

Tobacco Free Kansas Coalition

E-Newsletter

Supporting Tobacco Control for Kansas

Octoberber 2006, Volume 1, Issue 9

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 e-newsletter every month.

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Reminder — Conference is Coming

The registration deadline for the TFKC conference is November 6.

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

NASCAR's Fans

The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids invited youth active in tobacco prevention from Kansas and Missouri to be part of the NASCAR event at the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City. From Kansas, five youth from Jefferson County attended. The group was hosted by Nicorette, the NRT company that also sponsors the NASCAR car driven by Jeff Gordon. The day began at the Nicorette display booth where they ate breakfast, tested their NASCAR car simulator and took photos with a cut-out of Jeff Gordon. The youth then set up their own display table next to the Nicorette booth where they displayed a pledge board and distributed information about TASK. The youth encouraged passersby, especially children, to sign the "I pledge to be tobacco free" board.

The adult sponsors took some time to investigate the spit tobacco displays - there were three brands represented - and free samples were available at each. After the display time, the youth were treated to a tour of the pit area, where they were able to speak with a member of the Nicorette car pit crew. They watched the driver introductions, snapped a photo with Governor Sebelius and took their seats to watch some of the race. Many thanks to Nicorette and the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids for this opportunity!

The day at NASCAR was a great experience! (Although the youth were not sure they had any NASCAR fan converts.) Many thanks to the youth and sponsors from Jefferson County for their great work!

New Kansas Stats from Tobacco Free Kids

The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids has developed some new statistics for Kansas. Added to *The Toll of Tobacco in Kansas* is information on the number of Kansas kids who have lost at least one parent to a smoking-caused death: 2,300; annual health care expenditures in Kansas from secondhand smoke exposure: \$38.9 million; and smoking-caused health costs and productivity losses per pack sold in Kansas: \$11.66.

Useful Tools from Clean Air KC

For more information about activities in the Kansas City Metro area on smokefree policy efforts, check out the Clean Air Kansas City newsletter.

Congratulations to KPHA Award Winners

Two members of TFKC were among those recognized for their efforts in the field of public health by the Kansas Public Health Association (KPHA) at its annual meeting in September. **Allison Koonce** received the *Special Service Award* in recognition of her continuing work in health risk reduction and tobacco use prevention. Allison has worked through Lawrence Memorial Hospital, the American Cancer Society, KDHE's Bureau of Health Promotion and the Coordinated School Health Program. **Carolyn Gaughan**, executive director of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians, received the *Virginia Lockhart Health Education Award*. Her efforts in support of clean indoor air policy efforts and support for the Kansas Tobacco Quitline were noted.

Save the Date

An **Earned Media Workshop** has been set for Tuesday, February 20, 2007, for the Ramada Inn of Downtown Topeka. This event will be in conjunction with state efforts to assist partners with their efforts to protect Kansas children and teens from being sold or provided tobacco products at the PAXIS training that will take place the subsequent two days. More details will be forthcoming.

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

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