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## **Major & Woods County Tobacco Free Coalition receives \$125,000 TSET grant funding for Tobacco Control Programs**

The Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control program supports tobacco prevention efforts in Major & Woods Counties

Major & Woods County Coalition has received \$125,000 from the Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust as a grantee in the Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control program. Major & Woods County Coalition works with Northwest Family Services to assist tobacco prevention efforts in Major & Woods County.

During the past year, Major & Woods County Tobacco Free Coalition worked with communities, businesses and schools to improve the health of Oklahomans by helping Northwest Technology Center going 24/7 Tobacco Free and we have also promoted the Oklahoma Helpline to help anyone with quitting. We are dedicated to making Major & Woods County a healthier place to live, said Yolanda Creswell. This grant enables us to establish smoke-free environments and programs that prevent youth smoking and help people quit tobacco. It's our goal to create a community in which children can grow up tobacco free, and help is available to anyone who wants to quit smoking or using other tobacco products.

At its September meeting, the TSET board of directors renewed more than \$6 million in Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control program grants to 34 coalitions serving 51 Oklahoma counties and one tribal nation. The programs impact the lives of more than 85 percent of Oklahomans.

Thanks to the efforts of local coalitions like Major & Woods County Coalition, smoking rates are at an all-time low and quit rates are at an all-time high in our state, said Tracey Strader, executive director of TSET. TSET recognizes the tireless efforts of these local coalitions and their work to create communities in which the healthy choice is the easy choice.

Since its first Communities of Excellence in Tobacco Control grant in October 2010, Major & Woods County Coalition has received more than 75,000 to sustain efforts to improve the health of the community.