

A photograph of a young man and woman smiling and embracing outdoors. The woman is wearing a straw hat and a white shirt, and the man is wearing a dark cap, sunglasses, and a denim jacket. The background is a clear blue sky.

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# Connecticut Best Practices in Tobacco Control 2025-2028 Objectives

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# Our Vision

## A World Free of Lung Disease

# Component 1

## Connecticut Tobacco Needs Assessment

- Study of Disproportionately-Affected Areas of Tobacco-Related Health Problems
- Organizational Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Needs Assessment
  - Targeted Spaces
  - Occupants
  - Decisionmakers
  - Healthcare Providers
- Assessment Report
  - Inform community interventions and health system change efforts across Connecticut

# Component 1

## Tobacco-Free Targeted Spaces

- Promotion of Tobacco-Free Targeted Space Policies
- Educate Targeted Space Decisionmakers on Adopting Tobacco-Free Policies
- Educate Occupants on Benefits of Tobacco-Free Policies
- Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Education to Schools
- Provide Cessation Assistance to Employers
- Participate in Tobacco-Free Public Events

# Component 1

## Reduce Youth Access to Tobacco Products Through Facilitating Youth Activism

- Youth Advocacy Groups
  - Middle and High School Student Groups
  - Build youth skillsets to address their community and build support for a healthier future
  - Provide support in building youth engagement and activism to decrease tobacco and vaping behaviors in schools
- Creation of a Day at the Capitol Advocacy Event
  - Provide an opportunity for youth to engage with their elected representatives and share their perspectives and experiences on tobacco in their communities

# Component 1

## Build Community Awareness of Tobacco Control Efforts Through Support of the CT MATCH Coalition

- MATCH Coalition
  - Longstanding relationship with the MATCH Coalition
  - Provide funding support to improve infrastructure
  - Update resources and information available to MATCH membership and community
  - Provide recruitment support to attract new community partners and build coalition efficacy to support Disproportionately-Affected Areas

# Component 1

## Utilize Social Media to Communicate the Dangers of Secondhand Smoke and Aerosol Exposure

- Collaborate with Selected Media Vendor, Decker CT, for statewide campaigns
- Utilize the Lung Association's established social media network and resources to:
  - Educated public on harms of secondhand smoke and aerosol exposures, especially in youth
  - Raise awareness of tobacco control efforts across the state
  - Grow engagement with local community efforts to improve lung health and address tobacco and vaping addiction

# Component 3

## Promote and Provide Tobacco Cessation Services

- Promote available resources in Connecticut
  - Connecticut Quitline
  - Lung Helpline
  - Lung Health Navigator Services
- Recruit and facilitate program access for community organizations serving Connecticut communities that are vulnerable and/or disproportionately affected by tobacco use
- Provide cessation and prevention programs through technical assistance and funding opportunities through a formal RFA process in collaboration with Connecticut Department of Public Health

# Component 3

## Promote Health Systems Change

- Engage with Connecticut providers and healthcare systems to implement comprehensive tobacco related health systems change
  - Utilize CT Quitline and Lung Health Navigator referral services
  - Implement AAR program
  - Update EHR and workflows to integrate tobacco screening and treatment
  - Provide cessation billing support and services
- Provide ongoing technical assistance and access to evidence-based resources

# Component 3

## Design and Implement a Pharmacist Intervention to Enhance Competency and Capacity for Implementing Cessation Support

- Partner Pharmacist Initiative
  - Provide trainings and resources on evidence-based tobacco cessation program implementation
  - Promote referral service implementation
  - Create a dedicated resource platform
  - Evaluate pharmacy efficacy and capacity to address tobacco addiction
- Scholarship and Stipend Program
  - Enroll in cessation programs and implement health systems changes
  - Implement sustainable pharmacy health systems change protocols and workflows

# Component 3

## Promote the Use of Collaborative Practice Agreements (CPAs) for Cessation Services

- Cessation CPA Feasibility Assessment
  - Evaluate qualitative listening session data to inform a comprehensive implementation strategy
- Develop Cessation CPA Resources
  - Cessation CPA Training
  - Cessation CPA Toolkit
- Cessation CPA Learning Community
  - Develop a Learning Community Framework
  - Recruit cohorts to build a support network and improve CPA efficacy
- Provide ongoing CPA technical assistance and support

# Component 3

## Program Data Evaluation

- Collaborate with state Selected Evaluator, IPRO
  - Provide metrics of ongoing program implementation, community support, partnership development, and objective progress
- Ongoing Lung Association evaluation measures
  - Improve flagship programs for efficiency
  - Tailor to Connecticut needs
  - Address unforeseen barriers and emerging lung health threats
  - Improve the lives of Connecticut residents as a core measure of success

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