

TOBACCO-FREE QUAD CITIES COALITION



FY24
YEAR IN REVIEW

PUBLISHED OCTOBER 2024

TOBACCO-FREE **QC**



Two Counties. Two States. One Mission.

What is our mission?

The Tobacco-Free QC Coalition, or TFQC, works to reduce the impact of tobacco and nicotine use in our community.

How do we do this?

We do this by sharing information and educating our community about the impacts of tobacco and nicotine. We also work to strengthen tobacco and nicotine-related policies in our community.

Our Structure

TFQC is a bi-state coalition that is comprised of a variety of member organizations and individuals dedicated to reducing the impact of tobacco and nicotine use in the Quad Cities. This group meets routinely throughout the year to discuss the direction of the coalition. TFQC members form workgroups as needed to address tobacco issues by focusing on prevention and reduction through cessation, education, and influencing policy change.

Our Partnering Organizations:

- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Mississippi Valley
- Center for Alcohol & Drug Services, Inc.
- Davenport Community School District
- Davenport Parks and Recreation
- Davenport Police Department
- MercyOne Genesis
- Quad City Health Initiative
- Rock Island County Council on Addictions (RICCA)
- Rock Island County Health Department
- Scott County Health Department
- UnityPoint Health - Trinity

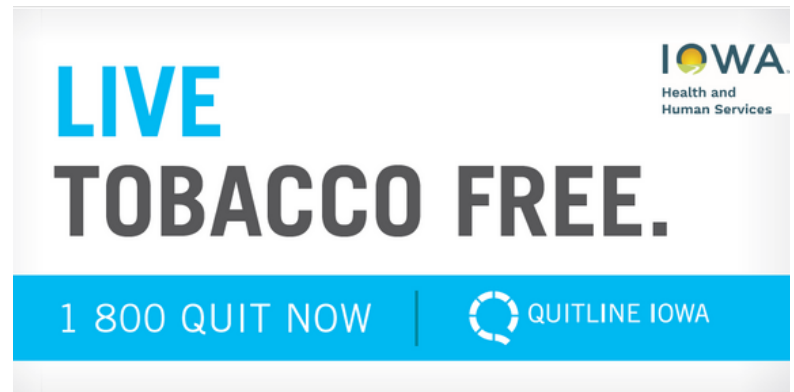
Advertising

TFQC had the opportunity to connect the community with Quitline resources across the Quad Cities through billboards and bus signs, along with radio advertisements.

Billboards



2nd Street, Davenport, IA



E. Kimberly Rd., Davenport, IA

Bus Signs



Eastern Ave., Davenport, IA



Buses around Scott County

Policy Work: Parks

We Help Communities with Tobacco and Nicotine Free Parks Policies

Tobacco-free and nicotine-free (TF/NF) parks policies are key ways that communities can show their commitment to the health and well-being of their citizens.

They also help to:

- Prevent secondhand smoke exposure, which is not safe indoors or outdoors
- Reduce the amount of tobacco litter in parks, which is dangerous to children, pets, and wildlife
- Prevent youth tobacco and nicotine use
- Support a healthier lifestyle

The park policy technical support offered by TFQC is a free service. Additionally, communities that adopt comprehensive policies qualify for free TF/NF signs for their parks. Let us help your community! Email tobaccofreeqc@gmail.com to get started.

**Tobacco & Nicotine Free Parks
in Scott County, Iowa**

BLUE GRASS	DAVENPORT	DONAHUE
MAYSVILLE	PRINCETON	LONG GROVE
SCOTT COUNTY	RIVERDALE	WALCOTT



Policy Work: Businesses

We Offer Tobacco-Free/Nicotine-Free Workplace Policy Support and Honor Businesses with the TFQC Champion Award

In addition to the reduction in secondhand smoke exposure, having a tobacco-free/nicotine-free (TF/NF) workplace policy in place can decrease health care costs, property maintenance expenses, and employee absenteeism. It can also boost employee morale and engagement, and is a great way for companies to show their dedication to employee health. As with TF/NF park policies, TFQC offers free TF/NF policy technical support to organizations that want to create a new or strengthen an existing workplace policy. With a new or strengthened policy, they may qualify for free signs as well.

