



TOBACCO FREE KANSAS COALITION

Winter 2023

President's Corner

Save the Date for the TFKC Winter Meeting

Join us virtually January 25, 2024 from 9:00 am to 11:30 am.



Join us for our annual Winter Meeting and hear from this year's **Keynote Speaker, Dwana "Dee" Calhoun, MS National Network Director SelfMade Health Network at Patient Advocate Foundation** (CDC's Consortium of National Networks). The topic will be "Examining Intergenerational Poverty and the Cycle of Tobacco Addiction Impacting Low-Income Populations and Their Communities".

Other topics include:

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- The history and plans for the Shawnee Mission School District Juul Settlement presented by Paula Bunde, RN, BSN Health Services Coordinator for Shawnee Mission School District
 - The history and plans for the Kansas Juul Settlement by Megan Word, ACS CAN and Carol Cramer, KDHE
 - An overview of Justice-Involved Statewide Collaborative on tobacco work being done in the Reno County Correctional Facility by Lisa Frye Blume, Community Health Manager at KDHE and Candance Davidson, Health Promotion Supervisor at Reno County Health Department.

Plus we will hear a preview of tobacco-related policy work in the 2024 Kansas Legislative Session and an update on plans for the 2024 Take Down Tobacco Day with Resist from Bryce Chitanavong, Youth Tobacco Prevention Coordinator at KDHE as well as other updates from the Tobacco Use Prevention Program at KDHE.

Please click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets to our 2024 TFKC Winter Meeting presented virtually on January 25, 2024 from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Prem". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Sara Prem, TFKC President

Policy Focus: Tobacco Retail Licensing



In 2020, Four County Mental Health Center, Inc. announced its goal to become completely tobacco-free on every campus by 2023. The organization achieved this goal on May 1, 2022, seven months before the goal date. The initiative took years of wellness promotion, treatment programming, and prevention efforts. The tobacco-free policy strives to reduce tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure among staff, visitors, and patients.

The tobacco-free grounds policy will prohibit the use of all tobacco products on all campuses, including within the buildings and grounds. Signage provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment through the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction grant will be displayed at each campus facility, promoting cessation opportunities through the Kansas Quitline. Additional “Tobacco Free Campus” signage was paid for through a Kansas Health Foundation Impact and Capacity grant. Chief Wellness Officer, Jodi Hayse, stated “We are excited to demonstrate our commitment to the health and wellness of our staff, clients, and visitors by offering tobacco-free campuses throughout our service area. Providing a healthy environment and culture of overall wellbeing is an important value of Four County Mental Health Center.”

As an organization committed to public health and safety, Four County’s primary mission is to provide accessible, innovative mental health services in partnership with consumers, families and communities. To effectively prevent and treat behavioral health conditions, it’s essential that we provide integrated, whole-person care. Implementing a tobacco-free policy expresses this commitment to wellness for our patients, staff, visitors and our communities.

We appreciate each of our partners’ assistance and support as we continue to create, design, and

promote a culture of health in our communities. For more information, you can contact Jodi Hayse at 620.331.1748 or visit our website at www.fourcounty.com .

Take Down Tobacco Day February 27-28, 2024

Tobacco marketing and promotions saturate retail stores in most communities—the same places where students might stop for an afternoon snack on the way home from school. The tobacco industry spends about \$1 million per hour marketing their products, most of it at the point of sale. In Kansas it is estimated that the tobacco industry spends \$68.3 million each year on advertising. Research shows that exposure to tobacco advertising and promotions prompts smoking initiation, encourages tobacco use, and undermines quit attempts. With nearly half of all adolescents visiting a convenience store at least once a week, youth are regularly exposed to tobacco product displays and advertising. This is money well spent for the tobacco industry, as approximately [900 Kansas youth](#) become new, daily smokers annually.

Each year, TFKC and Resist team up to organize Take Down Tobacco Day - an advocacy day at the state capital in Topeka, KS. In 2024, TDT Day will be February 27 and 28. Students and sponsors from across the state of Kansas will converge in Topeka for a day of education and training on tobacco policy work and advocacy for policies that help prevent youth initiation of tobacco use on February 27th. On February 28th, youth and sponsors will visit with their state legislators and share information about youth tobacco use and what policy makers may do to help us realize the TFKC vision of a tobacco-free Kansas.

If you have any questions about 2024 TDT Day or would like to volunteer to help, please contact [Bryce Chitanavong](#), Youth Tobacco Prevention Coordinator at KDHE.



RESIST

Fighting the influence of Big Tobacco.

Big Vape: The Rise and Fall of Juul now playing on Netflix

The Netflix documentary series *Big Vape: The Rise and Fall Of Juul* reveals some shocking information as it presents the gritty truth behind vaping and how leading brand Juul changed the game. The four-episode docuseries focuses on how Juul made its name in the vaping community and opened doors for a brand-new generation of smokers worldwide. With a total run time of three hours and 10 minutes, it squeezes in some glaringly startling facts, leaving audiences with a new perspective on vaping.

The decision for *Big Vape: The Rise and Fall Of Juul* to focus on the medical and marketing sides of vaping makes for an interesting angle, earning it a place among [Netflix's best health documentaries](#). It's also worth noting that the research that was undertaken for this series was thorough and well-planned, bringing the facts of the effects of vaping to the foreground. Ultimately, *Big Vape: The Rise and Fall Of Juul* unveils the truth behind vaping and brings with it some surprising revelations.



VAPES
MARKETING AN ADDICTION

TFKC Updates: Treasurer Needed

Stephanie Simmons, who has been faithfully serving as our Treasurer, is

departing the TFKC Board and we are in great need of someone who can take on this role. The Treasurer may be anyone from the TFKC Membership. Serving as Treasurer also includes serving on the Board of Directors. Some of the basic duties of the treasurer aren't very different from those of managing your personal finances and budget at home. The treasurer usually manages the bank account, writes checks to pay invoices and reconciles bank statements. TFKC uses Quick Books so a basic knowledge of this program would be helpful but not essential as it is easy to learn. If you are interested in serving as Treasurer, please email [Sara Prem](#) and/or [Nicole Brown](#).

We are pleased to present the 2022-2023 Tobacco Free Kansas Board of Directors. TFKC has been in existence for over 20 years, serving Kansas per our mission statement. The Board provides governance and oversight to building a healthier Kansas and striving to consistently meet the needs of whom we serve. We are grateful that these members of our Coalition are providing their time and talents to help us reach our vision.