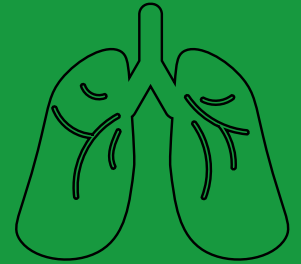


PROJECT ACTION

WELCOME BACK TO OUR QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER!

Project ACTION (Alliances to Combat Tobacco In Organizations Now) is an evidence-based program focused on building tobacco control and treatment capacity in healthcare and community resource centers serving LGBTQIA+ communities across Texas. In this issue, you will find updates from our project partners, new educational resources available on our website, an opportunity to receive free nicotine replacement therapy, and more!



PARTNER UPDATES

The Montrose Center

The Montrose Center has been working hard to refresh their tobacco-free workplace policy to enhance enforcement, as well as doing a survey of their physical space to determine additional signage needs for enhanced awareness! Next up is staff training – we are looking forward to providing

The Montrose Center with a training to educate staff on how to help their patients quit smoking and vaping! In October, we will additionally complete a train-the-trainer program with select employees to build their in-house tobacco training expertise. We are proud of them for their commitment to supporting the patients they serve quit tobacco. Stay tuned for more updates about The Montrose Center!



the
Montrose
Center

Pride Center West Texas

We recently started program implementation with Pride Center West Texas and their Program Champion, Amanda Provence (she/her)! Soon, Amanda will be participating in an interview with our qualitative specialist. With Amada's insight, we will know how to better serve and build capacity to address tobacco use with Pride Center West Texas.



JOIN US IN WELCOMING A NEW PROJECT PARTNER!

Please join us in welcoming Coastal Bend PRIDE Center to Project ACTION! The Coastal Bend PRIDE Center cultivates programs that foster LGBTQ+ community growth and strengthen community bonds, and provides a welcoming space where people can connect with peers and utilize available resources. In addition to organizing events, education and training programs, the Coastal Bend PRIDE Center works jointly with the

Coastal Bend Wellness Foundation to provide comprehensive wellness services for LGBTQ+ communities including primary health care and clinic services, counseling, behavioral health and substance misuse treatment, and HIV/STI testing. Keep an eye out for our next newsletter to see the amazing tobacco control work this center will achieve!



MEET OUR NEW HEALTH EDUCATION SPECIALIST!



Mikal Zere, MPH (she/her) is a Health Education Specialist at MD Anderson Cancer Center who works closely with Project ACTION's partnering centers, providing education to employees and ensuring that our program implementation strategies are ideal to create sustainable changes in centers' ability to address tobacco use in LGBTQ+ communities.

CELEBRATING 2024 PRIDE MONTH TOGETHER

This quarter, we celebrated Pride Month throughout June! We want to thank our partner centers and centers serving LGBTQ+ communities across Texas for all their hard work and commitment to addressing tobacco use. To help our partner centers celebrate, we sent cookies from Three Brothers Bakery. See below for pictures of our partners enjoying their cookies!



Pictured left: Pride Center West Texas employees enjoying their Pride Month cookies.

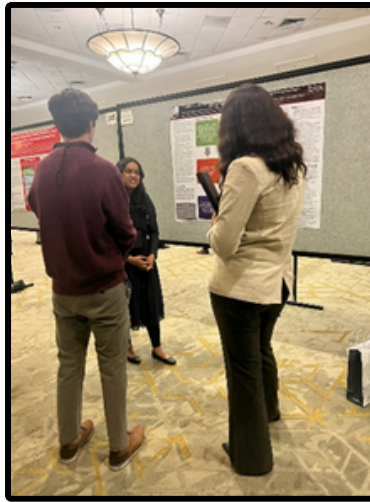
Pictured right: The Montrose Center Program Champion, Jaymie Mielke Quiroz (she/her), with Project ACTION Health Education Specialist, Mikal Zere (she/her).



PROJECT ACTION PRESENTATIONS

American Academy of Health Behavior

In April, the Project ACTION team attended the [American Academy of Health Behavior 2024 Scientific Meeting](#) in Savannah, Georgia. Sriya Kakarla (Undergraduate Research Assistant) gave a poster presentation about Project ACTION to speak with attendees about the need for Project ACTION, our program goals, and the work conducted to date.



Pictured: Sriya Kakarla (Undergraduate Research Assistant) speaking with health behavior professionals about Project ACTION (left) and standing in front of her poster (right).