TFQC celebrates workplaces that have comprehensive TF/NF policies by recognizing qualifying organizations with the TFQC Champion Award. Honorees receive a framed award, as well as an electronic logo that can be added to the organization's website and social media pages. TFQC also shares a photo of the honoree on the TFQC website and social media pages. If your workplace is interested in free TF/NF policy technical support and the Champion Award, we are happy to help!



FY24 TFQC Success Story

TFQC had the honor of working with City of Eldridge Administrator and Scott County Health Department Community Transformation Consultant to implement a zoning ordinance for vape shops. This ordinance limits where new vape shops can be built and opened, which is in the industrial districts of the city. The industrial districts tend to be away from the school areas, YMCA, and their business areas. The zoning ordinance for vape shops in Eldridge is the first of its kind in the state of Iowa, with hope of other communities implementing similar ordinances in their cities. With this new ordinance in place, it hopes to deter the use of tobacco and nicotine products, especially in youth. Congratulations to the City of Eldridge on such a great accomplishment for the community!

TFQC welcomes the opportunity to work with city leaders to create or strengthen existing policies!





Cessation Resources

We Offer Support to Increase Cessation Program Connections

Tobacco use continues to be a leading cause of preventable death and illness in Iowa and Illinois. Both states offer free and confidential programs that focus on helping tobacco and nicotine users to quit. These programs typically offer one on one counseling sessions; support and advice with cessation medications; tools on how to overcome urges; tailored quit plans; and other cessation focused materials.

- **Quitline Iowa** (for Iowa adults; quitlineiowa.org/en-US/, 1-800-QUIT-NOW, text START to 300500)
- **Illinois Tobacco Quitline** (for Illinois 13 years and older; quityes.org/, 1-866-QUIT-YES)
- **My Life My Quit** (for both Iowa and Illinois teens and young adults, mylifemyquit.org/index, text "Start My Quit" to 36072)

TFQC offers free Ask, Advise, Refer training for providers. Patients typically expect to be encouraged by their provider, a trusted health guide, to quit tobacco and nicotine. Having a conversation about cessation with their provider can increase a patient's level of satisfaction with their overall health care services while keeping a focus on wellness. Additionally, individuals who are referred by their provider are more likely to reach out for cessation services.



TOBACCO

QUITLINE IOWA
1 800 QUIT NOW | 1 800 784 8669
WWW.QUITLINEIOWA.ORG
Text START to 300500





Youth Programming

ISTEP Helps to Spread the Tobacco Prevention Message

Iowa students have the opportunity to join Iowa Students for Tobacco Education and Prevention (ISTEP) chapters. These chapters provide students with a shared space to discuss the effects of tobacco and to complete shared activities to raise awareness in our community. TFQC supports an existing chapter at the Safer Foundation, with a new chapter added this year at North Scott High School! Schools, youth community groups, or youth organizations in Scott County are encouraged to start ISTEP chapters. If your group or organization is interested in starting a chapter, please contact tobaccofreeqc@gmail.com.





Community Education

We Provide Important Prevention Education to Youth

One of our key goals is to provide community members with up-to-date, research-based information, so that they are more aware of the consequences, dangers, and impacts of tobacco use to make informed decisions. We work to inform the community in Rock Island County and Scott County about the unique trends and risk factors that affect each age group.


School staff have reported increased concerns about youth vaping in schools. With the continued use of tobacco and vaping products amongst youth, TFQC received a number of requests from schools and other youth-serving organizations for prevention education opportunities. Staff expressed interest in increased education and wanting to implement ISTEP chapters. Prevention curriculum has been expanded to 3rd grade for Iowa students so TFQC provides education from elementary through high school.





Community Education

TFQC was able to provide education and spread awareness on the effects of tobacco and vaping products in schools, to our partners, and at community events!

CASI- Social Services Fair	Iowa National Guard Resource Fair	Quad Cities River Bandits
Big Brothers Big Sisters Spring Into Adventure	National HIV Testing Day	Quad Cities Youth Conference
Bettendorf Wellness Committee	Assumption High School	North Scott High School
Safer Foundation	City of Eldridge	





Want to join TFQC? Contact us to learn more!

tobaccofreeqc@gmail.com

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UnityPoint Health
Quad Cities | Muscatine



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Rock Island County
Health Department



 UnityPoint Health
Robert Young Center

RICCA
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