

# RESOLUTION 106(23)

March 22, 2023

WHEREAS, since 1984, the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) has declared May to be "National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month." It's a peak season for people with asthma and allergies, and a perfect time to educate patients, family, friends, co-workers and others about these diseases; and

WHEREAS, asthma symptoms include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, and a tightness in the chest. Symptoms of allergies can vary in severity. Mild allergy symptoms include congestion, skin rash, and itchy water eyes. Moderate symptoms include difficulty in breathing, and itchiness; and

WHEREAS, in the US, approximately 25 million people have asthma of which almost 7 million are children. In 2010, almost 13 million people reported having an asthma attack (just over half of the total number of people with this condition); and

WHEREAS, asthma is the third leading cause of hospital stays in children and is the leading chronic disease among children, affecting 1 in 10; and

WHEREAS, asthma accounts for 14.2 million doctor's office visits, 439,000 discharges from hospital inpatient care and 1.8 million emergency department visits each year; and

WHEREAS, environmental triggers of asthma attacks include passive smoking, molds, cockroaches, pet hair, and dust mites. Combined with adequate medical treatment, these environment triggers can be controlled enabling people with asthma to live active and healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, by educating the public about asthma and allergies it is hoped that more people will take early action to deal with symptoms. Taking early action, which in many cases may be preventative action, can improve the quality of life of asthma and allergy sufferers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, does hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as National Asthma and Allergy Awareness Month and encourages our residents to identify and reduce their exposures to environmental triggers in homes and schools and incorporate environmental controls into their asthma management plans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners.

Name	Bacchione	Gupta	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent					✓	✓	✓		

  
Assistant Secretary