## CONNECT THE DOTS - ASTHMA IS AN ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUE



**CONNECT THE DOTS - CLIMATE CHANGE MAKES IT WORSE** 

A BETTER WAY IS POSSIBLE: WE NEED YOU TO HELP FIGHT FOR IT

## A Better Way Is Possible We Need You To Help Fight For It



## Springfield now ranks #1 as the most challenging city for asthma in the United States.

Asthma, heart disease, and many other illnesses are caused by or made worse by environmental problems like air pollution, dilapidated housing, and moldinfested buildings.

When housing isn't maintained, it's easier for mold, rodents, cockroaches, and other asthma triggers to enter our homes. Houses in high poverty areas are 3x as likely to have maintenance problems as those in low poverty areas.

Children who live in poverty are hospitalized for asthma 4x as often as children who do not live in poverty. They are exposed to more asthma triggers and they have less access to good preventative health care. Springfield has the highest number of asthmarelated emergency room visits in the nation.

Across the country, children with asthma miss about 10.5 million school days a year. Children fall behind not because they aren't trying, but because they are missing so much school.

The same things that cause air pollution also cause global warming and climate change. We're facing more and bigger heat waves, droughts, floods, and megastorms like Hurricanes Sandy, Harvey, and Maria. Climate change hurts the whole planet, but poor people and people of color are suffering the effects more and sooner.

Community organizations are leading the way in creating a new, healthier future for Springfield. Help support our efforts!

Help us push the governor to make a total commitment to:

- Full funding for public transportation
- No new fossil fuel infrastructure and no new pipelines in Springfield
- Renewable energy and carbon pricing that supports people most in need

Help us lobby the Department of Public Health to revise the state's Sanitary Code to include mold!

Help us ensure that all Springfield schools are free of mold and other health hazards!

Help us work for healthy housing and shelter for all!

Help us push for a stronger no-idling rule to curb air pollution!

Join the Resident Advisory Committee to help implement Springfield's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan.

For more information on how to help these efforts or how we can help you contact Arise for Social Justice at 413-734-4948.









