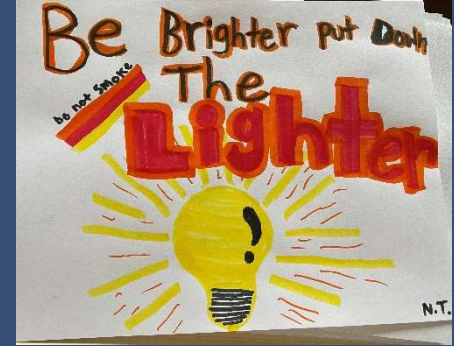


Tobacco Prevention at Margaret Chase Smith School

The Tar Wars program is implemented in classrooms by volunteers. By utilizing a community-based approach to mobilize family physicians, educators, and other health care professionals, Tar Wars can accomplish its goals.

The Need for Tobacco Prevention Education

The percentage of Somerset County adults that use tobacco products (29%) is higher than the state average (25%) and the national average (22%). With the increased amount of adults that use these products, it is imperative that youth are taught the risks and dangers of tobacco at a young age.



Tar Wars at Margaret Chase Smith School

Tar Wars is a tobacco-free education program for fourth- and fifth-grade students. The program is designed to teach kids about the short-term health effects of tobacco use, the cost associated with using tobacco products, and the advertising techniques used by the tobacco industry to market their products to youth.

“Thank you so much for coming on board as such a valuable community partner for our after school programs” – Dawn Fickett – Program Director of REACH Afterschool Program



Results/ Success

The students at Margaret Chase Smith School were very engaged through the course of the program. They asked great questions, and expressed their surprise at some of the information they learned. They all ended the program by creating tobacco-free posters, one of which is featured above.

Sustainability

Continuing to deliver this program to each new class of youth that come through Margaret Chase will give them the knowledge to make informed decisions about tobacco use in their future and will, in turn, decrease the amount of adult smokers in Somerset County.

For More Information Contact Us At:

Somerset Public Health
SPHinfo@rfgh.net
207-474-7473

