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Tobacco Task Force Report Cecil County Community Health Advisory Committee January 16, 2014

The Cecil County Tobacco Task Force has met once with several subcommittees to work on mini-grants and law enforcement issues.

Local Public Health Component - CRF Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program

- Five community organizations were selected by the subcommittee for tobacco use prevention mini-grants, which included: Elkton Senior Apartments, Project Crossroad, Boys and Girls Club of Cecil County, Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay, Troop #20, and On Our Own of Cecil County, Inc.
- As part of the enforcement component, local law enforcement agencies conduct tobacco compliance checks. On October 7, 2013, an Identification Document Fraud Training was conducted by the Cecil County Liquor Board Office for alcohol and tobacco vendors. On-going compliance checks are conducted for 127 licensed tobacco vendors in the county. Currently, one tobacco retail licensee will be referred to the (Tobacco) Comptroller of Maryland for hearing as a repeat offender to pursue further disciplinary action.
- Through tobacco use prevention awareness presentations, 1,690 youth and adults were educated and 26,287 print media contacts were made to youth and adults at community sites and events.
- A total of 62 individuals were educated through "Tools to Be Tobacco Free" programs and/or tobacco cessation consultations. The Nicotine Replacement Program and Chantix TM Services program will be implemented starting January 2014.
- The top smoking cessation mobile applications from Action to Quit (Advancing Tobacco Control Policy), link at http://www.smh.com.au/digital-life/smartphone-apps/top-apps-for-quitting-smoking-20130808-2rhd8.html were reviewed. Top apps included: QuitNow!, My Last Cigarette, Livestrong MyQuit Coach, Quit Now: My Quit Buddy and Quit Smoking Now with Max Kirsten (hypnotherapy). Task Force members are sharing information with community contacts.
- Health Department staff continues to seek education through webinars, trainings and conferences to address the new county health priority areas of substance abuse and mental health as they relate to tobacco cessation; emerging new tobacco product trends such as e-cigarettes; and the serious problem of pregnant smokers in Cecil County.

Pregnancy and Tobacco Cessation Help (PATCH)

• Cecil County was one of three jurisdictions to receive a grant to build capacity within networks and partner organizations that see pregnant women and women of child bearing age. The networks and partnering organizations are supporting outreach, making referrals, and promoting smoking cessation interventions and non-smoking norms to women in each jurisdiction.

The next Tobacco Task Force meeting is January 17, 2014 at 9:30 am in the auditorium at the Cecil County Health Department.