Smokefree Cars for Kids: Clearing the Air for Healthier Kids



Today we will...

- Share how to conduct an effective educational campaign on a low-cost budget
- Discuss various ways to frame tobacco control policy bills and identify new legislative champions
- Share how to use strategies and tactics from this campaign to pass other public health legislation



American Lung Association - Background

Our mission is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease

 The American Lung Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics have concluded that public policies are needed to protect nonsmokers, especially children, from secondhand smoke in cars.



Why Smokefree Cars?

- We know there is no safe level of secondhand smoke
- Infants and young children are especially vulnerable to the toxins in secondhand smoke, as their bodies are developing.
- Secondhand smoke in cars can be up to 27 times more concentrated than in a smoker's home.



Secondhand Smoke Effects on Children

Increased risk of:

- Asthma complications
- Bronchitis and pneumonia
- Ear infections
- SIDS
- Cancer in adulthood





EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES (PRE-POLICY)



Print Communications



Window Decals

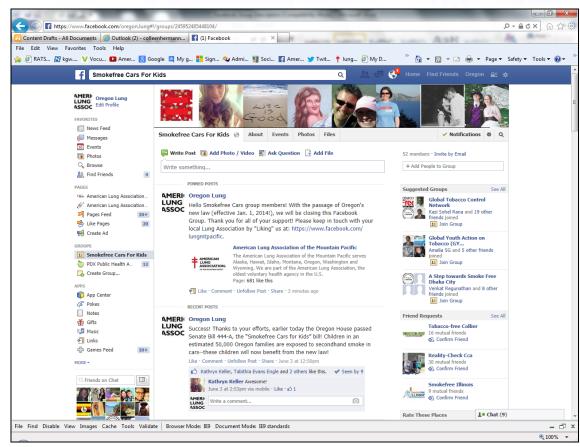


Brochures in English and Spanish



Online Communications

- Social Media
 Group
- WebContent



Earned Media

- Articles for parenting/family publications
 - Metro Parent (Portland area)
 - Oregon Department of Education Newsletter





Community Outreach

- Tabling at Community Health Fairs
 - Fix It Fairs
 - Beaverton Farmer's MarketHealth Day
- Presentations to Children's Safety Groups





IN THE BUILDING PERSPECTIVE – ROLE OF THE LOBBYIST IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Christel Allen



What is a lobbyist?

- Definition of lobbying
- What I actually do…



Issue Background

- Early conversations
- Research, research, research
- Lessons learned in 2009
 - Roadblocks and identifying key partnerships and steps for success



Framing an issue for success

- National landscape
- Oregon values
- Individual relationships and knowing your audience
- Compelling stories, compelling evidence and emotional restraint



Building a team; activating a network

- Our team: owning each of our roles
- Legislative Process: The right timing and constant, real-time communication
- Asking for small commitments from our partners and allies







Lessons Learned

- It's not the size of the dog in the fight, but amount of fight in the dog.
- Restraint: Sometimes you are the least effective messenger.
- Very little can be accomplished without a legislative champion. With the right champion, there's very little you can't accomplish.



"After the final no there comes a yes And on that yes the future world depends."

- Wallace Stevens



GIVING A PUBLIC FACE TO CAMPAIGN

State Senator Elizabeth Steiner Hayward, M.D.



Personal and Work Background



Identifying co-sponsors, potential opponents

- Homework before session: Identify past opposition & support, connect with both
- Address concerns of opposition well beforehand
- Identify reasons bill failed in past, change what we can



Building bipartisan support

- One on one meetings
- Ask questions first, then address concerns of each legislator individually
- Figure out who's the best messenger for each legislator
- Identify other shared interests



Working with the media

- Dozens of media hits during the 2013 session, including:
 - The Oregonian
 - Portland-area outlets: KATU ABC, others
 - Eugene Register Guard
 - Bend Bulletin
 - The coast: Lincoln County News
 Majority of coverage was positive



Overcoming legislative hurdles

- Focus on science, research
- Pivoting back to main messages/avoiding "slippery slopes"
- Being explicit about what this doesn't mean (i.e., no, we won't ban McDonald's)



Scientific Air Quality Demonstration

Created by the California Tobacco
Control Program

http://vimeo.com/1513382

Duration 5 minutes and 44 seconds



Success!

- Senate passage: 19-10
- House passage 43-15
- Governor signing
- Effective January 1, 2014



POST-POLICY EDUCATION EFFORTS

Colleen Hermann-Franzen





Efforts Thus Far

- Relationship with California's Public Health Dept.
- New materials available on <u>SmokefreeCarsforKids.org</u>
 - Fact Sheet
 - FAQ Sheet
 - Poster
- Partnership with DMV, WIC



Thank you!

Questions?



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