

Mahoosuc Kids Association (MKA) Commits to a Tobacco-Free Environment for their Students

Healthy Oxford Hills (HOH) worked with an after school program in Bethel, Maine. HOH helped them implement a tobacco-free policy to ensure a safe environment for their kiddos.

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 Prevention Coordinator at Healthy Oxford Hills, was committed to helping MKA pass a tobacco-free policy. Cortney lives in Bethel and thought it would be a great idea to do work in her own community! Healthy Oxford Hills reached out to Amy at MKA and formed a relationship quickly. MKA was open to the idea of implementing a tobacco-free policy but wasn't sure how it would work because they serve the students in MSAD 44. Healthy Oxford Hills drafted a policy that was specific to MKA's needs and wants. The Director, Amy, loved the policy and wanted to move forward with getting it finalized and was eager to receive their signs to help enforce the new policy.

"Cortney from Healthy Oxford Hills reached out to me when I was pretty new to the MKA Team. She expertly guided me through all the policies and procedures and we successfully completed the process. Cortney showed so much passion for what she was doing- it was truly inspiring. Also, Cortney was so kind and patient as I got my feet about me in my new role and I will always be so appreciative. I look forward to another opportunity to work with Cortney and Healthy Oxford Hills again!"

MAHOOSUC KIDS /



Mahoosuc Kids Association was excited to work with Healthy Oxford Hills. The health and safety of their students and employees has always been a number one priority.

Amy Connell,
MKA Director

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