Quitting together with pride: A dialogue on tobacco cessation in the LGBTQ+ community

In May, our Program Director, [Dr. Lorraine Reitzel](#), provided a virtual presentation about tobacco dependence in LGBTQ+ communities in the United States at an event called "Quitting together with pride: A dialogue on tobacco cessation in the LGBTQ+ community" put on by the [Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland School of Population Health](#). She discussed how Project ACTION is helping LGBTQ+ communities quit tobacco use by building capacity in healthcare and community centers serving LGBTQ+ communities across Texas.



NEW RESOURCES AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE!

Training slides and recorded presentation

We've created [trainings slides](#) and a corresponding [recorded presentation](#) on addressing tobacco dependence within LGBTQ+ communities! The slides and presentation have been uploaded to [our website](#) for providers anywhere to download and watch.



Patient education materials

We recently created two new patient education materials (pictured to the right) about the prevalence of menthol cigarettes in the LGBTQ+ community and the ways in which smoking affects people who are living with HIV that are now available on our website! These patient education materials can be printed for use in community settings, doctor's offices, or anywhere where LGBTQ+ communities are served, to remind people about the dangers of tobacco use and to provide resources to help them quit. We are currently translating our brochures into Spanish, so check back soon for updates!



MINI-GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FROM BREATHE WITH PRIDE AUSTIN!

Breathe With Pride Austin is offering two mini-grants and one paid opportunity for your LGBTQ+-serving organization to support the health and wellness of our communities.

- The menthol mini-grant is a great way for your organization to promote awareness about disproportionate rates of menthol use among LGBTQ+ and Black communities and connect community members with free, affirming resources that can help them quit.
- The health and wellness mini-grant is meant to improve LGBTQ+ health and wellness by reducing stressors that contribute to tobacco use, and projects can address a variety of topics including nutrition and food access, exercise/movement, and more.
- Breathe With Pride Austin is also looking for three organizations to implement a tobacco-free event, workplace, or personnel policy. A tobacco-free policy is a great way for an organization to create a more inclusive and welcoming environment free from secondhand smoke exposure and help shift the culture around tobacco use in LGBTQ+ communities!

If you are interested in any of these amazing opportunities, please email Shimarah.Mehrotra@austintexas.gov to learn more!



FREE “OUTLAST TOBACCO STARTER KITS” AVAILABLE FROM THE NATIONAL LGBTQI+ CANCER NETWORK!

The [National LGBTQI+ Cancer Network](https://www.cancer-network.org) is providing free 2-week supplies of a nicotine replacement therapy product! Recipients will also receive their new tobacco cessation trifold, which shares how quitting tobacco is an act of both loving yourself and the community. Scan the QR code on the poster to the right or [click here](#) to request your free starter kit! If you have any questions, please feel free to email Bryce (he/him) at Bryce@cancer-network.org.

national LGBTQI+ CANCER NETWORK

Quitting is an Act of Self-Love.

OUTLAST TOBACCO

Sign up now to request a FREE 2-week supply of nicotine replacement therapy!

SCAN ME TO SIGN UP!

SCHOLARSHIPS TO BECOME A TOBACCO TREATMENT SPECIALIST NOW AVAILABLE!

[Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center](https://www.roswellpark.org) offers scholarships for healthcare professionals, educators, and community workers seeking to attend a Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program. In-person attendance in Buffalo, N.Y. includes a week-long series of evidence-based workshops held **7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily**. Upcoming workshops are being offered **October 14-18, 2024** and **May 12-16, 2025**.

For registration and to apply for scholarships, please visit www.roswellpark.org/tts or call 716-845-5974. The workshop fee includes all training and course materials as well as breakfast, lunch, beverages, and snacks each day of training. For more tobacco dependence treatment resources, please visit www.nysmokefree.com.

ACTTTP

ROSSELL PARK COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER

Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program

REGISTER TODAY

(716) 845-5974

The Roswell Park Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program prepares health professionals and community members of all levels to provide effective, evidence-based treatment for tobacco use.

Our Training Program is fully accredited by the Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs. Our training program curriculum is delivered in fun, creative ways to help you retain knowledge and build skills needed to deliver effective treatments for tobacco use.

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED

Upcoming Dates

October 14-18, 2024
May 12-16, 2025
7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. daily

Location

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center
Elm & Carlton
Buffalo, NY 14263