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Building Public Health Infrastructure through Tobacco Control

A Brief

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Building Public Health Infrastructure through Tobacco Control

Tobacco Free Nebraska (TFN) has built a significant community-level infrastructure for tobacco control in Nebraska. The experiences and lessons learned by TFN's efforts can serve as a model for improving public health across the state.

Introduction: History and Overview

The Nebraska Public Health Improvement Plan is a blueprint for strengthening and transforming public health in the state over the next several years. This plan was created by the Nebraska Community Health Partners Stakeholders Group, largely due to a Turning Point grant funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and awarded to Nebraska to "transform" public health. Improving the health of all people in Nebraska and building healthy communities requires innovative strategies and finding a variety of resources to implement them. Identified in the plan are eight strategic directions, the first of which involves building the public health infrastructure at the community level so that the core functions of public health can be provided throughout the state.*

In 2000, the Nebraska Legislature enacted Legislative Bill 1436, allocating \$21 million to TFN from the Tobacco Settlement Fund (Nebraska's share of the Multistate Master Settlement Agreement) over a three-year period. As a result, TFN became an organizing force that was capable of coordinating the array of

"LB 692, which funded the creation of health departments across the state, depended on the allocation of tobacco settlement dollars. So in a very real way, tobacco control has contributed to the development of public health infrastructure."

Kay Oestmann, Director Southeast District Health Department

existing tobacco control coalitions in Nebraska. In 2001, LB 692 allocated \$11.2 million, also from the Master Settlement Agreement, to expand Nebraska's statewide public health system. Prior to 2001, local public health departments served only 22 of Nebraska's 93 counties. As a result of LB 692, today nearly all of Nebraska's counties have access to a local or district health department.

Operating in the most populous counties, TFN grantees draw on the strengths of community partners to advance the goals of tobacco prevention. TFN started in 1992 with \$25,000 from the

Nebraska Health and Human Services System and had one half-time professional devoted to reducing tobacco prevalence throughout the state. In 1994, TFN received a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that increased the program's budget six fold. This grant funded two

"The community-based approach to public health has worked extremely well. Tobacco Free Nebraska has brought public health issues to our citizens. It's becoming a part of their everyday language. We still have a long way to go, but when interventions are applied locally, that's when problems get solved. The community-based approach is definitely the way to go."

Bruce Dart, Director

Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department

full-time staff who embraced CDC recommendations for local control of tobacco prevention programming. Groups of community members or community coalitions were invited to submit grant proposals that outlined how they would reduce tobacco prevalence in their communities. Coalitions in Lincoln and Omaha were among the first to apply for and make use of available funding to combat tobacco use in their communities.

^{*} http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/puh/TPover.htm

During this time, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, in collaboration with the American Medical Association, began its SmokeLess States initiative. The primary goals of SmokeLess Nebraska included policy initiatives to (1) significantly increase the price of tobacco products and (2) gain sustained funding for tobacco control efforts in Nebraska. Smokeless Nebraska's strategies complemented TFN's. Local coalitions were asked to submit grant proposals to ensure that tobacco prevention strategies would be tailored to each community's unique characteristics. Some coalitions received funding from both programs.

TFN and the SmokeLess States initiative quickly embarked on a strong collaborative relationship that has resulted in coordinated programming and efficient program implementation. By 2000, TFN was funded with almost \$1 million, and six full-time staff managed the program's nine CDC–recommended components.

TFN's efforts and organization have gained the respect of local public health departments and the Federal Government's Office on Smoking and Health at the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Rosemarie Henson, the office's director, wrote in a letter to Ron Ross, Director of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, that the CDC has chosen to increase its national tobacco prevention resources in Nebraska, one of only eight states singled out in this manner.

Nebraska was chosen because of the leadership shown by the Health and Human Services administration, The Tobacco Free Nebraska (TFN) program, the Smokeless Nebraska Coalition, Governor Mike Johanns, and the Unicameral. The leadership provided by Governor Johanns and members of the legislature ensured allocation of Master Settlement Agreement resources to support the program. We applied their commitment to provide resources for the Tobacco Free Nebraska program.

Program funding is necessary for state and local programs to combat the negative societal effects of tobacco use. However, funding alone is not enough to curb tobacco use in Nebraska. A focused and sustainable state and local-level effort is required.

