



Request for Proposals: Vape Waste Art Project

About Us:

The Association for Nonsmokers-MN (ANSR) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to reducing the human and economic costs of commercial tobacco use in Minnesota. Our core commitments are to protect young Minnesotans from a lifetime of addiction, ensure that all Minnesotans can breathe clean, smoke-free air everywhere, and reduce health inequities and other disparities in relation to commercial tobacco, nicotine, and other drugs.

Background:

Commercial tobacco products like combustible cigarettes and e-cigarettes (vapes) have a large impact on our environment. Single-use “disposable” vapes, which are becoming increasingly popular, are particularly harmful. The CDC Foundation estimates that a lineup of all of the disposable vapes sold in the US in one year would stretch 7,000 miles—enough to span the continental US twice.

Vape products can contain plastics, nicotine, heavy metals, other chemical toxins, and lithium-ion batteries, making them both hazardous waste and electronic waste. Many people do not know that vapes cannot be thrown in the trash; they must be disposed of at hazardous waste sites. When disposed of improperly, these devices can leach toxic substances into the environment that accumulate in animals, soil, drinking water, and food or spark fires when crushed in garbage trucks or waste processing facilities. These products pose many risks to both public health and the environment.



Our Goal:

We are seeking an artist to design and create a portable, multimedia art piece or educational display that aligns with vaping prevention messaging. Our goal is to: use this piece/display in our community outreach and advocacy efforts to spark conversation; educate the public about vape waste, proper disposal practices, and the environmental impacts of commercial tobacco in a creative way; and inspire change.

Description of Work:

- Develop a project concept in collaboration with ANSR staff;
- Collect materials such as, but not limited to: vape waste (ANSR can provide), fabricated vape waste, photography, and/or other art supplies;
- Create the piece/display using the materials;
- Produce supplemental educational materials such as text panels or handouts to go with the piece/display, if necessary; and
- Work with ANSR staff to promote the piece/display at community outreach events, in ANSR communications, or other methods.

Required Qualifications:

- Currently enrolled in a secondary education program in MN (undergraduate or graduate)
- Background in visual or fine arts, sculpture, video, graphic design, or other creative field
- Any digital design work should be completed using Adobe software or Canva
- Able to meet with ANSR staff periodically on Zoom
- Background in public health or commercial tobacco prevention is a plus

Payment & Timeline:

A \$1,000-\$1,666 stipend will be provided upon completion of three internal deadlines, totaling \$3,000-\$5,000. This project must be completed by Sunday, December 15, 2024.

Submission Information:

If you are interested in applying, please send the following to katie@ansrmn.org:

- Resume and any relevant art samples or portfolio materials
- Proposal for the project
- Any other anticipated costs associated with this project

Please contact Katie Engman at katie@ansrmn.org or 651-646-3005 with any questions, to receive a sample of our current materials, or to discuss further details of how we would like this project to be developed.

All proposals must be received **by Sunday, September 29, 2024** or until filled.