

According to the American Cancer Society (2015), the annual number of U.S. deaths attributable to tobacco use is 540,000, which is nearly 1,500 every day.

Smoking rates in adults with incomes <\$15,000 haven't changed in 10 years.

People with Serious Mental Illness die on average 25 years earlier than the general population – in large part due to smoking related illnesses.

These at-risk groups can least afford the costs of tobacco and the consequences of addiction.

County Smoking Rates

State Average: 16.6%

Allegany: 26.8%

Cattaraugus: 28.4%

Chautauqua: 24.7%

Genesee: 25.8%

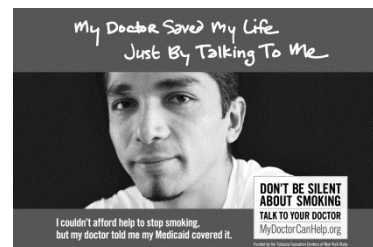
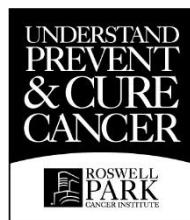
Erie: 18.8%

Niagara: 20.8%

Orleans: 25.7%

Wyoming: 21.6%

Source: NYSDOH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Adults who are Current Smokers by NYS County, 2013-2014



Health Systems Change Center

The Health Systems Change Center of Western New York (HSCC-WNY) is one of eight centers across the state funded by the NYS Department of Health Tobacco Control Program.

Our mission is to support health care organizations, particularly those serving low income and mentally ill patient populations, to implement policies and system changes that will ensure that all patients are routinely screened for tobacco use and all tobacco users are offered evidence-based treatment for nicotine dependence. The Center promotes systems change among organizations located in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming counties.

HSCC-WNY provides tailored technical assistance and coaching to implement quality improvement strategies including working with your team to:

- Update your current *institutional tobacco assessment treatment policy* to align with the Public Health Services and evidence-based guidelines
- Map the *tobacco treatment policy* quality indicators in your electronic health record to *fulfill federal quality reporting* requirements
- Provide *performance feedback*
- Ensure you are meeting *tobacco treatment policy related quality improvement* measures
- Implement a system to refer smokers to an evidence based cessation referral system (i.e., *NYS Smokers' Quitline*)
- Provide access to webinars and *educational opportunities* that can assist in health system change

To learn more contact HSCC-WNY at 716-845-8255 and visit

Website: www.facebook.com/THSCCofWNY Twitter: www.twitter.com/THSCCofWNY

Or e-mail: kimberly.bank@roswellpark.org