



Secondhand Smoke Protections in Tribal Communities

Mission and Core Values

To provide commercial tobacco secondhand smoke awareness and resources to New Mexico tribal communities, improving health outcomes.

Respect, Culture, Family Responsibility to Community, Humility, Health, Love, Empowerment, Sustainability, and Community

Tobacco Control Advocate

Joseph Blazer

Meet Joseph Blazer! Joseph is the Mescalero Tribal Tobacco Cessation Prevention Program (MTTCPP) Coordinator. He originally began work with the MTTCPP in 2017 as a contractor supporting social media and marketing, but was asked to come on full time as Program Coordinator shortly afterward and has been busy making positive change ever since. Joseph's work and the work of the MTTCPP places a heavy emphasis on youth education.



"We really focus on helping our youth and keeping them away from the harmful effects of commercial tobacco," Joseph said. "Our big emphasis is teaching them about our traditional tobacco and keeping a cultural base and letting the kids know the difference. Our main focal point is youth education because that's where it all starts."

In Joseph's tenure so far with the MTTCPP, he has led community events to gather traditional plants used in sacred tobacco, organized teachings from elders on how to prepare plants and mix sacred tobacco, and hosted a sewing class to make traditional smoke bags.

Joseph is also teaching a tobacco awareness curriculum for the Mescalero Boys and Girls Club. This ten-session course will be taught to youth ages eight to 18 on important topics including first-, second-, and thirdhand smoke, e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and more.

Also debuting this year, the MTTCPP will host a poster design contest. All original artwork will debut in an art show where community members can meet the artists, view their work, and vote for their favorite. The winning artist will receive prizes as well as have his/her artwork made into posters for the MTTCPP media and marketing efforts.

If you'd like to connect with Joseph, you can reach him at the Four Directions Treatment and Recovery Center in Mescalero at 575-464-4432.

Tobacco-Free College Program

Grants of up to \$20,000 available to adopt a 100% tobacco-free college policy



truth initiative
INSPIRING TOBACCO-FREE LIVES

In the fight to curb tobacco use in the U.S., college campuses have emerged as a critical battleground.

Virtually all smokers - 99 percent - start smoking before turning 26 years old. That's why over the past three years, Truth Initiative® has awarded funding to 135 historically black colleges and universities and community colleges to advocate for, adopt and implement a 100 percent smoke- or tobacco-free policy. These institutions have joined the [growing number of smoke-free colleges](#), which multiplied from 446 in 2010 to at least 2,106 in 2018.

To keep the momentum going, Truth Initiative is accepting applications for its Tobacco-Free College Program, which now offers grants of up to \$20,000 to women's colleges, minority-serving academic institutions and community colleges to adopt a 100 percent tobacco-free college policy.

Minority-serving institutions and community colleges tend to serve students who are at greater risk for tobacco use, including [low-income](#), [racial/ethnic minority](#) and first-generation students. Additionally, tobacco companies have a history of [targeting women to sell cigarettes](#), including by tapping into [equality struggles](#) and [mainstream fashion and beauty](#).

Grantees of the Tobacco-Free College Program receive guidance through webinars, learning communities, an in-person training and one-on-one consultations throughout the grant period. Here's how to apply:

- Download and read the [grant guidelines](#) and application information, including a project work plan template and sample budget and instructions.
- Register for an informational webinar on [Feb. 6](#) or [March 7](#) at 3 p.m. ET.
- Apply using our [online application](#).

The deadline for applications is Tuesday, April 10, 2018.

For more information, please contact collegegrant@truthinitiative.org or 202-454-5555.

Event Calendar

NNN and IHS HP/DP Webinar: "Nicotine Cessation Services Access Workgroup"
Wednesday, January 31, 2018 from 1 - 2 PM MT.

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan's National Native Network with Indian Health Service Health Promotion & Disease Prevention and the Indian Health Service Clinical Support Center (Accredited Provider) present a webinar series: Cancer Risk Reduction in Indian Country.



Learning Objectives/Outcomes. By the end of the webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Examine available resources offered by the NCSAW (National Cessation Services Access Workgroup) to reduce tobacco dependence.
2. Discuss how information on tobacco cessation efforts can be better shared and partnerships explored amongst stakeholders.
3. Facilitate collaboration between I/T/U sites and NCSAW to enhance capacity to deliver evidence-based nicotine treatment and prevention interventions.

Target Audience: Nurses, health educators, administrators, and support staff working with American Indian and/or Alaska Native communities.

Continuing Education Credits Available.

To obtain a certificate of continuing education, you must be registered for the course, participate in the webinar in its entirety and submit a completed post-webinar survey. The post-webinar survey will be emailed to you after the completion of the course. Certificates will be mailed to participants within four weeks by the Indian Health Service (IHS) Clinical Support Center.

[Register here.](#)

What now?

We encourage you to read all the articles in this and upcoming newsletters, and to share and forward these emails to people within your network to help keep everyone up to date!



This is a free notification service that provides the latest on commercial and traditional tobacco news, events, topics and successes.

View an archive of past newsletters [here](#). Sign up to receive future newsletters [here](#).

Smoke Free Signals | 505-837-2104 | smokefreesignals@gmail.com | www.SmokeFreeSignals.com

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