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BU QUARTERLY

BU MAKING AN IMPACT

As the end of the school year is fast approaching, our BU Youth Leaders are still hard at work. During the Great American Smoke out Campaign and Good Neighbor Campaign, they have made a great impact in their schools and communities such as:

- ◆ Educated over 6,000 of their peers about general tobacco and vaping prevention
- ◆ Met and educated their local retailers about the “PUP Laws” (*Laws prohibiting the possession, use, and purchase of tobacco products by minors*)
- ◆ Showcased the knowledge of Tobacco and Vaping 101 to over 1,200 high school students
- ◆ Utilized their orientation skills with local School Boards and Elected Officials



References

Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. (May 2022) *E-CIGARETTES: FLAVORED PRODUCTS FUEL A YOUTH EPI-DEMIC*
https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/what-we-do/industry-watch/e-cigarettes/?utm_medium=ads&utm_source=GoogleSearch&utm_content=ECigaretteKeywords&utm_campaign=AlwaysOnSearch2022&gclid=CjwKCAjwqWgBhBMEiwAzKSH6FE6o3RXbFhmKPkly2YoZcjfA3ZfkLglHP5T5lFH8KJO_DXeVi6XhoCTZMQAvD_BwE

In the News

According to the 2022 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS), over 2.5 million U.S. kids used e-cigarettes in 2022. While youth e-cigarette use has declined since 2019, it remains a serious public health problem. From 2017 to 2019, e-cigarette use among high school students more than doubled to 27.5%, leading the U.S. Surgeon General and other public health authorities to declare the problem an “epidemic.” (CTFK, 2022)



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Introducing Northside High School

“Northside High School is one of the newest satellite schools with the BU program. On February 9, 2023, the Northern Regional Coordinator, DeShondra Phinisee, and Regional Assistant, Ebony Jones, attended the College and Career Fair at Northside High School. This fair gave BU the opportunity to educate the high school students on the importance of being vaping and tobacco free. We were able to spread awareness about the dangers and the side effects to each student we had the pleasure to speak with. This fair also gave us the opportunity to network with other agencies with similar goals as ours. The students were very attentive and eager to gain the information we shared.”



- *By Ebony Jones, Delta State University, (BU Northern Regional Assistant)*

BU YOUTH LEADERS' CORNER



“Our favorite part of the BU program is the recording part. Even though we may get nervous, knowing that the words we are speaking are going to impact many people, makes us comfortable. This program has not only taught people outside of the program, but it has educated us on many things that we did not know. We believe that our peers are responding well to this organization. We feel that if we are leading by example, they will see that and would want to start doing better. “

-*Faith Hardaway (Newton High School)*

My First Year as a Youth Leader

“My first year as a youth leader has been more eventful than what I expected. I am grateful for the opportunity to make a change in society. The first event I attended was the orientation training in Jackson, Mississippi. I was quite scared about going to Jackson because truthfully, I have never been in the town in depth and the crime has just been off the charts. When I arrived the environment was nerve-racking. I knew nobody besides the other youth leader from my school. I felt out of place because everybody there had done so much in their community. The training made me realize that I am just as capable as anyone else. I enjoyed the speakers and the out-of-state leaders. At the end of the training, I was well-informed and had a better understanding of what I would be doing. Honestly, I did miss zoom calls and when I got to the filming at USM I was truly lost. It made me realize that I needed to be more responsible. The filming was scary because I knew I would mess up badly. I did mess up but they did not take it out on me and it truly felt like home. The GNC project was fun and not as hard as I thought it would be. Honestly, I cannot wait to do this again next year.”

- Gwendolyn Varnado (McComb High School)



Continue praying for Youth Leaders (Tameika Bell and Taniah Williams) who were affected by the recent March 24th tornado in the Delta area in Mississippi.

CONTACT US

Contact us with your questions, concerns, or testimonies. For additional updates on the Youth Tobacco & Vaping Prevention Program, follow us on social media.

Caffee, Caffee & Associates Public Health Foundation, Inc.

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BU Youth Tobacco & Vaping Prevention Program

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