PAIR PROGRAM FACT SHEET

Portside Air Quality & Improvement Relief

What is the PAIR Program?

The PAIR Program is a two-year program dedicated to improving indoor air quality in homes adjacent to heavy industrial, freight, and freeway activities in the neighborhoods of Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, and West National City. These areas are geographically referred to as Portside Communities based on their proximity to the Port and through funding from the County of San Diego and the Port of San Diego, over 500 homes in these communities can receive a FREE air monitor and air purifier. The San Diego Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is administering this program and the Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) is conducting outreach and education, handling installation, and processing applications. EHC will also be on call to handle any troubleshooting during the two-year program cycle.

Each participating resident should expect the following:

- Free delivery of the air monitor and air purifier with three additional filters to use during the two-year program.
- A first home visit by the PAIR Community Organizer to install the air monitor, discuss the benefits of the program, collect their application, offer tips to improve the indoor air quality of their home, and connect the home air monitor to the APCD’s system.
- A second home visit, 30 days later, to install the air purifier, explain how to replace the filter, and provide maintenance for the equipment.
- Receive a folder with contact information for any troubleshooting needs, bilingual manuals for the equipment, list of local health clinics, and information about SDG&E’s CARE program to offset the costs of running the equipment.
- In addition, a $125 stipend will be available for households that need financial assistance to help offset the costs of running the equipment.

Why is APCD monitoring air in the homes of the participants?

APCD is interested in learning more about the pollutants and levels of pollutants inside Portside homes. This data can be used by the PAIR Program to identify additional resources to reduce the pollution exposure for communities living alongside heavy industrial, freight, and freeway activities.
Asthma and Air Pollution
Health and Daily Living

**Outdoor sources that trigger asthma**

- **Weather**
  - Hot summer
  - Cool winter days
  - Windy days
- **Particles and Dust**
  - Wildfires
  - Camp fires
  - Charcoal grills
- **Traffic Sources**
  - Trucks, ships, airplanes
  - Children that live closer to a freeway are almost 2 times more likely to develop asthma than children who live farther from a freeway.

**Air pollutants that trigger asthma**

- **Ozone (O3)**
  - Traffic related pollutants + hot sun = high ozone
  - Highest from 2-6pm on hot sunny days
  - In communities with high ozone, children that play many team sports were 3 times as likely to develop asthma compared to children playing no sports.

- **Nitrogen Dioxide (NO2)**
- **Fine Particulate Matter (PM2.5)**
- **Diesel Particulate Matter**
  - Traffic related from engine combustion

*Children who spend more time outdoors are more likely to use asthma medication and be exposed to air pollutants.*

**USC Environmental Health Centers**

**Asthma and Climate Change**

- **Climate Change affects asthma**
  - Heat and drought
  - More wildfires = more pollution
  - Hotter days = more ozone
  - Dust storms in dry places
  - Rain and flooding = mold growth

**Research shows**

- Lower air pollution = fewer new asthma cases in kids
- The effects of ambient air pollution and traffic-related air pollution on childhood asthma pose a large burden to public health and the economy

*Source: USC Environmental Health Centers*
Asthma is a chronic condition, meaning it continues over time. It might be well controlled; or sometimes get worse, but a person with asthma has the condition for life. As you can see, asthma is a serious children’s health problem in our portside communities.

Source: Department of Health Care Access & Information

Who is Eligible for the PAIR Program?

Eligible residents are those that live within the neighborhoods identified as Portside Communities – Barrio Logan, Logan Heights, Sherman Heights, and West National City. Priority will be given to families with respiratory problems, children, and seniors. Families with more than one person with respiratory issues may be eligible to receive more than one air purifier. See back page for portside communities map.

Equipment Information

IQAir Air Visual Pro

- Monitors indoor PM2.5, carbon dioxide, humidity, temperature, weather
- 3-day air quality forecasts and historic air data
- Recommendations on when to turn on the air purifier
- No phone/computer required
- Shows outdoor air quality readings from the closest air regulatory air monitor
Blueair Blue Pure 311 Auto

- Covers a medium-sized room
- Filters air 5x an hour
- “Auto” feature automatically turns the unit on/off when PM levels are high
- 6-month filter life (when running 24 hrs/day) and includes three extra filters

How Can Community Residents Sign Up?

Community residents interested in signing up to the PAIR Program should contact Laura Benavidez, PAIR Program Community Organizer. She is bilingual, English and Spanish. EHC will need to know applicants physical address in order to confirm they live within the Portside neighborhoods. Laura Benavidez can be reached via email LauraB@environmentalhealth.org or through the PAIR Hotline: 619.603.7758.