



B I S M A R C K TOBACCO FREE C O A L I T I O N

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health
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SPRING 2010



New Funding Facilitates Local Advancements in Tobacco Prevention

North Dakota voters passed Initiated Measure #3 on November 4, 2008. The Measure enacted a new law to establish and fund a comprehensive statewide tobacco prevention and control program. The Measure called for using a new portion (called the “Strategic Contribution Fund Payment”) of the state’s ongoing Tobacco Settlement for this purpose.

The 61st North Dakota Legislative Assembly appropriated funding at the level recommended by the U.S. Center for Disease Control for this proven-effective, comprehensive program. As directed by the voters in Measure #3, the nine-member North Dakota Tobacco Prevention and Control Advisory Committee developed the five-year plan known as “Saving Lives – Saving Money: North Dakota’s Comprehensive State Plan to Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use.”

What has happened during the first year following the passage of Measure 3 and the development of the 5-year plan? What accomplishments has the Bismarck Burleigh Tobacco Prevention and Control Program achieved?

- Through education and policy efforts, **three more school districts in the Bismarck Burleigh area have joined other schools for a total of 13 school districts, who have comprehensive school tobacco free policies.** Research has shown that schools with strong tobacco prevention policies have lower youth smoking prevalence compared to schools with no policy.
- By increasing our efforts towards working with tobacco users to assist them with enrollment with the North Dakota Tobacco Quitline, **the number of Burleigh County residents enrolling with the Quitline from July 2009 through May 2010 has increased to 191 compared to 129 the previous year.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fargo/West Fargo Smoke-Free Ordinance Evaluation Press Conference Tuesday June 15th, at 10:00 a.m. ND State University, Alumni Center

Campus Tobacco Policy Development training in Fargo June 28 & 29th

Bismarck Tobacco Free Executive Board Meeting Thursday, June 22, 2010

Bismarck Tobacco Free General Membership Meeting Tuesday September 28th

- Nationwide college campuses are adopting tobacco free campuses. In the Bismarck Burleigh area our program is offering technical assistance to those colleges working towards such a campus. **One smaller college has recently adopted a campus tobacco free policy – Rasmussen College.**
- Bismarck Burleigh Public Health adopted the AAR (Ask Advise Refer) Public Health Guidelines and incorporated this system into all client based programs resulting in an **increase to 14 programs compared to 3 client based programs one year ago.** This will assure that every tobacco user will receive help and advice to tobacco cessation services from our agency.
- The Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition has **increased membership to 110 members** working on educating the public about secondhand smoke and the need to extend smoke free policies to all work sites and public places. Extensive community education continues for support of a local and state policy change.



More Schools Adopt Comprehensive Tobacco-Free Policy

Three more school districts in the Bismarck Burleigh Public Health service area adopted a comprehensive tobacco-free policy this year. Cathedral of the Holy Spirit elementary school, Dakota Adventist Academy, and the Wing Public School District now have tobacco-free policies. Thirteen out of seventeen service area school districts have now adopted the policy.

Susan Kahler, Community Outreach Coordinator with Bismarck Burleigh's Tobacco Prevention Department, met with each school's administrator. They discussed the need for tobacco-free school policies as part of N.D.'s comprehensive state plan to prevent and reduce tobacco use. The three administrators and school board members adopted the policy to help reduce youth smoking rates.

Congratulations Grand Forks!

The Grand Forks City Council voted on April 5th to extend the state smoking ban in public places to include bars, casinos and truck stops. The smoke-free ordinance will become effective starting August 15.

Great work!



15th Annual Kick Butts Day

Seven Bismarck area public and private schools celebrated the 15th anniversary of Kick Butts Day on Wed., March 24. The Kick Butts campaign is sponsored by the Campaign for Tobacco-free Kids and is a national day of youth activism against tobacco use. More than 2,000 Kick Butts events take place each year from coast to coast.

Area schools participating in this year's event included St. Mary's Middle School, St. Mary's High School, Century High School, South Central High School, Horizon Middle School, Simle Middle School, and Wachter Middle School.

The Kick Butts Day campaign focuses on the health effects of secondhand smoke and how environmental changes such as smoke-free policy at school and in the community makes an impact on tobacco use. Students learn how to kick the tobacco habit or help a friend or loved one quit. North Dakota's free services to help people quit include the ND Quitline at 1-800-Quit-Now and QuitNet at www.nd.quitnet.com.



Simle Middle School SADD Students



St. Mary's Middle School Students

**Need help quitting tobacco?
You can quit. We can help.
1 • 800 • 784 • 8669**

**North Dakota Tobacco
QUITLINE
1 • 800 • QUIT • NOW**

