
Tobacco Free Mass

December 19, 2024

Anthony Chui
Director of Health and Human Services
City of Melrose
562 Main Street
Melrose, MA 02176

Dear Anthony--

At Tobacco Free Mass (TFM) we know there is strength in numbers, and as we continue to strengthen our coalition, **we invite you to join us to become a member**. We have built a strong coalition committed to the day when *no person in the Commonwealth is addicted to nicotine and is no longer impacted by the harmful effects of tobacco use on health and wellbeing*.

TFM has a long history of moving Massachusetts to the forefront of tobacco control. Formed as the Coalition for a Healthy Future in 1992, TFM has led numerous successful campaigns over the years with the invaluable support of our members, including:

- Ending the sale of flavored tobacco products and vapes - including menthol -- and were the first state to do so!
- Raising the minimum age of sale for tobacco products to 21.
- Banning smoking and vaping in workplaces, including bars, restaurants and even casinos.
- And the list goes on.

But the work is not finished; there is still a lot more to do!

- Expand coverage of tobacco cessation services in MassHealth by allowing more clinicians to provide tobacco cessation counseling. This is especially important for people with behavioral health diagnoses -- one of the highest categories of tobacco use.

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- Close a tax loophole on nicotine products, like nicotine pouches, one of the latest products the tobacco industry is using to attract new users and keep people, especially youth, addicted to tobacco products.
- Secure adequate funding for the Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Program at the Department of Public Health.
- Protect Massachusetts' state and local tobacco laws and regulations from attack. They are the strongest in the nation and we need to defend them!

After three decades, our members remain strongly committed to our mission and includes national, statewide, and local organizations, as well as committed individuals. Members help guide our work as voting members of our coalition and its committees and help develop our policies. Members are also recognized on our letterhead and website. Attached is the membership dues structure and TFM Value Proposition.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this remarkable coalition with you and explain why your support and participation would be a valuable investment in your constituents' health. Feel free to contact me at tobaccofreema@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Ellana Stinson, MD, MPH, MBA
Chair, Tobacco Free Mass

Dues are tax-deductible through our fiscal agent, the American Cancer Society. Checks should be made payable to American Cancer Society/ Tobacco Free Mass. Please ensure that this coding number is printed in the memo portion of your check: 6WS2A2-7322.