

2010 ACTION State Grantee Project Summary

State: Colorado

Project Title: *Cessation Coverage/Treatment for Colorado's Uninsured*

Name of Lead Organization: Colorado Tobacco Education and Prevention Alliance

Partnering Organizations: Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Finance, Colorado's State Tobacco Education and Prevention Partnership (STEPP), National Jewish Health, Colorado Association of Health Plans, Colorado Community Managed Care Network, National Hispanic Nurses Association/Colorado Chapter, Colorado Community Coalition for Health Equity, Action 22, Inc., Jefferson County Health Department

Audience/System: Medical providers/professionals serving the uninsured, health plans, employer organizations employing the uninsured

Summary: Colorado has made great strides in smoke-free air, tobacco tax, and insurance coverage for privately insured and Medicaid populations. Currently the greatest need is to address cessation for the uninsured, which number 800,000 persons. The smoking rate is about 32% for this group, compared to the state average of 18%. Colorado will develop a baseline report on coverage gaps, hold a statewide summit to present the findings, and create a comprehensive strategic plan for the state's uninsured.

Objectives:

- Develop a baseline report assessing current coverage and gaps in tobacco cessation resources for Colorado's uninsured population;
- Recruit at least 75 stakeholders for participation in key informant interviews or roundtables and a state summit;
- Create a presentation for the state summit to:
 - i. Outline comprehensive tobacco cessation coverage, using best and promising practices, for uninsured and its subpopulations such as tobacco users utilizing mental health and/or substance abuse treatment services
 - ii. Examine barriers and solutions to comprehensive coverage and utilization;
- Have 75% of stakeholders demonstrate increased knowledge of existing cessation resources or best and promising practices at the conclusion of the project; and
- Develop a strategic plan for comprehensive care and utilization for Colorado's uninsured tobacco users, including infrastructure, costs, policies, partnerships needed.