

Contra Costa County Asthma Initiative

Connecting Medically Vulnerable Residents with
Energy Efficiency Services

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Contra Costa County



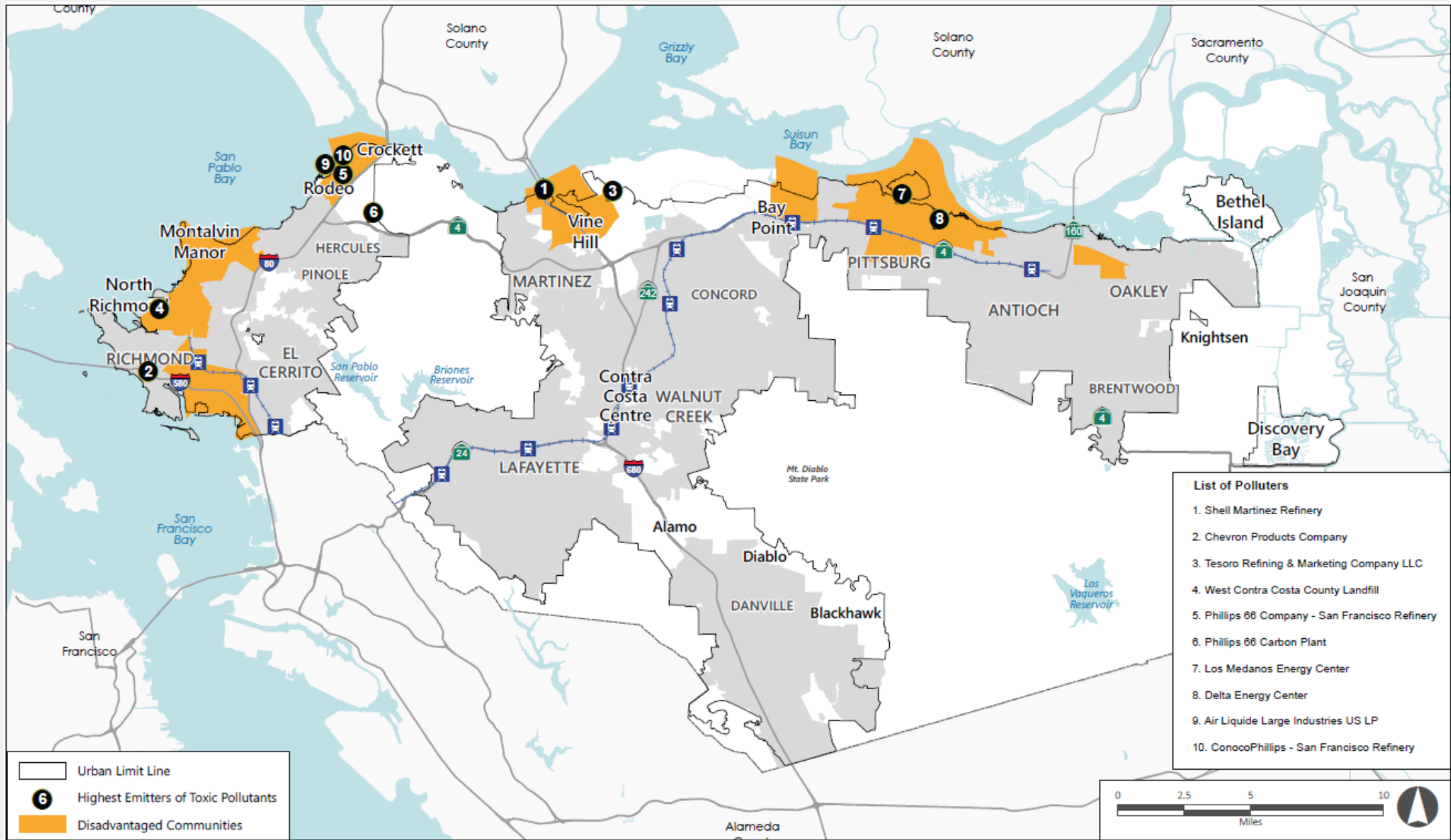
Demographics

Population: 1,150,215

- 20% Over 60 Years Old
- 7.8% in Poverty
- 19 Cities

Population by Race

- White: 43.2%
- Hispanic Latino: 25.8%
- Asian: 18%
- African American: 9.5%
- American Indian: 1%
- Other: 2.5%



