



2007

The Florida Alliance for Healthy Indoor Environments (FAHIE), a coalition of parents, environmental health organizations, and health professionals is a proactive organization that assists schools to become healthier and safer places for staff and students by providing resource assistance to explore green cleaning practices.

In concert with school districts across the country, we are concerned about the growing number of childhood illnesses, the health of faculty and staff members, the financial constraints of our school districts, and the burgeoning scientific information linking everyday, low-dose exposures to toxic chemicals with the development of chronic human illnesses.

The American Lung Association, American Association on Mental Retardation, National PTA, National Catholic Education Association, American Public Health Association and American Federation of Teachers and other organizations dedicated to children's well being have identified traditional cleaning products as toxins that can negatively affect a child's ability to learn and develop.

FAHIE, in partnership with the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, has created a network of facilities managers, purchasing departments, and state and federal environmental and health professionals. This network has condensed the wide variety of available information into the enclosed practical resources on green cleaning. Additionally, this network can assist schools explore safer solutions to maintenance products and practices that pose potential harm to the school community.

Through extensive research, our alliance is advocating that schools and daycare centers rely upon the nationally recognized green cleaning guidelines created by Green Seal, Inc. (www.greenseal.org), a non-profit organization that tests and certifies cleaning products for their relative non-toxicity to humans and the environment. New York State and many individual districts nationwide have passed green cleaning purchasing policies to protect the health of school occupants, improve worker productivity, and achieve cost savings.

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to share this reliable, field-tested information with you and welcome an opportunity to discuss this project with you further. We will follow up after you have had an opportunity to review the enclosed information.

Sincerely,

The Florida Alliance for Healthy Indoor Environments



FLORIDA ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS
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