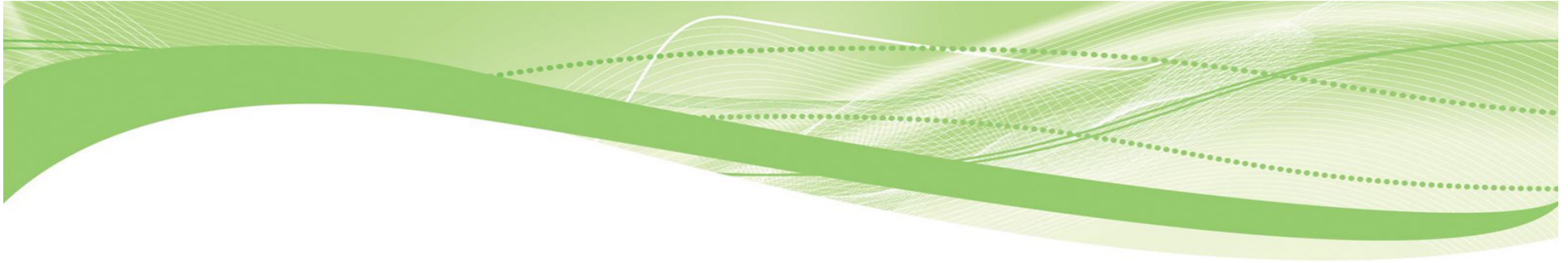




# Comite Civico del Valle, Inc.

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Informed people create healthy communities



# **Our mission:**

“To improve access to healthcare, information and prevention programs to low-income, underrepresented and underserved community members in Imperial County by way of education, capacity building and civic participation.”

# CCV's Programs & Projects

## Air Monitoring Project

- CSC MEMBERS
- RECRUITMENT
- SCHOOL COLLABORATION
- HAZARD ACTIVITY
- DEPLOYMENT
- BRAWLEY HIGH SCHOOL SYLLABUS
- IVAN MONITORING

## Respira Sano Project

- FLAG PROGRAM
- SCHOOL EDUCATION
- HOME INTERVENTION
- WORKSHOPS
- ASTHMA MANAGEMENT

## Community Advocacy

- CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
- PUBLIC COMMENTS
- CITIZEN SCIENCE
- WORKSHOPS FOR THE COMMUNITY
- EJ ENFORCEMENT TASK FORCE



Comite Civico  
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# Air Monitoring Project







## Project Overview

- 4 year project based in Imperial California
- Establish a community-based air monitoring network of 40 low-cost particulate matter monitors
- Use data to develop and implement community action strategies
- Main project partners:
  - California Environmental Health Tracking Program (CEHTP)
  - Comite Civico del Valle (CCV)
  - University of Washington



## Sensor Technology

- Low cost portable air monitors provide new opportunities for community monitoring
- Modified Dylos particle counter measures PM2.5 and PM10
- Wireless connectivity for real-time reporting
- Custom shelters to protect from extreme weather
- Produce data that is useful for personal and community actions
- Produce scientifically accurate data
- Assess ability of monitors/network to provide data that better identifies local air pollution trends and hotspots

