

The Power of

ALL



A Tailored Approach for Tobacco-Free Schools

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Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership
El Paso County Public Health



Tobacco-Free Schools Policy

- The goal is to strengthen, communicate and enforce Tobacco-Free Schools Policies in El Paso County
- TEPP is working to create effective and sustainable changes through a bottom up approach



Challenges Addressed

- 17 school districts; large geographical area
- TEPP staff capacity
- Competing priorities
- Limited existing partnerships at the school and district levels

School Engagement

- Bottom up approach: school interventions with the goal of expanding to the district level
- Youth and school leadership engagement is important to the sustainability of the policy
- Five individual schools within three districts were identified by need, existing relationships, and staff capacity to receive mini-grant funding

Mini-Grant Work Plan Components

- School based facilitator to lead and educate students
- Minimum of five active Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) club members
- Peer and community outreach efforts
- Monthly meetings, invoices and reports
- Tobacco-Free Schools Policy task force
- Integrate N-O-T and Second Chance



Benefits of Mini-Grant Program

- Mutually beneficial
- Expedites relationship building
- Holds schools accountable
- Ensures schools receive and share proper Tobacco-Free Schools Policy messaging
- Encourages district level interventions based on the success at the school level



Lessons Learned

- Tailored approaches are effective
- Relationships are essential; take time
- Engaging all stakeholders creates sustainable change
- Mini-grants engage schools, preserve TEPP involvement and maximize resources
- Teachers help make district level connections



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