TFN: Building Community Capacity Through Coalitions

TFN's potential for positive change in Nebraska grew tremendously with the passage of LB 1436. The small administrative staff instituted broad programmatic changes across the state in a very

The improvements short time. fight empowered communities to TFN accomplished this by tobacco. relying on the infrastructure that it had created and maintained. **That** infrastructure was comprised largely of community coalitions.

"Nebraska has constructed a program that serves as a model for other states."

Rosemarie Henson, Director Office on Smoking and Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

TFN coalition members are dedicated to making their communities healthier places to live. A typical coalition might include a local law-enforcement representative, an elementary school nurse, a high school administrator, a restaurant owner, youth representatives from the local 4H chapter, and community members involved in alcohol and drug prevention. Drawing on one another's organizational strengths and talents and using one another's knowledge of their communities, local coalitions have access to diverse sectors of a community and so are positioned to effectively implement tobacco control programming and do so cost-effectively. They are best

suited to identify local problems and to focus their individual programs to bring about positive change.

TFN has been instrumental in the ongoing creation and enhancement of local coalitions. There are now twenty-one coalitions at work in Nebraska's most populous counties. *By providing leadership, technical assistance, and training, TFN helped coordinate over 200 agencies and organizations statewide to carry out tobacco prevention in their communities* (attachment 1). Community coalitions at work in Adams, Buffalo, Cass, Colfax, Dawson, Douglas, Hall, Keith, Lancaster, Lincoln, Madison, Sarpy, Scotts Bluff, and York Counties all work to reduce the prevalence of tobacco use. Coalitions networked through their technical assistance personnel, training opportunities, statewide coalition meetings, and TFN's strong central leadership. The collaboration between the TFN coalitions and the newly developed health departments will represent a major addition to Nebraska's maintenance of public health statewide.

Tobacco Free Nebraska Is a Comprehensive Public Health Program

The CDC and other nationally recognized leaders in tobacco control like the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids and the American Cancer Society (ACS) advocate for grassroots community collaboration to reduce the prevalence of tobacco use.

"Reducing the broad cultural acceptability of tobacco use necessitates changing many facets of the social environment. This scale of societal change is a complex process that must be addressed by multiple program elements working together in a comprehensive approach."

CDC Best Practices, 1999

The CDC's Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs is an evidence-based guide to help states plan and establish effective tobacco control programs to prevent and reduce tobacco use. Key elements of effective state tobacco control programs should include community, school, and statewide programs, policy and law enforcement, countermarketing, cessation, surveillance and evaluation, outreach to minority populations, chronic disease programs, and administration and management. While some elements of a comprehensive tobacco control program can be administered entirely from the state level, none could succeed without local grassroots support. Following proven strategies from model states like California, Florida, and Massachusetts, TFN concentrated its efforts on the enhancement and creation of community coalitions.

Local organizations are encouraged to draft workplans that conform to the principles outlined by the CDC in its *Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs* publication as well as the ACS's Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control. When a local coalition

Tobacco Free Nebraska has contributed to the development of public health by providing resources, materials, support, and technical information.

Bill Wineman, Director Scotts Bluff County Health Department

submits a workplan, it is tailored to use and capitalize on the unique characteristics of the community from which it came. This "ground-up" approach to community tobacco prevention is part of what has made TFN so successful. In order to ensure that local programming falls in line with statewide tobacco prevention goals, TFN staff subject each workplan to a multi-tiered grant review process. Each grantee is rated on a number of factors, including strength of collaboration with community partners and sustainability of local interventions.

TFN strives to change people's attitudes about tobacco. Local coalitions urge local businesses and entertainment venues to adopt voluntary smoke-free policies. Media campaigns that highlight the dangers of tobacco are presented on radio, television, and billboards, and in newspapers and movie theaters.

I run a brand new health department. TFN provides invaluable resources that I don't have time to hunt down. As a new health department director, knowing that TFN's expertise is only a phone call away really helps. Tobacco control is essential for our public health. It is imperative that we invest in Tobacco Free Nebraska at the state level.

Tiffany Sutter, Director Public Health Solutions District Health Department

TFN works to reduce access to tobacco products. Through support of law enforcement efforts to ensure tobacco retailers' compliance with age of sale laws and health official monitoring of business' compliance with Nebraska's Clean Indoor Air Act, TFN helps to reduce tobacco use.

