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BU QUARTERLY

BU and Beyond

The BU Youth Tobacco & Vaping Prevention Program has been making major strives across Mississippi. The initial imprint of our goals has surpassed the baseline of introducing a discussion about the harmful effects of tobacco & vaping to youth. Since the inception of the BU program, the FDA has made recommendations to ban menthol in tobacco and vaping products (*ALA*, 2024), smoking rates are down (*Johnson*, 2024), and lawmakers are finally seeing the light at the end of the vaping tunnel (*Jewett*, 2024).

The partnership with our public schools, such as Forest Hill High School, has proven to be the best avenue for facilitating our message. Forest Hill High School has taken our program's fundamental components and expanded it to JROTC, ISS, and service projects with elementary schools. This is phenomenal!





BU Youth Leaders: Josiah Morris and Moenique Pirtle Facilitating Tobacco & Vaping 101 to their peers at Forest Hill High School.

In the News

Second-hand Vape Smoke Linked to More Asthma Symptoms in Kids

The Study in the journal *Children* explored the impact of second-hand e-cigarette smoke on children with asthma, suggesting increased symptomatic days despite no significant difference in clinical intervention needs, underscoring the importance of awareness about e-cigarette smoke's potential harms. A pilot monocenter, observational study of 54 young asthma patients, half of whom experienced second-hand exposure (*SHE*) to second-hand aerosols (*SHAs*). (*Francisco de Souza, 2024*)



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Why Did You Join BU?



"This is my first year being a part of the BU Youth Tobacco & Vaping Prevention Program. I chose to be a part of this program because it allowed me to educate people on the dangers of tobacco and why they should stop using it. Aside from being able to make a change in people's lives, there are also other perks of being a youth leader.

I've learned new information and skills from this program that will help me in life. The program has also given me the chance to meet new people. In addition to the personal growth I've gained from this program, being a part of the BU Youth Tobacco & Vap-

ing Prevention Program also offers valuable opportunities for community engagement. By spreading awareness about the dangers of tobacco, I am actively contributing to the well-being of others."

- Ferinand Ford, Charleston High School



"All in all, I joined BU to stop tobacco use in kids and teenagers, increase peer resistance, encourage communication with my fellow teenagers, parents, and other responsible adults, and increase positive views of students who feel that they are not heard around the globe about the importance of tobacco. Prevention education programs such as BU have a major role in teaching the dangers and consequences of using tobacco products."

- Calvineisha Barber, Port Gibson High School



"I joined BU for a very good reason. BU stands for something positive, and that is what I am all about. When it comes to drugs and tobacco, I am against it. People should leave both of those things alone. The sober way is best. I strive to be in as many positive programs as possible while I am in high school. BU seems like a great program, and I am proud to be one of the leaders at my school."

- Jaquan Lizana- McComb High School

BU YOUTH LEADERS' CORNER

"Hi, my name is I'yana Powell. I'm 17 years old, and I attend Thomas Edward High School. The BU program has helped me in numerous ways. It has informed me that smoking leads to disease, disabilities and harms nearly every organ of the body. It has also informed me that cigarette smoking remains the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States. I learned that tobacco companies mainly target my age group. They do this because we are easily influenced into



the wrong things. It also has impacted the people around me by giving me information to share with them about tobacco that might help their health."

- I'vana Powell, Thomas E. Edwards



Take Down Tobacco National Day of Action, formerly known as Kick Butts Day, is a day of activism that occurs every spring, empowering people to speak out against the tobacco industry. It has been organized by the Campaign for Tobacco -Free Kids since 1996. (COCA, 2024) On April 1, 2024, youth across the country will stand up against big tobacco companies.

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.



B U Tobacco Free

BU Youth Tobacco & Vaping Prevention Program

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