

LOCAL TOBACCO PREVENTION COALITION ADDS ASHTABULA TO SERVICE AREA

BY LAUREN JEAVONS



**NEWS
FLASH**

The Lake Geauga Tobacco Prevention Coalition added the County of Ashtabula in 2007. We're now the **Lake Geauga Ashtabula Tobacco Prevention Coalition** (LGATPC). This year we received a grant of \$237,252 from the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation (OTPF) to provide services and programs in: Prevention, Cessation, Second Hand Smoke and Community Awareness.

In the area of Youth Prevention, we teach the evidence-based LifeSkills Training programs to elementary and middle school children. This prevention program teaches students to say "no" to tobacco products, alcohol, and drugs. LifeSkills Training also incorporates lessons on personal safety. Our 100% Tobacco Free School Coordinator helps advocate 100% tobacco free campus policy. She assists local school districts with their development, implementation and compliance issues. Also, we are expanding the peer to peer, high school and middle school advocacy groups known as **stand** teams. The **stand**Lake team achieved gold level status in 2006. This year, we are nurturing the redevelopment of the **stand**Ashtabula team. These team members speak out and raise awareness about the dangers of tobacco, and empowering them to take their own **stand** against tobacco.

We're teaching hundreds of local Healthcare Providers how to complete a brief intervention known as; the "3A's and an R" (Ask, Advise, Assess and Refer). The "3A's and an R" is used to

identify tobacco users who want to quit, and then refer them to the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line and local cessation programs.

Our members continue to reach out to thousands of inpatient tobacco users within Lake Hospital Systems with these brief interventions and referrals.

The Tobacco Free Worksite Coordinator is busy, helping numerous companies devise policies for supporting their tobacco users to quit and to adopt a 100% Tobacco Free Campus policy. We work with local companies enrolling them in the Nicotine Replacement Therapy program. This OTPF program splits the cost with the employers 50/50, for their employees' NRT. The combination of the NRT and a cessation program like the Ohio Quit Line gives the tobacco user a better chance for success.

The Coalition is focusing its marketing efforts on raising awareness and promoting smoke-free environments for children and adults. The Smoke Free Workplace Act was a large first step, now we're working to raise the awareness of the dangers of second hand smoke in homes and while traveling in their automobiles, especially with children.

Finally, the Coalition continues to build capacity, reaching out to you, our community leaders. We have a yearly Legislative Breakfast and we will continue our ongoing grass-roots advocacy for legislation that promotes healthier tobacco free lifestyles. Putting tobacco under the control of the FDA would be another step to help safeguard and protect our children from being enticed into starting to use tobacco products.

If you want to find out more information and or join our Coalition, our contact information is in the box directly to the left. **We'd love to hear from you!**

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**OUR
MISSION...**

We are a community-based partnership dedicated to changing the culture of tobacco-use acceptance by promoting tobacco-free living.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.lgtpc.org

**LAKE GEAUGA ASHTABULA
TOBACCO PREVENTION COALITION**

Coalition Co-Chairpersons

Lynn Kempf - Lake Geauga Recovery Centers, Inc
Kathy Milo - Lake County General Health District

Project Coordinator

Lauren Jeavons - Lake Geauga Recovery Centers, Inc

OTPF Sub-grantees

Ohio Quits Coordinator

Kathy Milo - Lake County General Health District

100% Tobacco Free Coordinator

Vida Prekler - Marketing Today

standLake Team Advisors

Gretchen Millard & Janel Wilson - Crossroads

LifeSkills Instructors

Janel Wilson & Paulie Velotta - Crossroads

standAshtabula Team Advisor

Jamie Anderson - Ashtabula County Health Department

Adult Cessation Intervention Coordinator

Reggie Case - Lake Hospital System

Coalition Members

American Cancer Society (NE Ohio), American Heart Assoc
American Lung Assoc, Ashtabula County Health Dept
Center for Corporate Health at Ashtabula County Medical Center
Chardon Community Action Team, Crossroads, Geauga County Educational Svc Center
Gauga County Health District, Lake County General Health District
Lake County Narcotics Agency, Lake-Geauga Recovery Centers, Inc
Lake Hospital System, Marketing Today, NCI's Cancer Info Svc, Ravenwood
UH Geneva Medical Center, Tobacco Free Kids, Tobacco Free Ohio

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