In addition, TFN supports a variety of youth programs as well as offering tobacco cessation services to help individuals who already use tobacco to quit.

Tobacco Reporting and Information Network (TRAIN)

TFN is a large and complex program that operates statewide. TFN recognized that a centralized system would make the lessons learned in one community accessible to communities across the state. Each community coalition establishes objectives and identifies strategies to accomplish its

"A system that catalogues and organizes such a diverse set of information can have profound effects on program improvement as well as long-term sustainability."

> Becky Augustyniak, System Developer Florida State University

tobacco prevention goals. Coalitions implement nearly 2,000 distinct tobacco prevention strategies locally. Each coalition collaborates with its own partners, develops its own strategies, and generates data to measure its programs' success. During times of personnel turnover, the system provides continuity for new staff who need to become familiar with past activities and future goals. The exchange of information between TFN and its grantees is virtually seamless.

The Nebraska Tobacco Reporting and Information Network (TRAIN) integrates all locally generated information into one web-based application. Successful tobacco prevention programs in Florida and California use similar systems to ensure local level and state-level fiscal and programmatic accountability. Using TRAIN, TFN staff become more efficient program evaluators as well as program directors. Local personnel are held to a greater degree of accountability and must define their workplans with even greater precision than before. TRAIN increases TFN's capacity to administer the statewide tobacco control effort.

Tobacco Free Nebraska Focuses on Prevention

TFN's programming focuses on tobacco use prevention in two important ways. First, programs are crafted at the local level to focus on changes in tobacco policies in businesses, schools, and government offices, as well as tobacco prices and access to tobacco products.

"[The funding] has helped local communities understand population-based approaches to public health. If funding goes away, the policies will still be there."

Judy Martin, Program Administrator Tobacco Free Nebraska Second, a significant portion of program funding is directed to programs designed to prevent youth from ever using tobacco. The No Limits Youth Empowerment Movement is a youth-led movement that seeks to expose and oppose the tobacco industry. The Teen Tobacco Prevention and Education Project provides scholarships to high school students who design creative projects to aid in the prevention, reduction, and cessation of tobacco use. TFN also provides grants to Cedars Youth Services, the Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center, and other organizations to ensure that tobacco prevention programming is developed for high-risk youth.

Tobacco Free Nebraska Focuses on Early Intervention and Health Surveillance

• The Quitline and Perinatal Programs.

TFN's statewide Quitline became operational in August 2002. The Quitline provides a 24-hour-a-day toll-free number for cessation advice and referrals for Nebraskans who wish to stop using tobacco products. In its first four months of operation, the Quitline received nearly 4,000 calls. TFN also provides funding and support to a variety of community-based perinatal tobacco cessation initiatives designed to decrease the number of pregnant women who use tobacco.

• Health Surveillance.

TFN surveys youth and adults statewide about tobacco-related issues. Local-level capacity to conduct such research is almost non-existent. State-level surveillance allows TFN to accurately describe the public health problem of tobacco use in Nebraska. Certain tobacco use behaviors, such as the prevalence of chewing tobacco use among middle school students, are influenced in part by geography. TFN designs its surveys so that regional data and, in some cases, county-specific data are available. The resulting data are used to direct program implementation at the local level. (See attachment 2 for a listing of TFN Survey efforts.)

Conclusion

In the last decade, TFN has built a sustainable and active infrastructure throughout a high percentage of Nebraska's most populous counties. The infrastructure is vital to improving the public health of all Nebraskans.

"The emergence of the local health departments and the existence of Tobacco Free Nebraska represent a tremendous opportunity for collaboration. We need to find a way to strengthen and support the relationship. It is a great opportunity to focus more resources to address public health issues at the local level."

> Dave Palm, Administrator Office of Public Health

TFN continues to improve the existing public health infrastructure introduced through LB 692 by:

- ? establishing a network of statewide and communitywide partnerships;
- ? implementing interventions that leverage the strengths of existing public health agencies, voluntary health agencies, and community-focused organizations;
- ? supporting public health staff at these agencies;
- ? using and building on the existing surveillance systems to monitor tobacco use and other health behaviors among Nebraskans; and
- ? engaging policy advocates to promote statewide and community-based legislation to protect the public from the health effects of secondhand smoke, prevent initiation of smoking among youth, and reduce minors' access to tobacco products.

