A photograph of two young boys walking on a sidewalk in front of a brick building with a window. The boy on the left is wearing a white shirt and plaid shorts, and the boy on the right is wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and grey shorts. Both are wearing backpacks. The text is overlaid on the bottom half of the image.

The Wisconsin Asthma Program's School Nurse Survey Results

P-01006 (04/2015)

Wisconsin
Department of Health Services



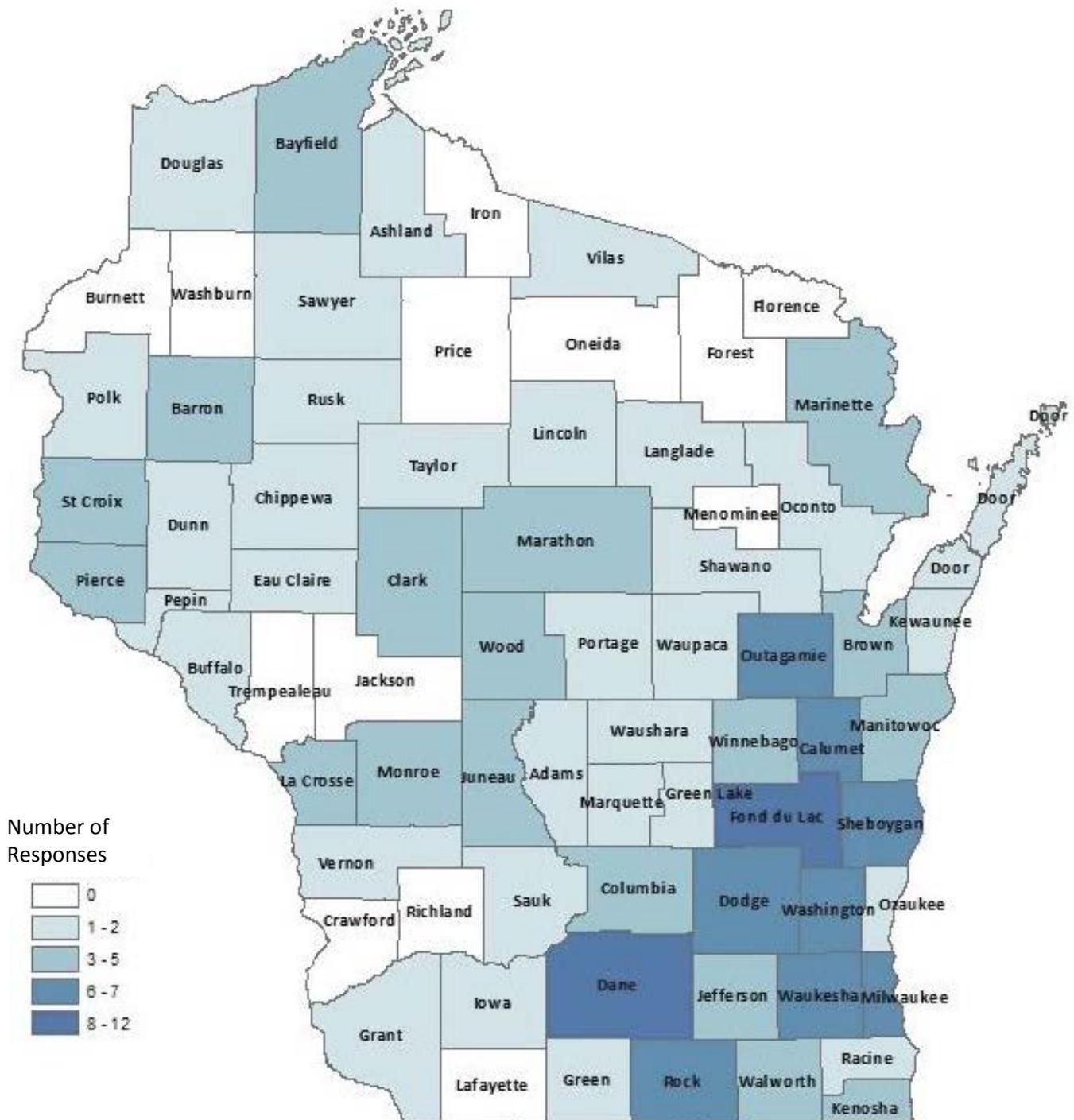
Background

- The Wisconsin Asthma Program and Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction developed a survey for school nurses.
- Survey identified need for better asthma care and management in the school setting.
- Survey results will help Wisconsin schools become more asthma friendly.

Survey Methods and Response Rates

- 25 multiple choice questions; follow-up text fields
- Questions reviewed by:
 - Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
 - UW School of Medicine and Public Health and American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (AAAAI)
- Target audience: school nurses
- Select Survey link sent via email to approximately 600 school nurses
- Survey available from December 2014 to January 2015
- 186 respondents; response rate of 31%

Where Are School Nurses Who Completed the Survey?



