



*This newsletter provides monthly updates, current events and information from the Southern Nevada Health District's Tobacco Control Program. The goal of our program is to create a smoke and vape-free community where we can live, work, learn and play – Healthy!*



*From left to right: Cassandra Meraz, Sierra Spendlove, Malcolm Ahlo, Mekale Holmes, Neleida Pelaez*

## Spotlights



### Because We Matter LV Tobacco-Free Living Summit

The SNHD Tobacco Control Program's **African American initiative, Because We Matter LV, is hosting a Tobacco-Free Living Summit** to promote smoke and vape-free lifestyles on January 31st,

2024. This summit is dedicated to addressing the harmful impact of tobacco on the Black community, promoting tobacco-free living and discussing crucial topics related to well-being and social justice.

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## NTCSC Community Champion Awards

The NTCSC is comprised of various state partners whose mission is to work together to improve the health of Nevadans by reducing the burden of tobacco use and nicotine addiction. Each year, NTCSC honors community champions dedicated to reducing tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure in Nevada. The **Southern Nevada Health District Tobacco Control Program nominated Assemblyman David Orentlicher, the Mexican Patriotic Committee, and Dr. Tina Brandon Abbatangelo** from the UNLV Dental School. The Southern Nevada Health Districts celebrates them and their efforts to reduce the toll of tobacco on the health of Southern Nevadans.

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## In The Field



### BreakDown ZONE Conference

The SNHD Tobacco Control Program's teen initiative, BreakDown, is partnering with the ZONE Student Council Conference to promote vape-free lifestyles among teens in Southern Nevada.

## In The News



### ***"Elf Bar and other e-cigarette makers dodged US customs and taxes after China's ban on vaping flavors"***

The makers of some popular e-cigarettes have imported products worth hundreds of millions of dollars while repeatedly dodging customs and avoiding taxes and import fees. In fact, records show the makers of disposable vapes routinely mislabel their shipments as “battery chargers” and other items, hampering efforts to block products that are driving teen vaping in the U.S.

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## Observances



### **New Year's Day**

The SNHD Tobacco Control Program encourages all tobacco users to quit. If you use tobacco or know

someone who does, quitting is the perfect new year's resolution. For free help to quit smoking or vaping, call the Nevada Tobacco Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669).



### **National Birth Defects Prevention Month**

National Birth Defects Prevention Month is a time to raise awareness about birth defects and highlight efforts to improve the health of people living with these conditions across their lifespan. Maternal smoking before or during pregnancy significantly increased the risk of birth defects.

*The Southern Nevada Health District Tobacco Control Program works to prevent youth and young adult initiation, eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, promote quitting and eliminate tobacco-related health disparities.*



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