

Tobacco Control Activities in Major Systems 2008 – 2009 4th Quarter Highlights of Accomplishments

Targets/Goals: The integration of tobacco control strategies into major agency systems is a primary initiative of the TPI. These activities target organizational systems including childcare, healthcare, other human service agencies, and major employers, particularly those that serve health disparity-affected populations. Activities address tobacco cessation, secondhand smoke and youth prevention issues through education and public information, training of trainers, agency capacity building, and policy change. All four goal areas (cessation, prevention, elimination of SHS and reduction of health disparities) are addressed through training of providers, implementation of system-wide protocols and increasing consumer access to tobacco-related information and resources.

Policy advocacy: Policy advocacy efforts range from organizational policy change to promoting employee cessation through 100% tobacco-free workplace initiatives.

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Worksites as systems:

▪ **Tobacco Control in Worksites**

- As a result of the new Federal order to eliminate smoking lounges and make outdoor plazas smoke-free in Federally owned and leased buildings, 20 of the largest Federal Agencies located in the County were contacted and offered support/resources to make this transition and consider taking additional steps to protect consumers and workers.
- Provided a series of technical assistance sessions to the Veterans Administration in re-locating smoking areas to reduce outdoor exposure to SHS and facilitated lunchtime sessions to support employees in finding success with quitting tobacco.
- Provided cessation and tobacco prevention information to Jefferson County Employees, Jeffco School employees, City of Westminster employees, Tri-County & Jeffco Workforce clients.
- Continued work to refine and strengthen the Health Department's tobacco policy, including adding explicit language about spit tobacco and more clearly defining the campus grounds as 100% tobacco-free.
- Established contact and provided information to Colorado School of Mines for follow-up in August.

Tobacco-Free Campus initiatives in worksites and post-secondary educational settings:

- Supported the Jefferson Center for Mental Health in launching their planning process to move toward tobacco-free campuses on their 30+ service and administrative sites. Provided technical assistance specifically around identifying other tobacco-free community mental health centers that have successfully implemented a tobacco-free campus policy and how to address consumer and employee tobacco use in multiple treatment sites (residential, outpatient, etc.).
- Began work with Denver West Property Managers to assess readiness to strengthen tobacco policy on the grounds of their 21 office buildings/multi-tenant property.
- As a result of work initiated in the Fall, the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design will work toward expanding areas on its campus where tobacco use is prohibited
- Held a first meeting with a Jefferson County Commissioner and the County Manager to assess readiness to move toward a tobacco-free campus policy.

Tobacco Control in Systems such as Healthcare, Childcare and Human Service Agencies:

- Sustained support for multiple healthcare providers, particularly those serving health disparity affected populations, in continue practices that assure patients and clients receive brief counseling, resources and referrals for quitting tobacco and maintaining smoke-free environments.