

# Healthy Tomorrows Partnership for Children Program (HTPCP): Sustainability Success

Holly S. Ruch-Ross, ScD, Karla Palmer, BA

American Academy of Pediatrics  
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## Community Asthma Initiative (CAI)

CAI at Boston Children's Hospital received its initial Healthy Tomorrows (HT) funding in 2006. CAI has been a particularly successful HTPCP project, receiving additional Healthy Tomorrows grants in 2011 and 2018 as it expanded and replicated its model across Massachusetts and beyond.

CAI uses a social-ecological framework, addressing asthma control for children on multiple levels, including family, environment, community and policy factors. The program has reported substantial reductions in hospitalizations and emergency department visits among children served. The initiative reports a return on investment of \$1.46, reflecting significant savings through investment in the program.

In addition to a commitment to publishing and sharing its results, CAI has developed a replication manual and become a provider of technical assistance. CAI recognized early on that both program success and sustainability require dynamic partnerships, and it has partnered with community-based organizations, health care providers, parent groups, public health organizations and advocacy groups. The initiative has drawn from diverse funding sources and has been integrated into the hospital to assure long-term sustainability.

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## 93% of HT Projects Still Exist One Year Post-Funding

- ⇒ **37%** are in close to original form
- ⇒ **14%** exist in part
- ⇒ **16%** have expanded or changed in a significant way
- ⇒ **26%** have been absorbed into organization programs or services

## Factors Contributing to Sustainability



**HTPCP grantees attributed sustainment to engagement of partners, shared values and perception of need, and the success of their projects.**

## Reach Out and Read (ROR)

ROR in Washington State was awarded a Healthy Tomorrows grant in 2009. Since that time, the program has gone from 70 locations to 236; ROR is now serving about 130,000 families in the state.

ROR is an evidence-based early literacy program delivered through the medical home. Families receive a new book and literacy messages from their pediatrician at each well-child visit from 6 months to 5 years. ROR reports that participating families read to their children more often than those who do not participate, and their children's vocabulary scores are higher. Because these outcomes are associated with fidelity to the model, Washington ROR developed strategies for enhancing quality through technical assistance and professional development.

Positive outcomes and an emphasis on quality contribute to sustainability, but the key to ROR's success may be strong partnerships at the local, regional and state levels. Moreover, ROR works to build relationships among its partners, particularly on the local level. As a result of working with the State Department of Children, Youth and Families, Reach Out and Read has been formally embedded into the Washington State Early Learning Plan.

## Data Sources

- HTPCP One Year Follow-up Survey, 2012-2020
- Grantee interviews and facilitated discussions
- HTPCP Impact Case Study - Reach Out and Read: Improving School Readiness in Washington State
- Community Asthma Initiative Program Replication Manual, Boston Children's Hospital.
- Administrative records