



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

## **VISION STATEMENT:**

*Our community will be tobacco free*

## **MISSION STATEMENT:**

*The Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition is a pro-active organization dedicated to promoting a healthy, tobacco free environment.*

## **COALITION ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

The Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition was organized in 1992 and is funded by the community Health Grant Program, Centers of Disease Control, community contributions, and private foundation grants. Utilizing a small but well-trained staff, a meager budget, and diligent guidance from our North Dakota State Tobacco Prevention Program, the coalition has attempted to make a significant impact on tobacco use and marketing. The coalition continues to guard these outcomes and use them as a foundation from which to build further efforts.

The coalition has promoted change with tobacco marketing practices and the need for individuals to breathe smoke-free air through advocacy, policy change, and community mobilization. Since 1992, Bismarck has passed following ordinances which address the easy access of tobacco by minors and one ordinance for the protection of public health from secondhand smoke.

The ordinances have the following provisions:

- Restrict placement of tobacco vending machines
- Restrict self-service displays of tobacco products
- Provide for graduated penalties, including fines and license suspension/revocation for repeated illegal tobacco sales
- Regulate smoking in public places and places of employment
- Restrict the sale of e-cigarettes to minors
- Increase the age purchase tobacco products to age 21—City of Bismarck and City of Lincoln

The Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition continues to advocate for 100 % smoke free policies and increasing

*“Increasing tobacco excise taxes have proven highly effective in prevention initiation among youth and reducing tobacco use by promoting cessation among current users.”*

- 2014 US Surgeon General’s Report

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

Megan Schneider, President

Sue Kahler

Kelsey LaBere

Dr. Vanessa Nelson, Vice President

Marie Jensen, RN

Amy Heuer

*Our coalition supports a science-based approach, utilizing tobacco prevention strategies demonstrated as effective in other states.*

Check out our website: <http://www.breathend.com/publichealthunits/bismarck-tobacco-free/>



## Interest Form

### KEEP INFORMED!

The Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition would like to keep you informed of the many activities concerning tobacco policies and education in our area. You can sign up by filling out the information below and return to [skahler@bismarcknd.gov](mailto:skahler@bismarcknd.gov) :

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please indicate what you are willing to do:

- Meet with policy makers about current tobacco prevention and policy efforts.
- Discuss tobacco prevention policy issues with City Commission members and local leaders.
- Contact local leaders through e-mail, phone calls or letters.
- Write a letter to editor.
- Provide testimony to policy makers.
- Present tobacco prevention policy information to local community groups.

### Policy initiatives:

- Educating about maintaining the tobacco prevention program funding.
- Increase the price of tobacco products.
- Tobacco free parks and Outdoor venue tobacco free project.
- Smoke-free Multi-unit housing.
- Flavor restriction for tobacco products.