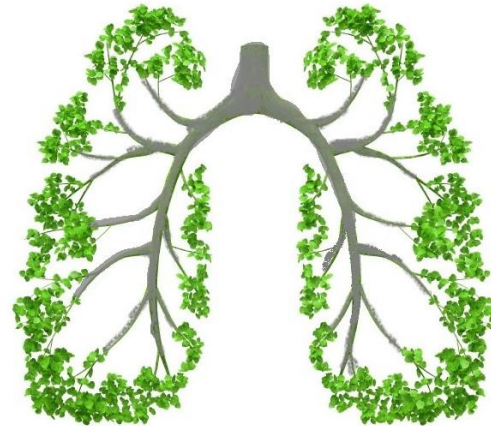
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



# Taking a Broad or Disease-Specific Approach



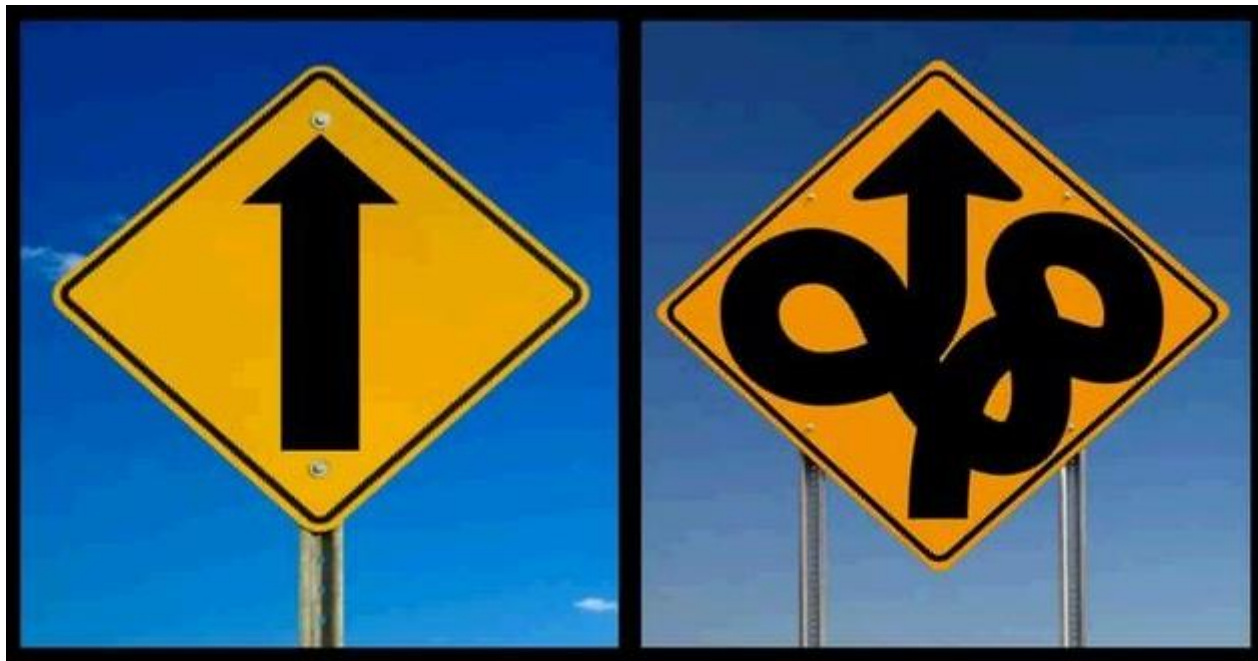
VS.



# Partnership Infrastructure and Resources

- Diverse Perspectives and Expertise
- Partnership Infrastructure

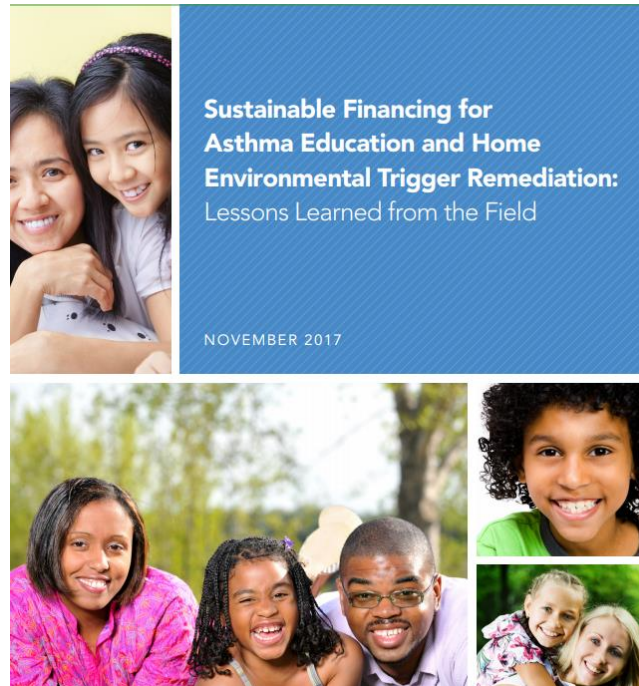
# Making Complex Information Accessible



# Navigating Challenges of Non-Licensed Professionals

- Qualifications
- Workforce capacity and availability

# Lessons Learned



<http://www.rampasthma.org/archives/14893>



## Building Systems to Sustain Home-Based Asthma Services

<http://nchh.org/tools-and-data/financing-and-funding/building-systems-to-sustain-home-based-asthma-services/>

