

Medicaid Smoking Cessation Coalition

Advocacy Action Network

American Cancer Society

American Heart Association

American Lung Association
in Kentucky

Campaign for Tobacco Free
Kids

Catholic Conference of
Kentucky

Covering Kentucky Kids and
Families

Greater Louisville Chapter
of the Oncology Nursing
Society

Kentucky Academy of
Family Physicians

Kentucky Chamber of
Commerce

Kentucky Coalition of Nurse
Practitioners and Nurse
Midwives

Kentucky Council of
Churches

Kentucky Equal Justice
Center

Kentucky Health
Departments Association,
Inc.

Kentucky Hospital
Association

Kentucky Medical
Association

Kentucky Nurses
Association

Kentucky Public Health
Association

Kentucky Pharmacists
Association

Kentucky Rural Health
Association

Kentucky Voices for Health

Kentucky Youth Advocates

March of Dimes, Kentucky
Chapter

Mental Health America of
Kentucky

NAMI Kentucky

SAVE LIVES & TAXPAYER DOLLARS

Fund Medicaid Smoking Cessation

Governor Beshear wisely included funding for this comprehensive smoking cessation program in his biennial budget. Despite the Commonwealth's difficult budget situation, providing smoking cessation coverage for Kentucky Medicaid recipients is good economic and health policy, benefiting individual patients and Kentucky businesses while helping to improve the long-term financial prosperity of the state. Fulfill the promise you made in 2007 by funding Medicaid Smoking Cessation.

Help Kentucky Medicaid Smokers Quit

- Kentucky is one of only six states not offering comprehensive Medicaid smoking cessation benefits and yet we have one of the highest smoking rates in the nation.
- For just \$1.5 million in state funding, this program would provide an estimated 200,000 Kentuckians on Medicaid a proven and affordable opportunity to kick a deadly habit—70% say they want to quit.
- By offering a wide variety of tools, such as counseling and medications, this program will help thousands of Kentuckians end their tobacco addiction, save health care dollars and create a healthier Kentucky.
- Tobacco use disproportionately affects the poor—approximately one-third of adult Medicaid recipients smoke. Smokers in Kentucky have seen the price of cigarettes increase significantly thanks to new federal (62 cents) and state (30 cents) cigarette tax increases. This offers a real financial reason for kicking the habit, but smokers still need cessation help.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), smoking costs the Kentucky Medicaid program nearly \$500 million per year.
- Funding this program represents a huge investment for long term budget stability. By investing just \$1.5 million state dollars (.015% of the 2009 state budget), the federal government will kick in another \$3.5 million in matching funds.

The Results are Proven

- Passport provides a similar program to Medicaid recipients in the Louisville-area. Since 2007, more than 1,000 people have enrolled in the program and 51% have successfully quit smoking.
- If applied statewide, Kentucky Medicaid could save millions of dollars per year.

Fund Medicaid Smoking Cessation

- \$1.5 million from the state's general fund matched by \$3.5 million in federal funds—current FMAP rate of 79.41% would lower the state's funding even further!