Public Health and Climate Change

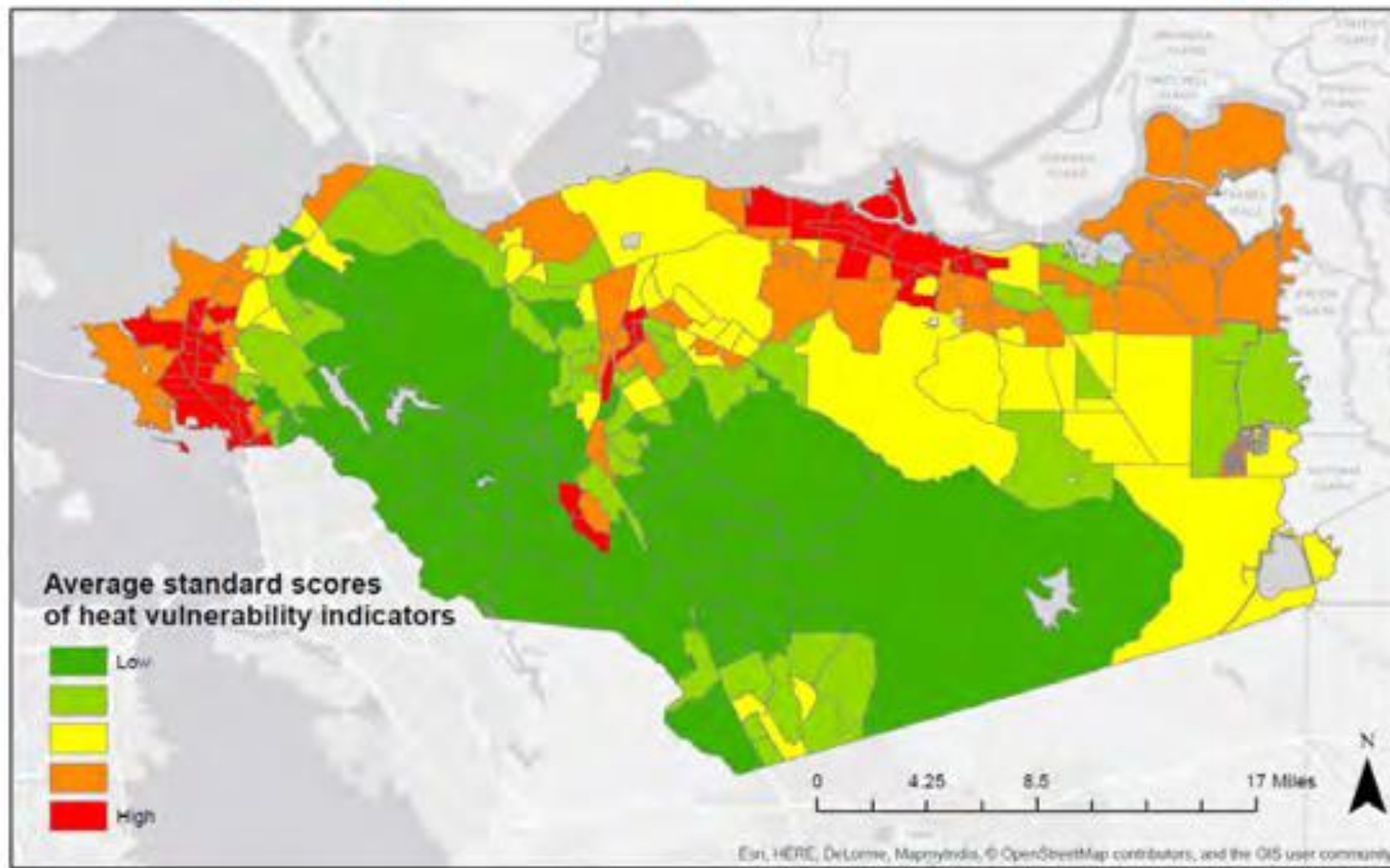
The impacts of climate change will disproportionately impact vulnerable populations already suffering health inequities



