

Town of Bethel Makes a Commitment to a Healthier Community by Passing a Tobacco & Marijuana-Free Policy!

Healthy Oxford Hills had the pleasure of working with the Town of Bethel to update their Tobacco Policy and were able to add Marijuana to the policy!

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability and death in the United States. Over 16 million Americans have at least one disease caused by smoking. This amounts to \$170 billion in direct medical costs that could be saved each year if we could prevent youth from starting smoking and help every person who smokes to quit (CDC).

Cortney, who is a Tobacco Coordinator for Healthy Oxford Hills started in this position in September of 2020. Being new to the role, she wasn't sure where to start or who she should reach out to first. Cortney lives in Bethel and thought it would be a great idea to start doing work in her own community! Healthy Oxford Hills reached out to the Town of Bethel in October and the Town Manager quickly jumped on the opportunity to provide a healthy community to Bethel citizens by updating their tobacco-free policy and adding marijuana to the policy! The Town of Bethel took time while updating their policy and changed it many times to ensure it was the best it possibly could be. The policy covers all town owned, leased and affiliated buildings, town vehicles, recreation areas and parks.

A partnership was formed between Healthy Oxford Hills as a District Tobacco Prevention Partner (DTPP) and the Town of Bethel. By forming a partnership, the Town now has resources for policy work, policy enforcement, education & training opportunities, mini grants, connections to the QuitLink, and much more!



"I, Loretta Powers, the Town Manager for the Town of Bethel enjoyed working with Cortney Lavorgna. Cortney was very knowledgeable and very helpful as we worked on our Tobacco & Marijuana Policy. The Town had many changes and Cortney was very patient with us."

-Loretta Powers, Town Manager

The health and safety of their employees, residents & tourists has always been a high priority for the Town of Bethel.

For More Information Contact Us At:

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