Currently the Florida Department of Health Florida Asthma Coalition (FAC) has identified key strategic goals to reduce asthma-related health disparities. As identified in the key findings from the 2013 Burden of Asthma in Florida, the Florida Department of Health estimates there are greater than 2.6 million children and adults in Florida with asthma which has significantly increased since the previous report last year. Only one in three children with asthma has received an Asthma Action Plan and only one in ten children has received education and training on how to manage his or her disease. Several programs exist that utilize validated education and training modules to improve the safety and management of children with asthma, such as American Lung Association’s Open Airways For Schools® and the FAC Asthma-Friendly Child Care Centers and Schools Recognition Programs.

OBJECTIVES

- To rank and identify contributing factors to pediatric asthma rates in Hillsborough County, FL.
- To develop a weighted matrix and geographic representation of priority zip codes with increased asthma-related risks in pediatric populations that may benefit from a validated school-based asthma curriculum in Hillsborough County, FL.

METHODS

Recruit two student pharmacist interns to perform data mining and surveillance analysis. Determine characteristics reflective of the burden of disease for asthma in the target population by synthesizing asthma-related reports, databases and service programs. Utilize prevalence, air quality, and income as community related reports, databases and service programs. Utilize asthma characteristics reflective of the burden of disease for children with asthma in Hillsborough County, FL. their support and access to data necessary to complete this research.

CONCLUSIONS

While there are programs available that have demonstrated success in improving the safety and management of children with asthma in Florida, their accessibility in Hillsborough County is limited at best as there are currently no schools in Hillsborough County that are regarded as “asthma friendly” by the Florida Asthma Coalition. Although there is an apparent need for these types of programs that can influence the quality of life for children with asthma in Hillsborough County, disparities in access to resources persist.

REFERENCES