

Do you live in  
Providence, Pawtucket,  
Central Falls, or Woonsocket?

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Do you rent your home or  
apartment?

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Do you think your  
housing conditions are making  
your child's asthma worse?



Breathe Easy at Home  
may be able to help.

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**Housing conditions that contribute to breathing issues** include peeling paint, mold, dust mites, secondhand smoke, pests (cockroaches and other insects, rodents), pets, and other animals. If your home environment is affected by these conditions, you may benefit from participating in the **BREATHE EASY AT HOME (BEAH)** program.

**BEAH** program gives you, healthcare providers, your city or town, the Rhode Island Department of Health, and your landlord a chance to work together to improve living conditions in your home. The changes that are made will reduce exposure to asthma triggers and help children with asthma breathe easier in your home.

Your healthcare provider will ask you to sign a consent form and will refer you to BEAH. An inspector from your city/town housing office will call you to make an appointment to visit your home.

The next steps are:

- An inspection is done on the property, usually within five days of the referral.
- If violations are found, notification is posted on the property and is mailed (regular and certified mail) to the occupants and the owner or person responsible for the property.
- The owner or person responsible for the property is given between 24 hours and 30 days to fix the violations (depending on violation type).
- A follow-up inspection is done after the time period allowed to fix violations ends.
- The case is closed when all violations are corrected.

# FACTS ABOUT THE BREATHE EASY AT HOME INSPECTION

- The city/town housing inspector will conduct all inspections.
- Inspections are scheduled on days and at times that are convenient for you.
- The owner or person responsible for the property does not have to be present at inspections.
- Inspectors will also look for housing code violations that are not related to asthma.
- The owner or person responsible for the property has the right to appeal violations within 10 days of being notified of these violations.
- You (and the owner or person responsible for the property) will receive notification about follow-up inspections.
- If housing code violations are found, the healthcare provider who made the original referral will be routinely updated about the process of fixing these violations.
- You are protected from retaliation by your landlord for participating in BEAH. Landlord retaliation is illegal. Information about tenant rights is available at:

## **RHODE ISLAND CENTER FOR JUSTICE**

1 Empire Plaza, Suite 410  
Providence, RI 02903  
401-491-1101 ext. 810  
[www.centerforjustice.org](http://www.centerforjustice.org)



Additional resources about asthma and your child:

- **Home Asthma Response Program (HARP):** Home-based asthma services for you family, including self-management education by a Certified Asthma Educator and a Community Health Worker
- **Hasbro Children's Hospital's *Draw a Breath* Program:** Asthma workshops for parents and children to learn how to manage the child's asthma. Workshops are held in local community settings in Rhode Island. For more information, contact 401-444-8340.
- **Project CASE** (Controlling Asthma in Schools Effectively): works with elementary schools to:
  - Offer Hasbro's *Draw a Breath* classes for students with asthma
  - Give training for school staff about asthma needs at school
  - Improve the school's indoor and outdoor spaces, asthma-friendly policies, and indoor air quality
  - Promote the use of Asthma Action Plans
  - Improve asthma care coordination among school nurses, teachers, healthcare providers, and families

For information, contact

[doh.beah@health.ri.gov](mailto:doh.beah@health.ri.gov)

or call the

Health Information Line at

401-222-5960 / RI Relay 711



[www.health.ri.gov/asthma](http://www.health.ri.gov/asthma)



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