Who Are Our School Nurses?

A PROFILE OF WISCONSIN'S SCHOOL NURSES



5+
YEARS

More than half have 5 or more years
experience as a school nurse

Whom Do School Nurses Serve?



MOST SCHOOL NURSES (83%) SERVE MULTIPLE SCHOOLS



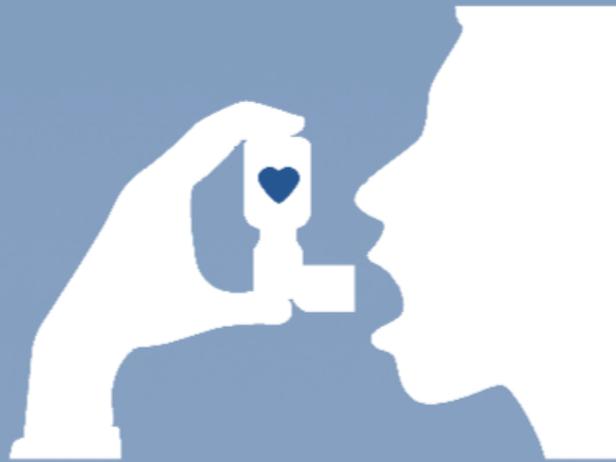
MORE THAN HALF OF SCHOOL NURSES (66%) SERVE OVER 1000 STUDENTS



IN 75% OF WI SCHOOLS, 25% OR MORE OF STUDENTS RECEIVE FREE OR REDUCED MEALS

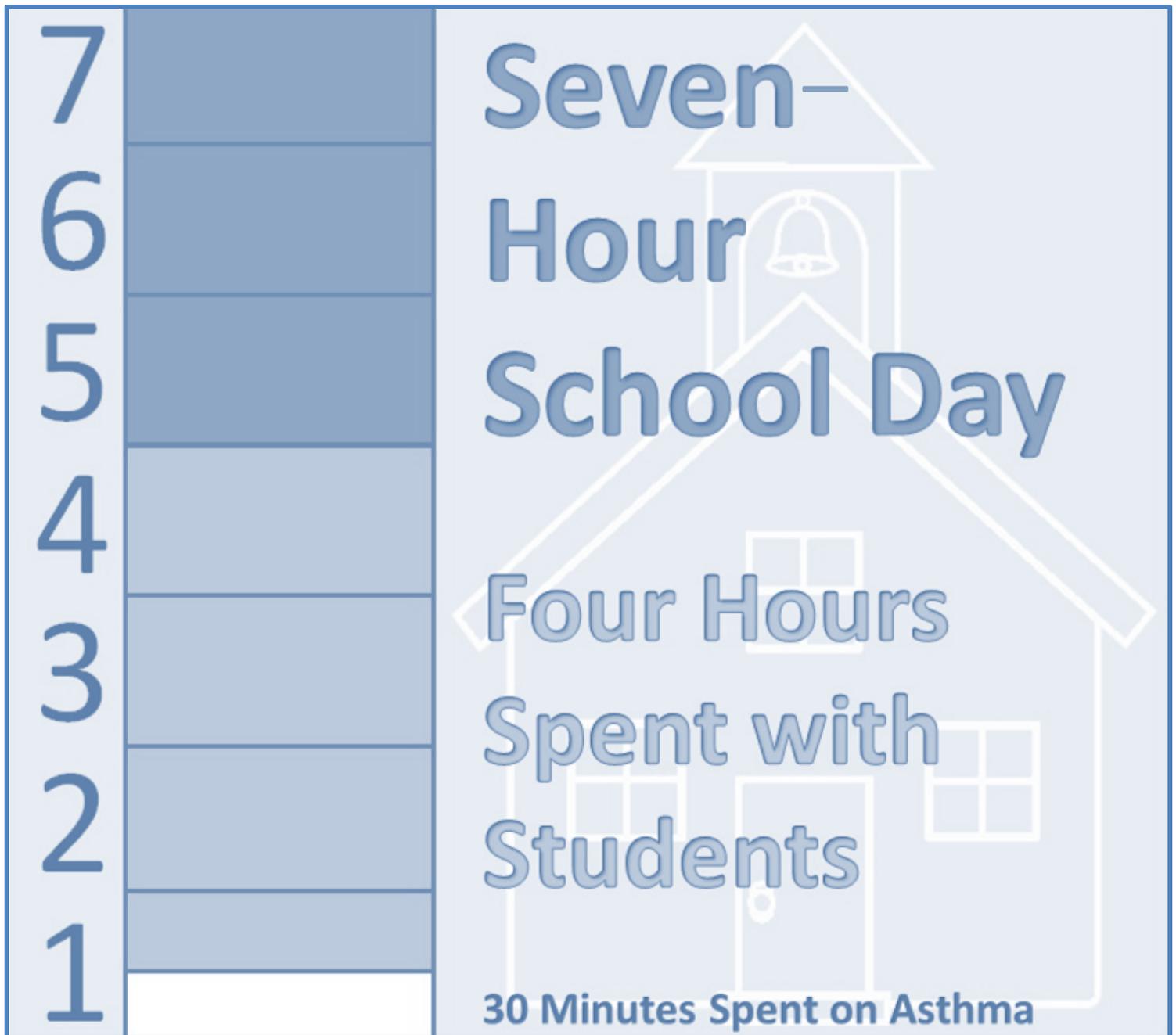
How Many Students Have Asthma?

ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY, 13% OF STUDENTS IN WI SCHOOLS HAVE ASTHMA



IN SOME SCHOOLS, UP TO HALF (50%) OF STUDENTS HAVE ASTHMA

How Much Time Do School Nurses Spend Helping Students with Asthma?



How Do Schools Identify Students with Asthma?

IDENTIFICATION OF STUDENTS WITH ASTHMA



82% of nurses indicated that their school uses records to identify students with asthma



12% of nurses indicated that their school tracks student absences due to asthma



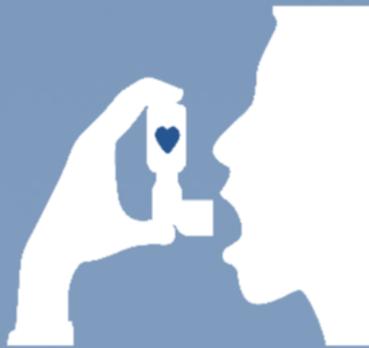
6% of nurses connect students with chronic conditions such as asthma to health insurance



29% of students with asthma have an asthma action plan on file

Are Students Allowed to Use Their Asthma Medications?

ASTHMA MEDICATIONS



97% of schools allow students to self-carry and administer their asthma medications



Of the 3% that do not, they indicated that it was because students were too young



91% of schools provide students with a safe place to administer their asthma medications

What Services Do School Nurses Provide to Students with Asthma?



1

Provide students with a safe place to self-administer their asthma medications



2

Teach students how to properly use their asthma medications



3

Educate students about environmental asthma triggers (e.g., smoke, dust)

Are School Nurses Receiving Asthma Education and Training?

IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, ONLY 36% OF SCHOOL NURSES RECEIVED TRAINING ON ASTHMA



YET, 79% WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ON ASTHMA



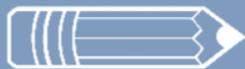
TOP THREE FORMATS TO RECEIVE TRAINING:

- WEBINAR**
- IN-PERSON**
- ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT**

Are School Staff Receiving Asthma Education and Training?

**61% OF OTHER
SCHOOL STAFF
RECEIVE TRAINING
ON ASTHMA**

These staff include:



Teachers

Secretaries and Office
Staff



PE Teachers and
Coaches

Paraprofessionals and
Educational Assistants



Health Aides

Emergency Response
Teams

Are Students and Parents Receiving Asthma Education?

ONLY 33% OF SCHOOLS PROVIDE HEALTH OR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGARDING ASTHMA TO PARENTS AND FAMILIES

However, these activities are happening at most schools:



-Referring students with asthma to health care providers



-Communicating with students' health care providers

How parents can help:

"I need accurate information about which students have asthma. Parents do not consistently report asthma. I have found for the most part that health care providers are cooperative with providing information. The problem is lack of reporting by parents. If I don't know, I cannot make an intervention."

What Barriers Do School Nurses Face in Managing Asthma?



BARRIERS TO MANAGING ASTHMA IN WISCONSIN SCHOOLS

-  1. Lack of Time
-  2. Lack of Money
-  3. Lack of Personnel & Resources

What Do School Nurses Need?