# Air Monitoring Project



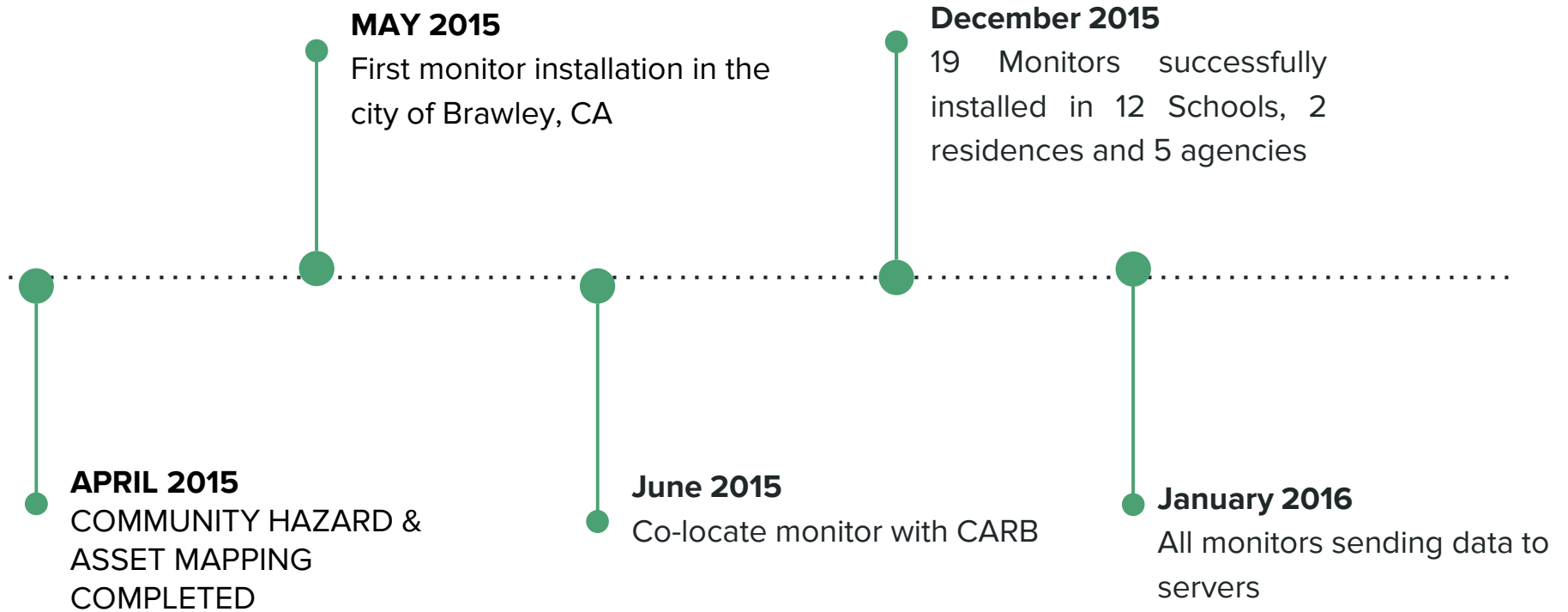
*Participating Organizations:*



- A Community Steering Committee, representing diverse stakeholders with experience in environmental health advocacy, guided the project and prioritized in impacted neighborhoods.
- An innovative crowd-sourcing mapping tool was designed by and for local residents to allow data captured with smartphone or other mobile device.
- 45 community residents participated in an hazard mapping activity collecting locations, photographs and more details.



# Milestones










## Next steps...

- Complete the installation of 20 additional monitors
- Complete the IVAN Air monitoring Mobile View and Website public interface
- CSC develop community actions

[WWW.IVANONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.IVANONLINE.ORG)







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Respira Sano  
Project





# RESPIRA SANO



Clinicas de Salud  
Del Pueblo, Inc.



SAN DIEGO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Research Foundation





## **Respira Sano - Overview of Study**

- Goal to reduce the burden of uncontrolled asthma in the lives of Latino Children and their families in the Imperial County
- 400 children between 6-17 years of age, with asthma , and families are being recruited



# Respira Sano - How it works

## Home Intervention

### Community Health Workers

The project will help families to assess the level of asthma control, identify asthma triggers in home, assess sources of contamination in the surrounding neighborhood, identify strategies to prevent exacerbations and increase family engagement in community advocacy efforts focused in improving the quality of life.

## Community Campaign

### Communications Campaign

Through traditional media, digital media, community events and community presentations, Respira Sano aims to bring resources and information about childhood asthma to families and public in general.

## School Flag Program

### School Flag Program

Participating schools raise a colored flag each day that corresponds to their local air quality forecast according to the Air Quality Index, which tells how clean or polluted the air is for that day. When members of the school and the surrounding community know what the daily air quality is, they can adjust their activities to reduce their exposure to air pollution.





# RESPIRA SANO







# RESPIRA SANO

- Parent & Youth Advisory Group
- Community Stakeholder Advisory Group

# 2014 Daily Air Quality Trends

- 80 good
- 255 moderate
- 24 unhealthy
- 4 unhealthy for everyone

## Air Quality Flag Program

- 10 participating schools
- 4 brightly colored flags

# RESPIRA SANO

*Air Quality Flag Program*

The School Flag Program uses brightly colored flags to help children, parents, school personnel, and the community to be aware of daily air quality conditions. Participating schools raise a colored flag each day that corresponds to their local air quality forecast according to the Air Quality Index, which tells how polluted the air is for that day. When members of the school and the surrounding community know what the daily air quality is, they can adjust their activities to reduce their exposure to air pollution.