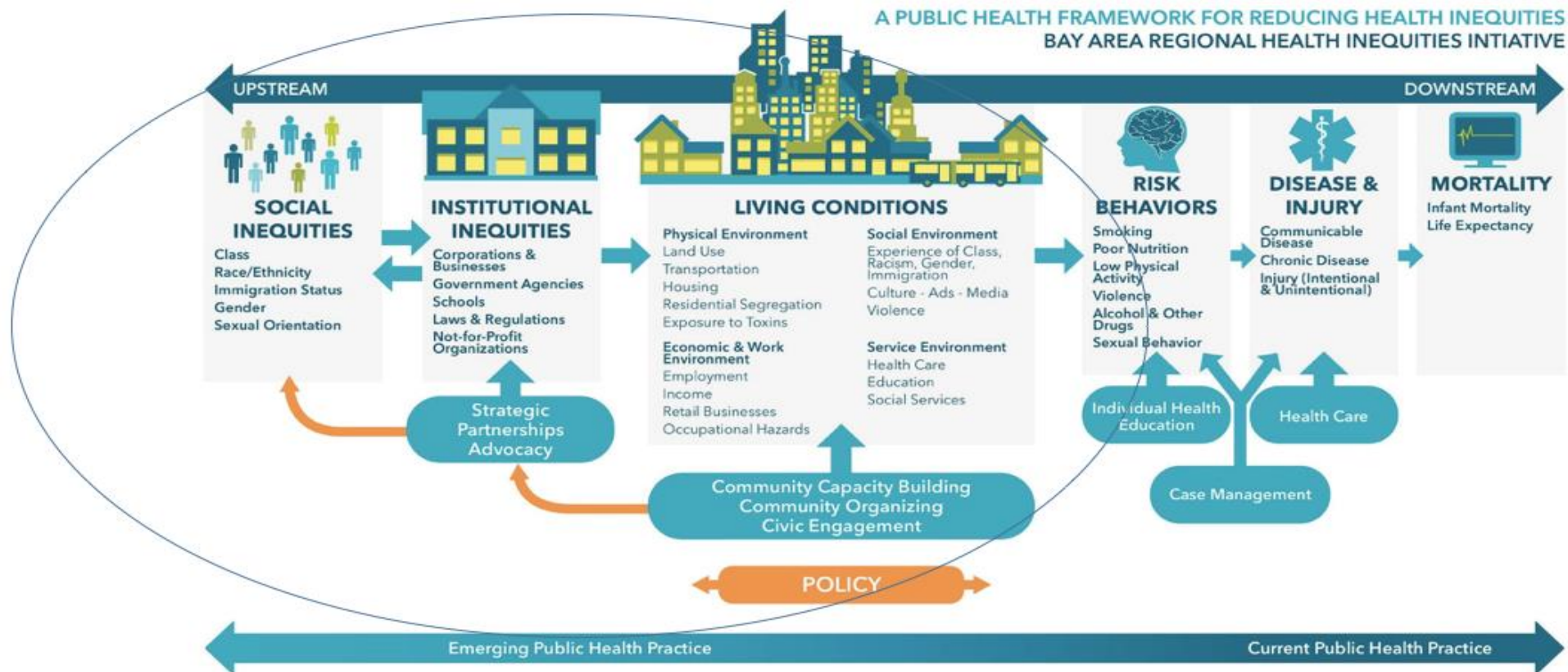
2015

**Climate Change Vulnerability in
Contra Costa County: A Focus on Heat**

Figure 21: Average Z-Scores Of Heat Vulnerability Indicators By Census Tract, Showing An Equal Number Of Census Tracts In Each Category.



The Social Determinates of Health



My Experience

2004 – 2007

2009 – 2012

2014 – 2018

% red

Therms

655/yr > 29% > 464/yr > 37% > 291/yr

56%

\$40 per month savings

The Climate Change and Health Benefits of Weatherization

- Reduces energy consumption
- Keeps homes cooler in the summer if no air conditioning (or if power goes out) and more comfortable in the winter
- Reduce energy costs, leaving more \$ for essentials, and less likely to lead to disconnection
- Keeps out particulate matter, making the air easier to breath for people with respiratory problems
- Keeps out moisture, which can help reduce insect pests and mold, both asthma triggers

Connecting Health and Energy Efficiency Resources

Health

- **County Health Department**
 - Have approx. 45 Public Health Nurses
 - Conduct 20,000 home visits per year to approximately 3,000 clients in all age groups
 - Operates its own Health Plan
 - Contra Costa Health Plan (CCHP)

Energy Efficiency

- Low-Income Federal Weatherization Program, Contra Costa County (LIHEAP)
- Low-Income State Cap & Trade, Build It Green (LIWP)

2017/2018: Pilot Project

- Integrated PHNs Process with Weatherization Services
 - 6 screening questions
 - 32 referrals
 - 17 different PHNs
 - 8 completed referrals
- Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMPA)
 - Funded by State to coordinate written report



Contra Costa Asthma Initiative

A business plan for a comprehensive home-based asthma program



“

Our communities don't get the attention we need. I feel most healthcare services are negligent towards us. I'm thankful that our communities are being targeted. It's making a difference for my family and is very helpful.”

