

A monthly newsletter brought to you by Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Unit

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## **Bismarck Tobacco Prevention Youth Summit 2016**

On the morning of Wednesday, October 12th, about 70 Bismarck area youth and their advisors gathered together in a conference room at the Radisson Hotel to learn techniques on how to be successful tobacco-prevention advocates from well-known experts in the field. To celebrate its 10th year, Gustavo Torrez and Travis Smith from the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, based in Washington, D.C., conducted the youth advocacy training that day.

When students arrived, they were given markers and a blue tear cut out. Each student was instructed to write on the tear how their lives have been affected by tobacco. These tears were collected to later be hung up at the capital during the 2017 session.

A policy panel was held at the end of the day, consisted of Representative George Keiser,



Representative Lawrence Klemin, and Mayor Mike Seminary. These policy makers provided insight to the youth on how to successfully communicate with policy makers.

The summit was a huge success and gave schools the tools needed to prepare for the November 17th Great American Smoke Out and provide education to policy makers during the 2017 legislative session.

## Measure 4 Facts New revenue distribution & dedication

50% to a Veterans Tobacco Tax Fund

- Administered by 15member, Governorappointed Administrative Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACOVA)
- Programs/services tied to strategic plan (ex. Service dogs, TBI/PTSD/Agent Orange treatment, adaptive housing/vehicle grants, post-war trust fund recovery

50% to the Community Health Trust Fund

- 70% to support a comprehensive state plan for mental health & addiction, administered by the Behavioral Health Planning Council
- 20% to counties for delivery of local health unit services established by the <u>State Health</u> <u>Council</u>
- 10% to chronic disease detection, prevention, and control programs through ND Dept. of Health

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An initiated measure approved by North Dakota voters provides funding to Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health to diminish the toll of tobacco in our state by addressing the number one preventable cause of death and disease: tobacco use, www.breathend.com