TFN coalitions advance the goals of tobacco prevention by relying on the strengths of their community partners. By sustaining community partnerships with its funding and leadership, TFN helps ensure that a comprehensive approach to tobacco control is implemented throughout the state. These partnerships save lives by helping to prevent tobacco use.

Sources:

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- 3. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office on Smoking and Health
- 4. Nebraska Health and Human Services System. *Tobacco Use by Nebraska's Middle School Students: Results of the 1999 Middle School Youth Tobacco Survey*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Nebraska Health and Human Services System Tobacco Free Nebraska Program, February 2001.
- 5. Healthy People 2010, published by the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department
- 6. Nebraska Public Health Association.
- 7. State Snapshot: A Progress Report on the Tobacco Free Nebraska Program. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Abt Associates Inc., January 2002.

Tobacco Free Nebraska American Cancer Society Hall (Tobacco Free Hall County) School/Community Partners Conestoga Public Schools Arlene Nelson, former Nebraska County Attorney's Office State Senator Adams (South Central Health Dairy Oueen Restaurant of Bailey Lauerman Advertising Alliance) Plattsmouth Agency Adams County Extension Office Elmwood-Murdock Schools Central Nebraska Council American Cancer Society Health Education Inc Central Community College Metropolitan Omaha Chamber of Commerce Alcoholism Children & Adolescent Clinic Tobacco Child Care Solutions Community Action Group Action Coalition City of Grand Island Dutton-Lainson Company Plattsmouth Chief of Police Dr. J. J. Heavilin, community Good Samaritan Village Plattsmouth City Council member Hastings Area Council on Family Practice of Grand Island Plattsmouth Community Schools Alcoholism Plattsmouth Head Start Grand Island Area Chamber of Hastings City Administration Plattsmouth Journal Commerce Hastings College Plattsmouth Schools Grand Island Central Catholic High Hastings Family Planning PRIDE Omaha School Hastings Police Department Dawson (Lexington Drug & Grand Island Northwest High School Hastings Public Schools Grand Island Senior High School Alcohol Task Force) Mary Lanning Hospital Community Services Center, Inc. Grand Island Senior High School Mid Nebraska Community Services Dawson County Attorney Student Wellness Center Nebraska Health & Human Grand Island-Hall County Health Dawson County Sheriff Services-Adams County Even Start Department Rural Metro Hall County Juvenile Services Haven House Team Mates Hall County Teen Tobacco Coalit ion Heartland Counseling Uncle Neal's Corporation Lexington Chamber of Commerce Health & Human Services Headquarters Childcare Resource Specialist Lexington Clipper-Herald United Way Lexington Drug & Alcohol Center Health Education, Inc. University of Nebraska Medical Lexington Police Department NAF Multicultural Human Center at Kearney/ School & Lexington Public Schools Development Corporation Nursing Lexington United Way Ray Aguilar, Nebraska State Senator YMCA Nebraska Health & Human Saint Francis Medical Center Services System University of Nebraska -Buffalo (Buffalo County Tobacco Plum Creek Medical Group Kearney/College Park Free Coalition) Tri County Hospital Keith (Ogallah Service With Action American Cancer Society United Methodist Church Team) Amherst Public Schools Douglas (Metropolitan Omaha Community Outreach Services Buffalo County Attomey's Office Tobacco action Coalition) Katie Surface, student **Buffalo County Community Health** Alegent Health/Bergen Mercy Keith County News Partners American Cancer Society KOGA/KMCX Radio **Buffalo County Health Ministries** American Lung Association of Lisa Byers, community member Association Nebraska State Patrol – Troop D Nebraska Elm Creek Public Schools Bennington Police Department Ogallala Community Hospital Family Resource Council Channel 6 WOWT Ogallala Optimists Gibbon Public Schools Douglas County Health Department Ogallala Police Department Good Samaritan Health Systems Douglas County Sheriff's Ogallala Public Schools Kearney Catholic High School Department Region II Human Services Kearney Parks & Recreation Elkhorn Police Department Sandhills Crisis Intervention Kearney Public Schools Family Services-Healthy Program Kearney Public Schools Alternatives For Little Ones Sandhills District Health Department Kearney Wellness Works Group to Alleviate Smoking Service With Action Team (SWAT) Mid-Nebraska Community Action. Pollution State Farm Insurance Methodist Health System Lancaster (Tobacco Free Lancaster Pleasanton Public Schools N.E.T.W.O.R.K.. Inc. County) Positive Pressure Coalition Nebraska Health System Andy Link Ravenna Public Schools Nebraska State Education Asian Community & Cultural Association Center Region III Behavioral Omaha Police Department Brvan School Health Omaha Public Schools Buffalo Beach Services Our Health Community Partnership Community Asthma Education Pride Omaha, Inc. Shelton Public Schools Initiative Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Public Region VI Behavioral Care Girl Scouts - Homestead Council The Wellness Council of the Health Education, Inc. Schools Midlands Illusion Theater The Kearney Clinic University of Nebraska - Omaha, The Kearney Hub Lancaster County Medical Society Athletic Department Lancaster County Sheriff's Office The United Way University of Nebraska Medical Lincoln Council on Alcohol & Tri-City Storm Hockey Center Drugs, Inc.