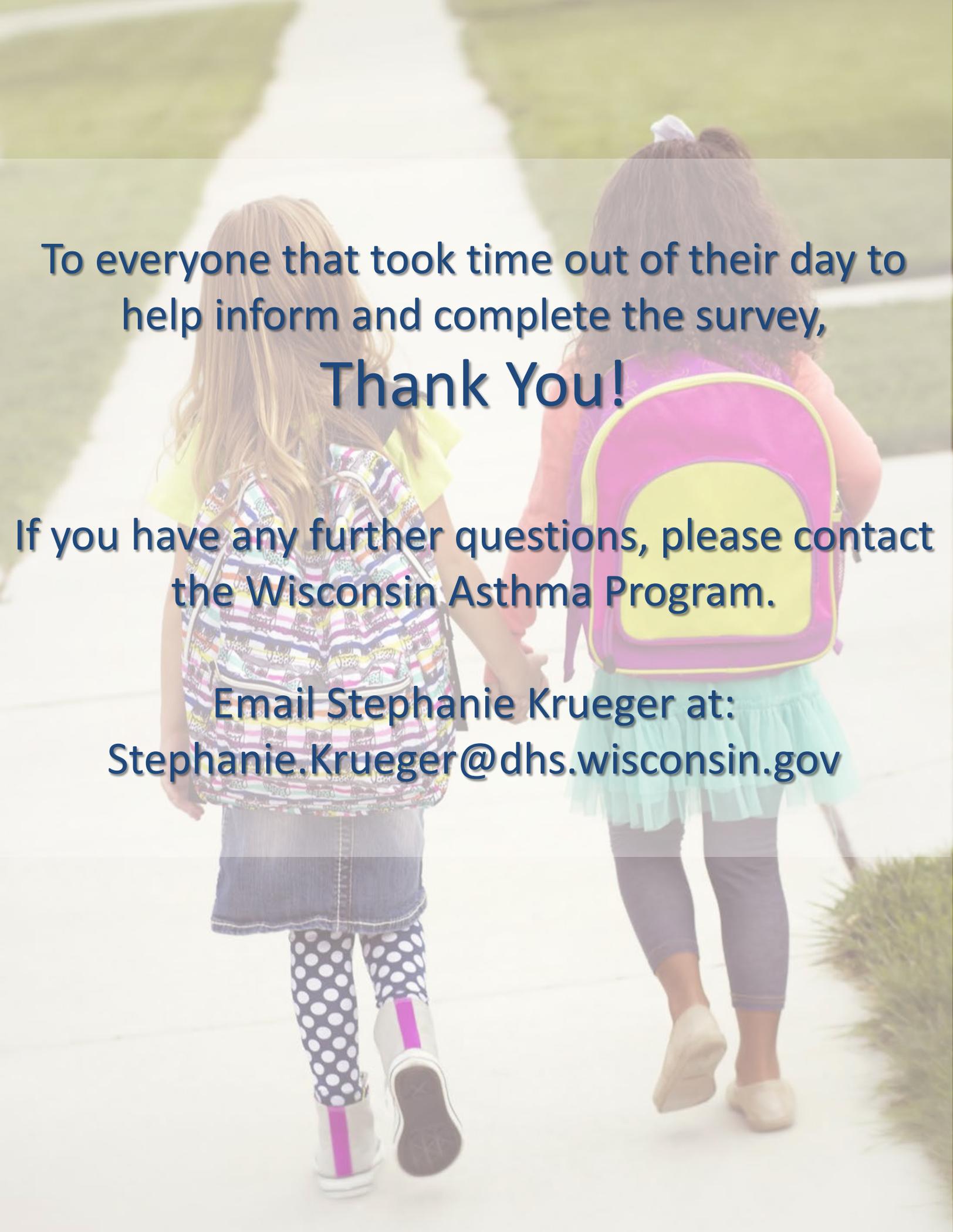
6

THINGS SCHOOL NURSES NEED TO BETTER ADDRESS ASTHMA:

- 1 Access to students' electronic medical records
- 2 Better relationships with health care providers
- 3 Better parental involvement
- 4 A supply of asthma medications at the school
- 5 More nurses and support staff
- 6 Asthma education

How Can the Wisconsin Asthma Program and Our Partners Help?

- Work with school nurses to create a guide to asthma-friendly schools, including:
 1. Educational materials for students and staff
 2. Current national and state recommendations
 3. School-specific asthma forms, funding opportunities, and resources
 - **“The thought of this is exciting!”**
 - **Nurse participant**
- Help implement the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) School Flag Program to alert the community to air quality issues and protect students’ health
 - Contact Michelle Mercure (michelle.mercure@lung.org) with the American Lung Association to learn more
- Provide free school walk-throughs to identify and reduce environmental asthma triggers
 - Contact Kristen Lunde (Klunde@chw.org) or Allie Ceranske (ACeranske@chw.org) with the Wisconsin Asthma Coalition (WAC) for more information

A photograph of two young girls walking away from the camera on a paved path. The girl on the left has long blonde hair and is wearing a colorful patterned backpack, a denim skirt, and polka-dot leggings. The girl on the right has dark hair in a ponytail and is wearing a pink and yellow backpack, a light blue tutu, and purple leggings. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with greenery.

To everyone that took time out of their day to help inform and complete the survey,

Thank You!

If you have any further questions, please contact the Wisconsin Asthma Program.

Email Stephanie Krueger at:
Stephanie.Krueger@dhs.wisconsin.gov