

Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition

E-Newsletter

Supporting Tobacco Control for Kansas

May 2006, Volume 1, Issue 4

Welcome to the TFKC E-Newsletter for those interested or involved in tobacco control in Kansas. We would like to hear your comments and ideas for future issues. See the "Sign Up" information on the previous page to receive this enewsletter every month.

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You are invited to the TFKC meeting in Salina

June 19 is the date set for the next statewide meeting of the Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Tammy Walker Cancer Center, 511 S Santa Fe, Salina, Kansas.

In addition to other coalition business items, we will be collaborating with the partners of the Kansas Comprehensive Cancer Plan to establish a plan to obtain funding for comprehensive cancer control and tobacco cessation and prevention programs through increased tobacco excise taxes.

Plan on coming to help establish TFKC priorities for the coming year.

More States, Cities Go Smoke-free

On March 27, 2006, Colorado Governor Bill Owens signed legislation making Colorado the 12th state to pass comprehensive smoke-free workplace legislation. The law will cover nearly all indoor workplaces, including restaurants and bars. The new law will take effect on July 1, 2006.

In 2005, a similar bill failed by only two votes.

On July 7, Arkansas' smoke free law will include most public places, workplaces and almost all restaurants. On July 1, Utah, which has prohibited smoking in certain areas since 1994, will include almost all non- public workplaces, private clubs with certain licenses on January 1, 2007, and bars and remaining private clubs on January 1, 2009. Cook County, Illinois has passed a law that in March 2007 will prohibit smoking in almost all workplaces, including restaurants and bars in the unincorporated areas of Cook County, and any city that does not have an ordinance on smoking in place.

Starkville, MS, home of Mississippi State University, recently unanimously passed a strong smoke free air ordinance that prohibits smoking in most public places and workplaces, including restaurants and bars.

A bill in Hawaii has been sent to the governor's desk for signing.

In Kansas, the **Roeland Park** City Council voted 5-2 on April 17 to enact a MARC-like 100 percent smoke-free ordinance for the city. Beginning on May 17 of this year, workplaces must be smoke- free,



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including bars and restaurants. While there are currently no restaurants or bars in Roeland Park that allowing smoking, the ordinance will include any future establishments that might move into the area.

TFKC receives Sunflower Foundation grant

The Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans, has funded the Coalition's proposal "Smokeless Does NOT Mean Harmless." This project has been approved for 18 months in the amount of \$151,926.

Scholarships awarded

Congratulations to the recipients of TFKC's World Conference scholarships - Gina Frack, Barbara Lilihorn and Lindsay Kimball.

They were selected to receive the expense-paid trips to the 13th World Conference on Tobacco OR Health in Washington, DC, July 12-15.

There were 12 requests for the scholarships. All were highly-qualified and dedicated Kansans active in the effort to reduce the burden of tobacco disease. Unfortunately, the funding is not available to send all who applied. However, in recognition of their achievements, all those who weren't selected for the Washington trip will have their registration fees waived when they attend the TFKC Statewide Tobacco Summit, Nov. 13-14 in Wichita.

Best retirement wishes to Kathy Tidwell

A long-time Kansas tobacco control advocate, Kathy Tidwell, will retire this summer from Emporia State University.

When asked about tobacco control success, Kathy said, "Certainly one of the successes in my career is the adoption of the new tobacco policy on the ESU campus. I did tell my Vice President that what I wanted for a 'retirement' parting gift was more prominent signage in Union Square because visitors to campus do not see the tiny little signs on the buildings and they think they are doing the right thing by going outside."



The photograph is from ESU's recent Kick Butts promotion, a two-week long event.

During the first week, Kathy said, "we had two glass cases - one in the Student Union and one in the residence hall - filled with the shoes we got from TFKC members. We put signs on them like 'the little shoes represent the unwilling little smoker.' And we put up the stats from the TFKC Website. Each of the shoes represented 43.8 persons ('cause that was all the space we had to put shoes!). We did have people tell us it was a very effective display."

She noted, "I appreciate the recognition and support you have given me in my efforts to improve the environment on the ESU campus and the Emporia community."

Kansas Quitline Promoted in Emporia



Emporia has in place five signs that distinguish smoke-free areas and include information about the Kansas Tobacco Quit-Line (1-866-KAN-STOP). The signs are in place around the Flint Hills Community Health Center/Lyon County Health Department.

In the photo at the right are (from left) Ann Mayo, Director of Environmental Health for the Lyon County Health Department; Suzanne Miller, Program Manager for Health Education and Marketing (FHCHC/LCHD); and Lougene Marsh, Chief Executive Officer for FHCHC/LCHD. They are pictured at the south canopy in front of the main entrance to the Health Center.

Save the Date

The Kansas Tobacco Control Summit 2006 - **Unite, Inform, Empower** - will be held November 13-14 at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita.

Look for more information in future notices.

Please share this newsletter with others interested in tobacco control in Kansas. The TFKC electronic newsletter can be distributed monthly to your e-mail. Please report a change of your e-mail address to TFKC .

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