## TOBACCO USE AMONG TEENAGERS IN SOUTH DAKOTA IS A PROBLEM.



### HERE'S WHY...



Among middle school students who tried to purchase cigarettes, **70.9%** were able to do so, and only **29.1%** of attempts to purchase cigarettes were **refused**. The most common place of purchase was a gas station.<sup>2</sup>



Among middle school students, **73%** saw promotion of tobacco products in convenience stores.<sup>2</sup>



**66.1%** of middle school students reported seeing promotion of tobacco products on TV or in movies.<sup>2</sup>



Having a parent or other household member that uses tobacco contributes significantly to tobacco use in this middle school population. Of those using tobacco, **70.1%** had a household member that

used, nearly double the household use rates among non-tobacco users.<sup>2</sup>



**34.9%** of high school students were in the same room or car with someone who was smoking cigarettes on 1 or more of the past 7 days.<sup>1</sup>



**Nearly 68%** of school districts overall did NOT have a tobacco-free buildings and grounds policy that applied to all persons.<sup>3</sup>





1 - SD Youth Risk Behavior Survey 2015 \* 2 - SD Youth Tobacco Survey 2015 \* 3 - Evaluation of Tobacco-Free Policies in South Dakota Schools. 2014 \* Revised Ianuary 2017

# CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?

#### Implement a 24/7

#### tobacco-free buildings & grounds school policy.

A policy combined with school-based education, and community and mass mediaefforts can effectively prevent or postpone the onset of smoking by **20-40%** among teenagers in the United States.

#### Tobacco-free policies work because they:

- · Provide positive role modeling by adult employees and visitors
- Reduce belief that tobacco use is a normal behavior
- Support tobacco prevention messages
- Prepare students for tobacco-free workplaces
- Reduce exposure to secondhand smoke

To find out if your school district has a comprehensive tobacco-free policy or for more information to help you implement a comprehensive tobacco-free policy in your school, visit **BeFreeSD.com/learn.** 



The QuitLine works. The majority of young smokers have tried to quit, and the QuitLine works far better than going it alone. The QuitLine has a 42.9% quit rate reported at 7 month follow-up for youth tobacco users. By comparison, only about 5% of tobacco users are able to quit on their own, without support. Free services are available and designed to help tobacco users kick the habit. QuitLine promotion among school staff, particularly counselors and nurses, is needed. Learn more at SDQuitLine.com or call 1.866.SD-QUITS.



**Mobilize your community** to restrict minors' access to tobacco products in combination with additional interventions, such as supporting retailer education and enforcement of retailer sales laws.







**BE TOBACCO FREE**