### Online resources:

RAMP's *Lessons Learned* white paper: [http://www.rampasthma.org/D:Web%20Siteswww.rampasthma.orgwp-content/uploads/2017/11/RAMP\\_Lessons\\_Learned\\_Full\\_Paper.pdf](http://www.rampasthma.org/D:Web%20Siteswww.rampasthma.orgwp-content/uploads/2017/11/RAMP_Lessons_Learned_Full_Paper.pdf)

NCHH e-Learning Platform: <http://elearning.nchh.org/courses/login/index.php#section-2>

EPA's Asthma Community Network: <http://www.asthmacommunitynetwork.org/Financing>

Childhood Asthma Leadership Coalition: <http://www.childhoodasthma.org/resources/2016/5/27/pathways-to-medicaid-reimbursement-for-pediatric-asthma-services>

# Thank You!

[Joel@rampasthma.org](mailto:Joel@rampasthma.org) --- 510-285-5711



# MISSOURI CHW PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP





# OVERVIEW

- Background: Payer Engagement Workgroup
- Medicaid Payment Recommendations
- Strategy
- Next Steps



# PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP



# BACKGROUND:

## PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

- 2015: MO DHSS Statewide CHW Advisory Committee Formed
- 2016: DHSS CHW Advisory Committee identified the following priorities:
  - CHW training and curriculum at community colleges
  - Codify the CHW Core Competencies
  - Develop CHW certification process
  - CHW Sustainability
- 2016: Missouri Medicaid PCHH CHW Pilot
- 2017: MO Primary Care Association funding to support CHWs at FQHCs across the state
- Fall 2017: Missouri had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest attendance at the Unity Conference (annual CHW convening)
- Spring 2017: Statewide Payer Engagement Workgroup is formed with endorsement from DHSS and the Statewide CHW Advisory Committee
- Spring 2018: MCOs engaged to join the Statewide CHW Advisory Committee
- May 3, 2018: Payer Engagement Workgroup presents Medicaid payment recommendations

# BACKGROUND: PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

- Purpose of workgroup:
  - To develop and promote implementation of sustainable financing streams for CHW programs in Missouri
  - To bring on-the-ground perspective from CHWs and community-based organizations for consideration in the design of reimbursement structures
  - To engage national thought leaders (New Mexico, FamiliesUSA, Michigan MPCA, Unity Conference leadership) in lessons learned from other states
- Composition: Open to Statewide CHW Advisory Committee including MPCA, health partners FQHCs, community organizations, local planning groups
- Activities:
  - ROI research
  - Payment model and sources recommendations
  - Engage Medicaid MCOs

# BACKGROUND: NATIONAL CHW CORE VALUES *AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF CHWS*

**Access:** ensure equal access to services

**Acceptance:** remain open-minded and are accepting of others

**Advocacy:** advocate for communities, individuals and the field of community health work

**Excellence:** providing quality services and the most accurate information available to individuals and communities

**Learning:** embrace learning Access as life long, including life experiences and traditional learning

**Partnership:** partners in the design, implementation and evaluation of CHW programs

**Self-determination:** CHWs shall determine the direction of the field

**Social Justice:** CHWs are agents of change

**Strength:** assist families to acknowledge strengths and build upon them

**Trust:** CHWs have earned the trust of individuals and communities

**Unity:** CHWs regardless of discipline, region of the country, job title, and work within or outside of traditional systems are unified in our work to reduce disparities.



# MEDICAID PAYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS



# POTENTIAL PAYMENT MODELS: OVERVIEW

- Offered options for payment reimbursement models (e.g. FFS, PMPM, shared savings)
- Identified most promising Medicaid payment pathways for MO:
  - Managed Care
  - State Plan Amendment (SPA)
- Recommended inclusive process with stakeholders, state and CMS to determine the **SPA components and MCO Contract language**
- SPA is **only one component** of an approach to a sustainable reimbursement structure
  - Limits CHW scope of practice

# POTENTIAL PAYMENT MODELS: OVERVIEW

- SPA should have:
  - Broad target population
  - Alignment with CHW scope of practice as broadly as possible
  - Alignment with statewide accepted core competencies or certification, when established
- MCO should be required to contract with local providers and community organizations delivering CHW services





# ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



# ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Presented Workgroup recommendations during the May 3<sup>rd</sup> Statewide CHW Advisory Committee meeting
  - Audience included Missouri Medicaid, FQHCs, MCOs, CHWs, educators, local public health departments, other state employees
- Verbally affirmed each recommendation with stakeholders present
- CHWs described how SPA would limit scope of practice and, as such, the impact/quality of their services



# NEXT STEPS



# NEXT STEPS: PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

- Successes:
  - CHW decision-making
  - Engaged multiple and diverse groups to support aligned payment recommendations
  - Used statewide table to recommend to MO Medicaid
  - Successfully engaged one MCO in payment policy development
- Challenges:
  - Continuing the discussion with MO Medicaid

# NEXT STEPS: PAYER ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

- Next Steps:
  - Prepare to respond to SPA submitted to CMS
  - Work with MissouriCare (WellCare) on identifying relevant FFS codes and building an all-inclusive reimbursement strategy
  - Examine funding streams beyond Medicaid (e.g. Head Start, AAA)
  - Develop a strategy to sustain CHW efforts for the uninsured

# Questions?

To ask questions:

Type in chat box

Unmute by pressing \*7

You can re-mute your line by pressing \*6