Lincoln Medical Education

Valley Police Department

University of Nebraska - Kearney

Cass (Tobacco Is A Drug)

Foundation, Inc. Lincoln Police Department Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department Mayor Don Wesely Tobacco Free Lincoln Coalition University of Nebraska - Lincoln Lincoln (Lincoln County Tobacco Coalition) Adams Middle School American Cancer Society Community Connections Great Plains Regional Medical Center Maxwell Public Schools NAF Multi-Cultural Nebraska State Patrol North Platte Police Department North Platte Senior High Region II Prevention Center Retired Senior Volunteer Program WIC Madison (Tobacco Free Madison County) City of Norfolk, Police Division Faith Regional Health Services Goldenrod Hills Community Action Madison County Free Health Clinic Madison Public Schools Nebraska Health & Human Services System Norfolk Chamber of Commerce Norfolk Public Library Norfolk Public Schools Northeast Community College Planned Approach to Community Health Ponca Tribe Prevention Pathways, Inc. Region IV Mental Health & Substance Abuse Systems TeamMates The Abby Christian Store Platte/Colfax (Striving 2 B Tobacco Free) Alegent Health Memorial Hospital, Schuvler City of Schuyler Colfax County Sheriff's Department Columbus Community Hospital Columbus Police Department Columbus Public School System Columbus Telegram Lakeview School System NAF Multicultural Schuyler Central High School Schuyler Grade School Schuyler Head Start Learning Center Schuyler Police Department Schuyler Sun Sylvan Learning Center, Columbus Sarpy (Sarpy County Tobacco

Action Coalition Mount Sinai Church N.E.T.W.O.R.K. Omaha Public Schools Salem Baptist Church Association Omaha (Sarpy) Action Coalition Coalition) Omaha Public Schools Alegent Health Papillion/Lavista Public Schools American Cancer Society Pride Omaha Bellevue Police Department Sarpy County Attorney Bellevue Public Schools Sarpy County Diversion Services Chicano Awareness Center 8

La Vista Police Department South Sarpy School District #46 Omaha Public Schools Southern Sudan Community Papillion Police Department Association Papillion/La Vista Schools Dr. Richard Stacy, University of PRIDE-Omaha, Inc. Nebraska - Omaha Indian Center Inc. (Lancaster) Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare Sarpy County Diversion Belmont Recreation Center CHAMPS Program Snitily Carr Production Group Creighton University **Scotts Bluff (Scotts Bluff** Lincoln Action Program County Lincoln Community Playhouse Tobacco Collaborative) Lincoln Council on Alcoholism & Panhandle Community Services Drugs Panhandle Substance Abuse Center Lincoln Public Schools/Indian Scotts Bluff County Department of Education Program Health Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Scotts Bluff County Extension Department Scotts Bluff Regional Medical Malone Center Center National Youth Sports Program ScottsBluff Police Department Native American Public ScottsBluff YMCA Telecommunication University of Nebraska - College of Nebraska Native American Tobacco Nursing Coalition Tobacco Free Lincoln Coalition Tobacco Free Nebraska Outreach Upward Bound to Ethnic Minority Partners YWCA - Lincoln Asian Community & Cultural Omaha Tribe - Macy Youth & Center (Lancaster) Family Services (Thurston) African Multicultural Center Catholic Social Services First Omaha Reformed Church Faces of the Middle East Heartland Refugee Resettlement Jump's Food Barn Hispanic Center Macy Youth & Family Services Lincoln Council on Alcohol & Native American Church Drugs Omaha Nation Public School Lincoln Interfaith Council Omaha Tribal Adult Probation & Charles Drew Health Center Parole (Douglas) Omaha Tribal Council Asian Center Chicano Awareness Center Parole Greater New Hope Baptist Church Omaha Tribal Law Enforcement Metropolitan Omaha Tobacco Twenty-First Century Learning Center Walthill Public School Our Healthy Community Partnership Clarkson College Region VI Prevention Center Creighton University Nebraska Maternal Child Health Southern Sudan Community Program Dr. Richard Stacy, Dr. Manoj Coalition Sharma, University of Nebraska -Ponca Health & Wellness Center Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Culture Michael Pride, community member Department University of Nebraska Medical Center - Community Partnership of Social Services Urban League of Nebraska Charles Drew Health Center Smoking Cessation Program Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Health American Cancer Society Department Bellevue Public Schools Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Public Chicano Awareness Center Health Nurse Metropolitan Omaha Tobacco Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Youth