- Contra Costa Health Plan asthma pilot participant



Green & Healthy Homes Initiative

- 2018/2019: Awarded Phase I Technical Assistance Grant to Develop Business Plan to Expand Services to improve Health Outcomes for Asthma
- 2019/2020 (Now): Awarded Phase II Technical Assistance Grant
 - Research feasibility of integrating Project into the State health care billing system

Current Asthma Initiative Project

- Grant from State of California Department of Health Care Services through the Sierra Health Foundation

Three years, 150 assessments

- Grant from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District

One year, 38 assessments augmented

Program Component

Staffing Organization

Home Visits

3 Home Visits for Asthma Education

Coordinate with PCP on Asthma Action Plan; medication usage training; environmental triggers training; follow up with PCP and care managers



Consumer Supplies to reduce asthma triggers

e.g. green cleaning supplies, hypo-allergenic mattress and pillow covers, integrated pest management, food storage containers

Home Assessment

Environmental assessment

Identify home-based asthma triggers and write remediation scope

Single-Family:
County
Weatherization

Multi-Family:
Association for
Energy Affordability

Trigger Remediation

Remove asthma triggers from home

Moisture issues (mold removal, ventilation, plumbing leaks)
Allergens (carpet removal/cleaning), and
Irritants (HVAC, combustion gases, VOCs)



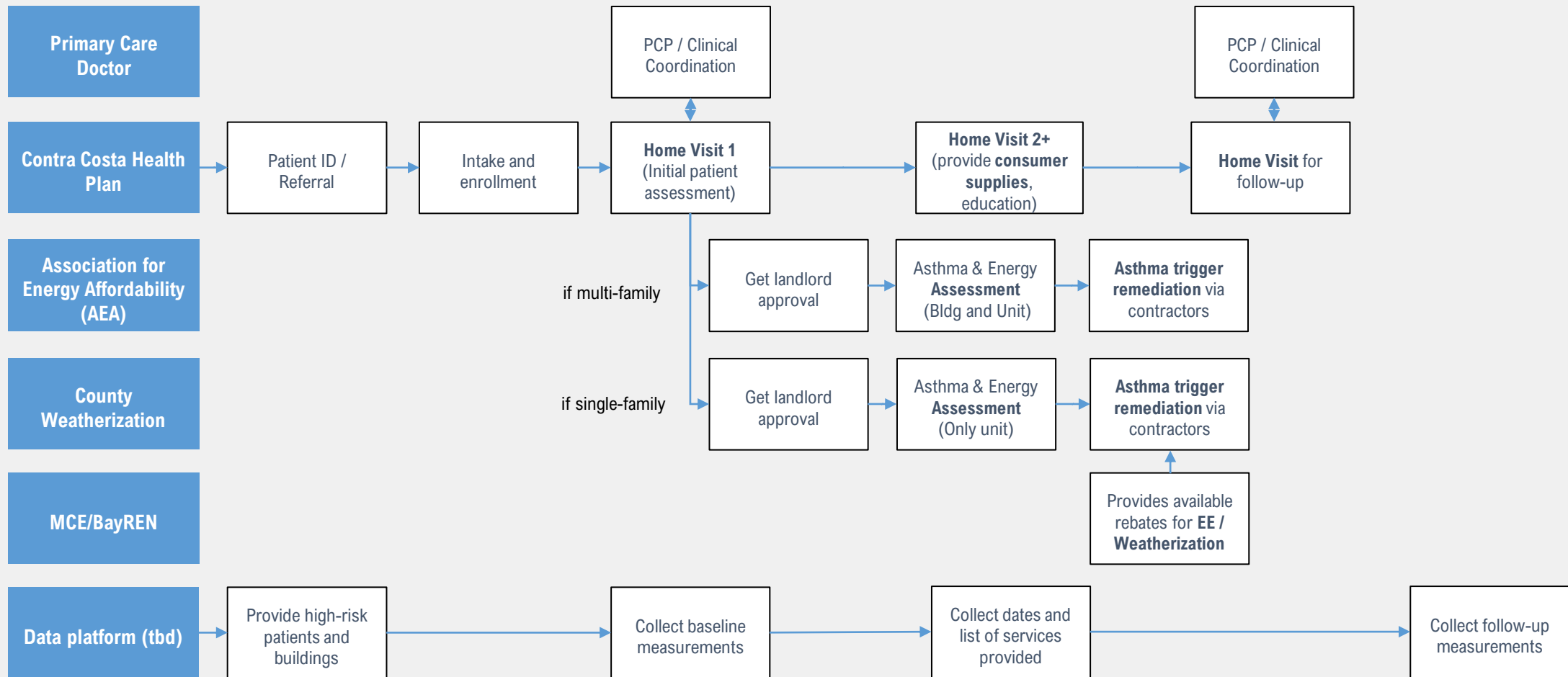
**EE/
Weatherization**

Lower energy bills and improve comfort of home

Leveraged funds

Lighting, heat pumps, energy-efficient appliances, HVAC





Questions?

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