YOUTH ACTION PROJECT
GRANTS DESCRIPTION

APPLY FOR UP TO $3,500 TO CREATE A PROJECT

WHAT

- A youth action project where you will be creating a visual project (e.g. photovoice, video, poster, or any creative method) focusing on your community, health, and tobacco (vaping, smoking, chewing)!

WHO CAN APPLY

- Youth groups, youth-led coalitions/commissions/subcommittees. Middle and High School age youth (13 to 20 years old) are encouraged to apply. In order to qualify, youth member(s) must be the one(s) to complete the application and project. However, you must recruit an adult ally to sign the application and oversee the project.

WHERE

- Youth from all cities and communities in Santa Clara County (SCC) are eligible for funding. These stories are about you and your communities. You can show your neighborhood, school, parks, town or city and/or compare it with another community.

WHEN

- We are accepting applications on a rolling basis. The hard deadline for applications are Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Once applications have been approved, youth groups and organizations must complete their projects by Friday, November 5, 2021 (Note: The sooner you submit your application, the more time you will have to complete your project). A community showcase to exhibit your work will be hosted in early December 2021. Participation and attendance is required.

HOW

- Complete an application! It will be reviewed by the Community Advocate Teens of Today (CATT), Santa Clara County Public Health (SCCPHD) Tobacco-Free Communities (TFC) staff, Breathe California staff, and Youth For Lungs. TFC and Breathe California staff will work with groups if applications need support and alterations.
Project Must Have

Projects have to reflect the your experience in your communities regarding how tobacco (vaping, smoking, chewing) impacts your lives and/or community. Projects can be combined with another health topic (e.g. drugs, alcohol, nutrition, etc.), but tobacco must be a key focus of the project.

**Community Based Activity**
Include at least 1 community based activity. Activities can be creative, as long as they have a tobacco (vaping, smoking, chewing) focus. TFC is happy to provide trainings that would assist in the implementation of an activity. For project ideas see the section “What can your project be about?”

**Tobacco’s Impact**
Youth projects must show tobacco’s (vaping, smoking, chewing) impact on your community, day-to-day life, family, peers, or culture. Why and how does it impacts your community? You should describe and show how to take action in your community.

**Visual Documentation**
Capture the process of creating and administering the project, this can include photographs, screenshots, and video documentation. We want to see the projects in action!

**Safety**
Any activity regarding community-based research will have to be conducted with discretion and high regard for youth safety. Youth must also adhere to COVID-19 restrictions, limit physical contact, and take safety precautions to protect themselves and others against COVID-19. Visit the Santa Clara County Public Health Department’s website for more information.
What can the project be about?
Think about these questions and try to come up with ideas.

Do you want to protect the environment, family members, and friends from tobacco litter especially in places such as parks where you are supposed to have fun and be active?
Possible Idea: Do a litter cleanup with a focus on collecting cigarette butts/e-cigarette cartridges and then share your findings with our community or city council.

Posible Idea: Do a Community Mapping project where you map the number of stores that sell tobacco near your school, park, and/or any youth hangout.
- Share your findings with city officials or the community.
- Possible Idea: Do store observations to record the amount of tobacco (includes vaping advertisements) and alcohol advertisements located inside and outside the stores. Document how these advertisements may influence the youth or community and shape their perceptions about these products.

Do you have friends or know youth who currently choose unhealthy behaviors such as smoking, vaping, drinking, using drugs, etc.? How have these behaviors impacted their lives?
- Possible Idea: Conduct an anonymous youth survey to assess youth’s access to unhealthy products and then share your findings with our community or city council.
- Possible Idea: Document a youth’s experience as he/she/they battles such behaviors day-to-day. You can document the experience by doing a photovoice, video, poster, etc.

Do you see smoke shops, vape shops, and convenience stores in your neighborhood? Ever wonder if this is the same for other part of the city or county?
- Possible Idea: Do a Community Mapping project where you map the number of stores that sell tobacco near your school, park, and/or any youth hangout.
- Share your findings with city officials or the community.
- Possible Idea: Do store observations to record the amount of tobacco (includes vaping advertisements) and alcohol advertisements located inside and outside the stores. Document how these advertisements may influence the youth or community and shape their perceptions about these products.

Need other ideas? Give us a call! We can help you brainstorm creative ways for telling your story of how tobacco (vaping, smoking, chewing) impacts you, your family, your peers, or your community. Be creative as projects can be done virtually.
Note: We are encouraging students to limit physical interactions and to take safety precautions (wear masks when out doors, wash hands for 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer when no access to soap and water) and staying home to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Visit the Santa Clara County Public Health Department’s website for more information.
How to Apply

1. Visit youthactionprojects.org for grant application documents.
2. Fill out an application form, complete the Action Plan Form and develop a budget (If selected, up to half of the funding will be disbursed upfront and the remaining half upon completion of the project).
   Note: Please see application for incentive guidelines
3. Sign release forms.
4. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis, the last day to submit an application is Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible to ensure enough time to complete their projects by Friday, November 5, 2021.
   Note: Email applications to tobaccoprevention@phd.sccgov.org with the subject line "YAP APPLICATION: ORGANIZATION NAME"

Note: We cannot emphasize enough that youth have to work on this application. Adult leaders can help, but project ideas and application process must be initiated and completed by youth participants. However, adult leaders must assist in ensuring the budget is clear, concise, and meets incentive guidelines.

Technical Assistance is Available

Have questions about the project and application process?
• Interested in a workshop on planning, tobacco (vaping, smoking, chewing), or community-based activities?
• Would you like a training with your youth members and adult leader?
• Any other questions? Let us know!

Contact Us
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