Carl T. Curtis Mental Health Center Jacob Harlan, community member Omaha Tribal Juvenile Probation & Thurston County Extension Office Ponca Tribe (Douglas, Madison) Nebraska Native American Tobacco Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Department Ponca Tribe of Nebraska Diabetes & Drug Prevention Program Tobacco Free Communities of Color WIC Clinic Santee Tribe (Knox) Aberdeen Area Tribal Chairman's Health Board

Attachment 1: List of Tobacco Free Nebraska Affiliated Partners

Santee Community Schools
Santee Tribal Health Center
Winnebago Tribe (Thurston)
Indian Health Service
St. Augustine's Indian Mission
Win News
Winnebago Police Department
Winnebago Public Health Nursing
Winnebago Public School
Winnebago Safety Committee
Winnebago Tribal Council
Statewide Minority Outreach
(NAF

Multicultural Human
Development Corporation)
Central Nebraska Council on
Alcoholism
Community Connections
Community Services Center
Grand Island County Health
Department
Grand Island Senior High School
Heartland Counseling
Lexington Public Schools

Mary Lanning Memorial Hospital Nebraska State Patrol Norfolk Police Division Norfolk Public Schools Panhandle Alcohol & Substance Abuse Council Platte/Colfax Health Department Prevention Pathways Region II Behavioral Services Saint Francis Medical Center Scotts Bluff County Health & Welfare Senator Ray Aguilar University of Nebraska College of Nursing

Other Tobacco Free Nebraska Partners

Road Tours International Abt Associates, Inc. American Lung Association, Smokeless Caravan Americans for Nonsmoker's Rights ARC Bureau of Sociological Research,

University of Nebraska - Lincoln Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids Cedars Youth Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention/ Office on Smoking & Health Chadron Native American Center Chadron State College Dr. Bhattacharrya, University of Nebraska Medical Center Educational Service Unit 13 Envoy Florida State University Nebraska 4-H Youth Development Nebraska Department of Education Nebraska Family Career & Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Nebraska Improv Nixon Group Pioneer Development Systems Polk County Health Department SmokeLess Nebraska Snitily Carr Production Group Youth Rehab & Tx Center

Attachment 2 Tobacco Free Nebraska Survey Efforts

- The Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) investigates such important issues as prevalence of youth tobacco use, youth access to tobacco products, and the factors that contribute to lifelong addiction.
- The Adult Tobacco Survey (ATS) collects data on the prevalence of tobacco use among adults
 and issues related to the likelihood of smoking cessation or initiation. The survey also
 assesses the prevalence of restrictive smoking policies, and attitudes about tobacco control
 measures.
- The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) monitors priority health-risk behaviors that contribute to the leading causes of mortality, morbidity, and social problems among youth and adults in the United States. The behaviors fall into six categories:
 - o Behaviors that result in unintentional and intentional injuries (personal safety, violence-related behavior, depression and suicide);
 - o Tobacco use;
 - o Alcohol and other drug use;
 - o Dietary behavior & oral health;
 - o Physical activity; and
 - o AIDS education.
- *The School Administrators Survey* (SAS) assesses the prevalence and comprehensiveness of school campus tobacco policies.