

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BREATHE LA Receives \$25,000 from Edison International for O₂4U® program

Edison International selects BREATHE LA to receive a grant for youth environmental literacy and asthma management education

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., November 8, 2019 – Renewable energy company, [Edison International](#), has just announced that they will be donating \$25,000 to the non-profit BREATHE California of Los Angeles County (BREATHE LA). BREATHE LA will use the grant for their O₂4U® program, which empowers youth in underserved Los Angeles communities with the health education tools necessary to improve their indoor and outdoor environments, manage lung health risks, and prevent related illnesses such as asthma.

“We are excited to partner with Edison International,” says BREATHE LA’s President and CEO Marc Carrel. “Their values of education, the environment, and civic engagement align with what we teach in our O₂4U® program.” The program encourages youth to become advocates for clean air and healthy lungs by promoting sustainable behaviors in support of a healthier environment and greater lung health for themselves and the communities they represent.

Recent data shows that over 1.2 million children and adults in Los Angeles County have been diagnosed with asthma. While asthma presents a challenge for all populations, O₂4U focuses on youth due to airborne pollutants having a greater impact on children than adults, as they impair neurological and immune-system development.

During the 2018-2019 academic school year, BREATHE LA partnered with 8 afterschool programs to provide O₂4U to 4,959 students in elementary schools across Los Angeles County. BREATHE LA health educators also trained 89 school-based Program Facilitators in 91 school sites across Los Angeles. Edison International’s grant will allow O₂4U® to expand into more communities with high amounts of pollution and health disparities, many of which are also served by Southern California Edison.

“We are proud to serve future generations here at BREATHE LA,” says Carrel, “and we are thankful to Edison International for providing us with the resources to educate and empower children to stand up for the wellbeing of their communities.” Visit <https://www.edison.com/> for more information

About BREATHE LA

BREATHE California of Los Angeles County (BREATHE LA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization promoting clean air and healthy lungs in Southern California through research, education, advocacy, and technology. BREATHE LA provides environmental health screening, education and empowerment programs to communities most impacted by alarming chronic lung disease rates and suffering from the region’s air quality, which is the poorest in the nation. The organization pursues its mission by educating

youth, patients and the general public, engaging the community, advocating for changes to public policy, and supporting clinical and public health research. To learn more about BREATHE LA, visit www.breathela.org.

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