



Association for Nonsmokers - Minnesota

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ANSR staff photo

Plants are a big attraction that brings the crowds out year after year to the ANSR annual plant and garage sale. Make plans to be there this year on May 20-21.

ANSR readies for annual plant & garage sale

Are you ready to get your thrifting on? It's that time of year again. We're getting ready for our 33rd Annual ANSR Garage & Plant Sale

The sale will be on May 20-21, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. each day at 1647 Laurel Ave., Saint Paul. Mark your calendars and get ready to join us and shop.

As always, we need your stuff. Best for us are small items, such as housewares, jewelry, tools, books, CDs/DVDs, collectables and decorator items.

We no longer take clothing, TVs, exercise equipment or large furniture. Funds raised at the sale are essential to ANSR's mission. Do you have time to help?

We always need help collecting saleable items before the sale, organizing and pricing things the day before the sale and working the sale itself. We would love your assistance.

Please call Jeanne at 651-646-3005 to volunteer or talk about other ways you can help. Let's make it another great year.

Partner youth group receives award

Our community partner, Vision in Living Life – Change is Possible (VILL) was recognized for its hard work on the Saint Paul flavored tobacco ordinance by Ramsey County. The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners gave Vision in Living Life leader, Damone Presley, and youth member, William Williams, a Public Health Award on April 5, to recognize the group for its efforts.

“They discussed how tobacco companies target youth by adding sweets and candy flavors, such as bubble gum, chocolate, and cotton candy, to cigars, chewing tobacco and electronic cigarettes,” Ramsey County Commission Toni Carter said.

VILL youth worked diligently in Saint Paul to help regulate the sale of flavored tobacco. Youth went out in their Saint Paul communities and had conversations about the deadly impacts sweet flavored tobacco products have on youth. They met with every member of the Saint Paul City Council to educate them on these products and why it is important to not have them sold in stores where children can enter.

VILL youth also took on the important role of educating the City Council at the public hearing of the flavored tobacco ordinance in November 2015.

Presley thanked the Ramsey



ANSR staff photo

The youth group Vision in Living Life - Change is Possible receives a Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health award in April for their activism in Saint Paul. Pictured are Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health Director, Rina McManus, VILL youth William Williams and VILL director Damone Presley.

County Commissioners for the award and said, “I really like what Ms. (Rina) McManus said about public. Because public means everybody, and we in Vision in Living Life – Change is Possible truly believe that in our community, healthier, safer communities bring better people and better communities.”

VILL has partnered with ANSR for many years, helping the City of Saint Paul pass ordinances

to reduce the number of signs a business may put on their windows, to increase the price of little cigars and, most recently, to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco.

“Vision in Living Life has been an invaluable partner. Through the leadership of Damone Presley, VILL has been active in making Saint Paul a better city for our youth,” Alicia Leizinger, a Program and Policy Specialist at ANSR, said.

The ANSR Bulletin is published quarterly.

For more information, contact ANSR at:

2395 University Ave. West, Ste. 310, St. Paul, MN 55114 or at (651) 646-3005.

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Minneapolis honors Clare Housing

Clare Housing provides a continuum of affordable and supportive housing options that create healing communities and optimize the health of people living with HIV/AIDS.

The nonprofit is the state's largest provider of low-income housing for people living with HIV/AIDS who have experienced long-term homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. Their dedicated staff, along with their social service partners at Project for Pride in Living, create a positive and welcoming community while also providing compassionate care for their residents.

This work in and of itself is award-worthy. However, in 2015, Clare Housing took an extra step to further protect the health of their residents and community by implementing a smoke-free policy in their three apartments and four care homes.

Their smoke-free policy protects 146 vulnerable Minneapolis residents from the negative health effects of second and third-hand smoke exposure.

As part of this policy change, Live Smoke Free worked with Rainbow Health Initiative and the Minneapolis Health Department to assist Clare Housing in the planning process, educate staff and residents about the harms of secondhand smoke, hold community gatherings to educate residents about the benefits of living in a smoke-free environment and answer questions, and promote



Submitted by Clare Housing

Chris Briggs, community outreach coordinator at Clare Housing, accepts an award of recognition from Minneapolis Health Commissioner Gretchen Musicant.

free cessation resources for residents interested in quitting.

Clare Housing's smoke-free policy designates 100 percent of indoor space, and some outdoor areas, as smoke free.