Sensitive groups, that include children and adults with asthma, lung and/or heart conditions, are more vulnerable to unhealthy air quality.

### 10 Participating Schools:

- Phil Swing Elementary School, Brawley CA
- Blanche Charles Elementary School, Calexico CA
- Bill E. Young Jr. Middle School, Calipatria CA
- Wilson Jr. High School, El Centro CA
- Meadows Elementary School, El Centro CA
- Heber Elementary School, Heber CA
- Holtville High School, Holtville CA
- Imperial High School, Imperial CA
- Seeley Elementary School, Seeley CA
- Westmorland Elementary School, Westmorland CA



In Imperial County, approximately 23,000 children and adults have been diagnosed with asthma.



**Good**

**Green.** The air quality is expected to be good on that day. On "green days," schools will conduct regular physical education/recess activities.



**Moderate**

**Yellow.** The air pollution levels are low. On "yellow days," recess and other outdoor activities occur as usual. Extremely sensitive children need to be watched for breathing difficulties.



**Unhealthy for sensitive groups**

**Orange.** The air quality is unhealthy for sensitive groups. On "orange days," it is recommended that outdoors activities be modified or avoided therefore reducing exposure to outside air contamination.

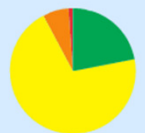


**Unhealthy for everyone**

**Red.** This indicates the air quality is unhealthy for everyone. All students and school staff should avoid outdoor activities to prevent exposure to unhealthy air. Any child experiencing breathing problems should seek assistance.

### 2014 Daily Air Quality Trends in Imperial County

- 80 Good
- 255 Moderate
- 24 Unhealthy for sensitive groups
- 4 Unhealthy for everyone



Respira Sano is a project funded by PCORI in partnership with Comite Civico Del Valle, Clinicas de Salud del Pueblo and SDSU IGACH Institute.







Comite Civico  
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IVAN Online


# IVAN-IMPERIAL

Established in 2010, IVAN is an Environmental Monitoring System that connects the community with real people that can help solve local environmental problems. Whether you are at home, work or at play, IVAN is available to you and different communities to document concerns.

Report  
Environmental  
Injustices

It is fast & easy

[www.ivanonline.org](http://www.ivanonline.org)



**IVAN** Identifying Violations Affecting Neighborhoods  
*Environmental Justice Monitoring and Reporting Network*

**A Better Environment For a Better Tomorrow**

IVAN is an effective and interactive reporting system that allows citizens to submit and review environmental issues reported in their community.



**Submit Report** **View Reports** **Get Alerts** **Results**



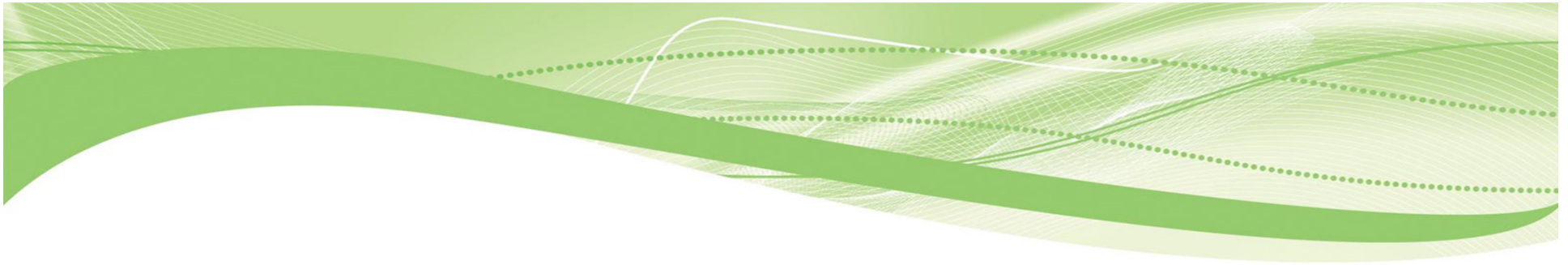




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Community Advocacy





## **Initiatives and Policy**

- Making A Visible Difference in Communities
- Environmental Health Leadership Summit
- AB 1059 Enviroscreen
- AB 1071 SEPS

## **Lessons Learned**

- Leveraging Government Resources
- Community Participatory Research
- Technology
- Long Term Projects
- Persistence
- Conviction



Thank You!

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