

**8** At the request of Illinois Department of Public Health, **RHA trained more than 1,000** school nurses in how best to manage asthma among their students. The training continues to provide value as an on-demand webinar available at [lungchicago.org](http://lungchicago.org).

**9** In 2018, RHA provided funding to support research on an urban minority-based **lung cancer** screening program and to support research to improve treatment options for **idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis**. This year RHA also awarded its third annual Solovy Award for Advancement in COPD.

**10** RHA launched **Chicago Quits**, an adult smoking cessation initiative for high-risk and vulnerable residents of neighborhoods with the highest smoking rates. This effort, supported by Chicago Department of Public Health, unites seventeen diverse community partners to deliver RHA's Courage to Quit® smoking cessation program, counseling services and nicotine replacement therapy.

Support from our donors, event participants and mission partners made these and other lung health victories possible.

Please join us as we continue to prevent lung disease, promote clean air and help people live better through education, research and policy change. Learn more at [lungchicago.org](http://lungchicago.org).



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# 10 SUCCESSSES

JULY 2017 - JUNE 2018



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**3** In a study co-funded by RHA, Dr. Bria Coates of Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine discovered **new findings for developing effective medicines** to treat the flu in children. She found some immune systems overreact to the flu virus, which leads to greater lung damage – a previously unknown immune response. The findings could lead to new flu treatments and better health outcomes for children and adults.

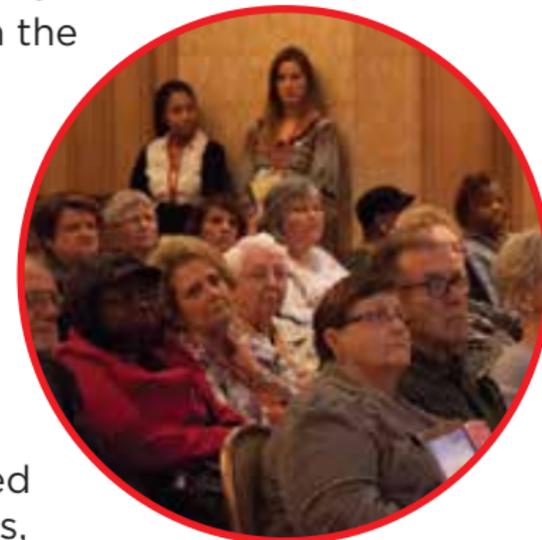
**1** **Illinois became the 6<sup>th</sup> state in the nation to pass a statewide Tobacco 21 law** prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to anyone under the age of 21. RHA, with the help of our dedicated partners, led the charge to pass this legislation, which has been shown to decrease the number of youth who start smoking and continue to smoke as adults.

**2** In May 2018, RHA convened the **Chicago Children's Asthma Summit** to address disparities in pediatric asthma emergency room visits in Chicago. Currently African American children account for two out of every three emergency room visits for childhood asthma. Our goal: bridge gaps between the research and practice communities to better serve children with asthma.



**4** RHA continued to work with the Centers for Disease Control offices in Atlanta and local housing authorities to ensure a smooth implementation of **smoke-free public housing** in July 2018. RHA has assisted in the creation of more than 8,000 units of smoke-free housing in Illinois.

**5** RHA led efforts to introduce and encourage the passage of a statewide law to allow schools to keep a **stock of asthma rescue medication** for asthma emergencies. Based on the work of our advocates and partners, Illinois schools are now better prepared to address asthma emergencies and create a safer environment for all.



**6** RHA continues to be a leader in Illinois in COPD patient and caregiver resources. This year's **Living Better Together COPD Conference** focused on managing and preventing COPD flare-ups, an overview of medication coverage and updates on advances in COPD treatment options. Living Better Together remains the largest patient-focused COPD conference in the country.

**7** RHA and our advocates made their views known on the State of Illinois' planned use of \$108 million in Volkswagen Settlement funds. As a result of RHA and partner organizations' advocacy, Illinois EPA scheduled **several open meetings for public comment** and is now closer to using the funds to help reduce air pollution.