To recognize Clare Housing for their excellent work, Live Smoke Free nominated the organization for a Local Public Health Hero Award.

On April 5, during National Public Health week, Chris Briggs, community outreach coordinator for Clare Housing, accepted the award from the Minneapolis Health Department for being an excellent ambassador of smoke-free living in supportive housing, and promoting healthier, safer, and cleaner housing for some of Minneapolis' most vulnerable residents.

KICK BUTTS DAY 2016



ANSR staff photos

ANSR partnered with several organizations on March 16 to hold Kick Butts Day events. At top, youth from John Glenn Middle School work to educate their peers. The group had a display showing the ingredients in a cigarette. The group also asked general knowledge questions about smoking in order to educate their peers. At right, the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group at Tartan High also presented information to peers. The group asked fellow students to sign a pledge to be tobacco-free. At left, Southside Urban Coalition and MAD DADS Minneapolis paired with ANSR for a “Quit Cold Turkey Day.” The group had a live radio feed with KMOJ and gave a turkey sandwich to anyone willing to turn in their cigarettes. ANSR staff spoke on the radio about how the tobacco industry targets communities of color and also talked about QuitPlan services.

ANSR staff present at national conference

Betsy Brock and Emily Anderson represented ANSR at the 8th National Summit on Smokeless and Spit Tobacco, which took place in Albuquerque, NM on April 18-20.

Betsy and LaTrisha Vetaw of NorthPoint Health & Wellness were scheduled to speak during the opening plenary session. Bad weather and flight delays made that impossible.

Luckily, Emily saved the day! She was able to step in and tell the story of the recent policy win in Minneapolis to a room full of tobacco control professionals from across the country. Later in the conference, Betsy and LaTrisha had an opportunity to talk about the Minneapolis policy work in a breakout session titled: "Restricting the Sale of Cheap and Sweet Tobacco Products: the Minneapolis Story."

Betsy also presented information about Minnesota's minimum tax on moist smokeless tobacco in a breakout session titled: "Man Cans, Tub Tax and Spitting in Bulk: Minnesota's Minimum Tax on Moist Snuff and the Tobacco Industry's Response."



ANSR staff photo

ANSR Research Director Betsy Brock, left, and LaTrisha Vetaw of NorthPoint Health & Wellness, celebrate after a presentation on the flavored tobacco restrictions in Minneapolis.

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ANSR Bulletin

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6

Saint Paul's flavored tobacco restrictions go into effect

The number of tobacco vendors in Saint Paul that can sell fruity and candy flavored tobacco products dropped drastically in mid-April, going from about 270 vendors to approximately 16. Only tobacco product shops, where it is illegal for minors to enter, are allowed to sell these flavored tobacco products.

Other tobacco vendors, such as gas stations, corner stores, and grocery stores, are prohibited from selling flavored tobacco products. All tobacco vendors can still sell non-flavored and menthol-flavored tobacco products.

The Saint Paul City Council voted unanimously in support of this ordinance on Jan. 6. The City Council also increased the minimum price for single cigars to \$2.60 each. All cigars sold in packages of four or less must

SAINT PAUL'S NEW CIGAR PRICING REQUIREMENT
As of April 13, 2016, if you sell non-premium cigars in Saint Paul, they must be sold at the following prices:

1 Cigar for at least	\$2.60 <small>++sales tax</small>
A Pack of 2 Cigars for at least	\$5.20 <small>++sales tax</small>
A Pack of 3 Cigars for at least	\$7.80 <small>++sales tax</small>
A pack of 4 or more cigars for at least	\$10.40 <small>++sales tax</small>

ANSR staff photo
ANSR sent out an educational postcard to all tobacco retailers in Saint Paul.

be priced at \$2.60 each, while packages of four or more cigars must be at least \$10.40.

Both measures are pioneering. Saint Paul is the second city in the state to pass a flavored tobacco ordinance, following Minneapolis. Research shows limiting access to and raising the price of tobacco products are effective ways to reduce youth tobacco use.

ANSR is working closely with the City of Saint Paul Department

of Safety and Inspections (DSI) to educate tobacco vendors about these new requirements and ensure compliance.

You can help! If you see a store selling flavored tobacco products that should not be, you can report it to the city via phone (651-266-8989) or online at <https://www.stpaul.gov/report-incident>.

For more information, visit www.smokefreemn.org.