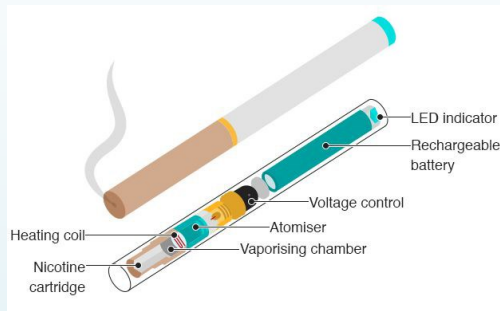


## The Real Dangers of Tobacco

- ⇒ Smoking increases the chances of getting both upper and lower respiratory infections causing emphysema, bronchitis, and asthma. It also causes different types of cancer; lung cancer is the most prevalent.
- ⇒ Tobacco use is still the # 1 Cause of preventable disease and death in California. In Imperial County, 13.7% of adults still smoke, as well as 12% of youth (grades 9-12).



## Electronic Cigarettes

- ⇒ Electronic Cigarettes (E-cigarettes) produce a vapor that has nicotine, harmful chemicals, and toxins known to cause cancer, among other things. These chemicals and toxins include things like formaldehyde, lead and nickel.
- ⇒ E-cigarettes are NOT approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) to help people quit tobacco. You may know someone who has stopped using tobacco and switched to e-cigarettes, but switching is not quitting.

## Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community



A statewide campaign collaboration between tobacco-use prevention, nutrition and alcohol prevention partners. The overall goal is to create an environment that promotes community health and protects youth while sustaining a vibrant business environment. For more information, visit the Healthy Stores for a Healthy Community website:

[www.HealthyStoresHealthyCommunity.com](http://www.HealthyStoresHealthyCommunity.com)

### Looking to Quit Smoking Call the Smokers' Helpline

1-800-NO-BUTTS (English)

1-800-45-NO-FUME (Spanish)

1-800-933-4TDD

Tobacco chewers call:

1-800-844-CHEW

### Information

935 Broadway Ave.

El Centro, CA 92243

Phone: (442) 265-1380

Fax: (760-352-9933

Website: [www.icphd.org](http://www.icphd.org)



### References:

C-STATS (County and Statewide Archive of Tobacco Statistics) <http://www.cstats.info/>  
<http://www.californiasmokershelpline.org/index.htm>

Rev. August 29, 2018

# COALITION FOR A TOBACCO-FREE IMPERIAL COUNTY



*Every day in the U.S., more than 1,000 lives are lost to tobacco-related illnesses alone*



## ***Mission***

To improve and promote a healthier Imperial County, the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Imperial County is dedicated to preventing access and exposure to tobacco smoke and tobacco products, through education, and policy change.



## ***Imperial County Tobacco Education Project***

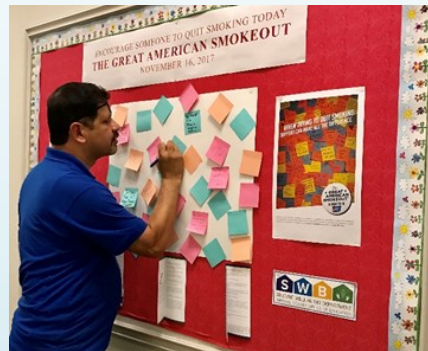
The Imperial County Tobacco Education Project (TEP) is made possible through the Tobacco Tax Initiative, Proposition 99, and the Health Protection Act of 1988. Since 1990, TEP has been dedicated to preserving lives. Project work promotes a tobacco-free community through education, intervention, and policy activities. TEP's work plan is updated every three years, based on the findings from a community needs assessment. The Project takes a broad-based approach to combat the tobacco industry's influence in the county, namely: restricting youth access to tobacco products by working with local law enforcement and merchants, and passing smoke-free health care facility campuses.

## ***Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Imperial County***

The Imperial County Public Health Department's Tobacco Education Project is fiscally responsible for the coalition. The coalition's activities are driven by the TEP's scope of work, which include:

- The adoption of tobacco retail licensing to reduce the availability of tobacco products to minors
- The adoption of a smoke-free Health Care Campus policy
- An increase in overall membership diversity of the coalition members representing the community

Leading the coalition's activities are the Chair, Co-Chair, and Secretary who serve a three-year term.



## ***How Can You Help?***

- Become an active member of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Imperial County
- Endorse smoke-free environments
- Stop the sale of tobacco products to minors
- Collect tobacco-related data
- Promote the Smokers Helpline to help community members to stop smoking



## ***Membership***

Membership to the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Imperial County is free and open to all interested community members and agencies of Imperial County. Members are invited to serve a term of three years and are encouraged to attend at least one of four coalition meetings annually. Members are also encouraged to represent the coalition in local community events, attend city council meetings to support tobacco education efforts and collect data.

## ***Meetings***

Meetings are quarterly, the first Wednesday of the month, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Imperial County Public Health Department's Training Center located at 935 Broadway, El Centro CA. For meeting information, please call (442) 265-1380, Monday-Friday between 8am-5pm or e-mail:

[lucyhernandez@co.imperial.ca.us](mailto:lucyhernandez@co.imperial.ca.us)