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**NEW ASTHMA RESOURCE DIRECTORY FOR CONSUMERS
OFFERS EASY-TO-USE SHORTCUTS TO GET ASTHMA CARE**

December 6, 2002 – San Diego County has a comprehensive directory for specific asthma services. The **San Diego County Asthma Resource Directory for Consumers** provides community health providers, school nurses, parents, and others an invaluable resource for finding services for those who suffer from asthma. The new Directory is a collaborative effort of fifty agencies that make up the San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition.

In San Diego County, the American Lung Association estimates that 235,000 adults and children suffer from asthma. The new easy-to-use Directory provides a wealth of information for those individuals and their families. One section lists community health centers and the programs and services they have to offer. Another section gives information on classes and outreach programs aimed at educating the public.

The directory can be obtained through family resource centers and the Childhood Asthma Initiative. A copy can also be downloaded from the American Lung Association website (www.lungsandiego.org) or the Community Health Improvement Partners website (www.sdchip.org). For more information, call (619) 297-3901.

The San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition began in 1999 to provide leadership in identifying, developing, mobilizing and coordinating resources to prevent asthma and positively impact the lives of people affected by asthma. In 2002, the coalition completed a 3-year strategic plan addressing asthma information and resources, healthy environments, outreach and education, research and data,

and asthma policy. The Coalition has work groups that meet regularly to implement the plan's objectives. The San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition is participating in a statewide initiative funded by The California Endowment, named Community Action to Fight Asthma (CAFA). CAFA is devoted to improving the environment where children with asthma live, learn, and play. The San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition is affiliated with San Diego CHIP – Community Health Improvement Partners.

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