

Ishkonon i'u' bemaadiiziid Save that Life

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Mission

- To improve the health of the White Earth Reservation residents by providing education about second-hand smoke, cessation, harms of commercial use, tobacco policy creation, enforcement and emphasis on utilizing traditional tobacco in a sacred way.
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Recruiting Coalition Members

- The coalition includes a Dr., Tribal Council member, 2 Casino representatives, other program people, and community members. Elder advisor and a youth representative would be helpful to represent this group.
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Keys to success

- ❑ Build relationships with other potential partners (who are smoke-free)
 - ❑ Collaborate with other local groups, organizations who are working toward common goals (piggy back off their ideas when possible).
 - ❑ Communication is key: Make sure you communicate ideas early and keep all partners informed. (Minutes mailed, phone call or e-mail reminders of meetings, face to face conversations).
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Policy enforcement/creation

- ❑ Identify key decision makers
 - ❑ Ask opposition why they feel the way they do about issue
 - ❑ Get community support (petitions, participation etc).
 - ❑ Provide examples about what others have done in the past (example: Smoke Free day in CA).
 - ❑ Provide financial support (signage, advertising) and sample policies if necessary
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Smoke Free Outdoor areas

- ❑ Start with small (baby steps)
 - ❑ Example: Smoke-Free Pow-wow
 - ❑ We asked our pow-wow committee's Big and Small Pow-wows to start by posting no smoking signage on grounds, passing out traditional tobacco instead of commercial tobacco.
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Smoke-Free Pow-wow's cont.

- Ask the MC to talk about the harms of Second Hand Smoke, our duty we have in protecting our children, and respecting our elders by not smoking around them in the elder bleacher area. By starting out this small, we can build on it every year by incorporating the message that tobacco is a sacred gift.
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Keeping informed

- Visit with tribal council members and other key leaders to see what is going on in the community. Plant ideas and keep them informed about the facts.
 - Attend important meetings i.e tribal council quarterly meetings to see what the issues are and also to be seen in the community.
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Collaboration

- ❑ Work with other local groups to save money
 - ❑ Find out what other groups have already done in the past because they already know what works.
 - ❑ Ask management how often they re-visit their policies so that they might find room for improvements.
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Lessons Learned

Some policies come easy, others take more work

Examples: Parks

Clinics, School Grounds, Churches, Elder Buildings

Make sure you do your homework first to see if you have support.

Other lessons learned

Make sure to inform major decision makers about your concerns that affect the community. Example: Smoke Free Grounds Policy at new Tribal Council Administration building

Make sure all team players are on board before assuming that the policy to be implemented is a go.

What one team player says may not necessarily be the case for all the rest of the team players. Make sure you talk to the right people so that when it comes time to write or re-write the policy it is approved.

If policy decisions are made without your knowledge, make sure you follow-up with them so they know you are concerned and would like them to hear your point of view. Provide the facts and positive words as to keep good relationships. Continue to Build that Social Capital not break it down.

Entertainment Venues

- Work with Shooting Star Management and other partners in the effort to continue to monitor attitudes regarding Second Hand Smoke. Assist in creating new smoke free spaces, enforce current policy or change minds about current policy percentages.
- Offer support by providing resources to Employees for Smoking Cessation to increase the numbers of non-smokers.

Outdoor opportunities

- ❑ Create Tobacco Free environments by increasing the number of tobacco free outdoor public places (ball diamonds, school grounds, workplaces, including daycares or child care centers or head starts).
 - ❑ May just need current policy enforcement.
 - ❑ Post signage if needed to enforce current policies, or create a new policy.
 - ❑ Include a tobacco free pow-wow (signs posted to enforce current grounds policy) at the local school which will be held outdoors.
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Local opportunities

- ❑ Work with the boys and girls clubs in the communities to provide education on the traditional and non traditional tobacco uses. Invite them to garden in 2009. (Good summer activity)
 - ❑ Work with the Community councils, schools, and other local committees to piggyback off their events.
 - ❑ Provide cessation or educational services to youth who get caught smoking in the school setting. Attempt to avoid suspension. Invite speakers to talk to youth with stories.
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Thank You!

Questions?
