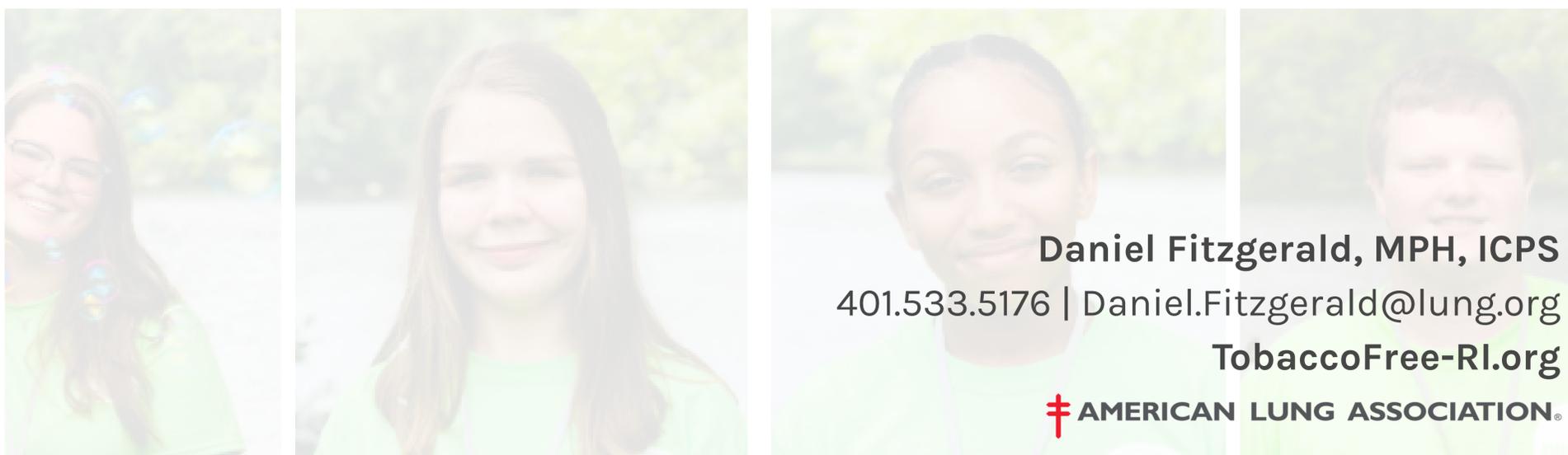
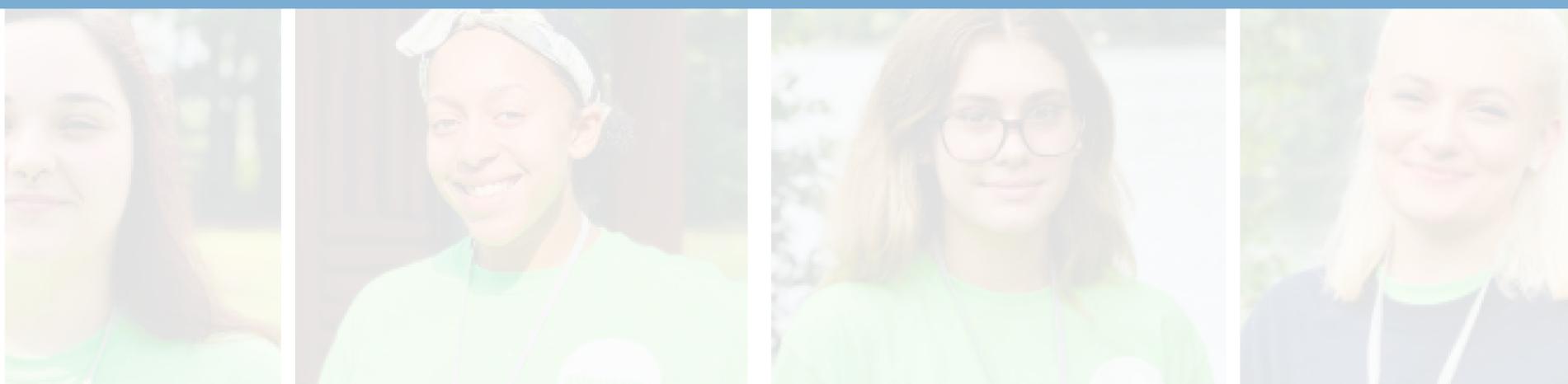


TOBACCO FREE RHODE ISLAND



A YEAR IN REVIEW

2019



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Highlights at a Glance



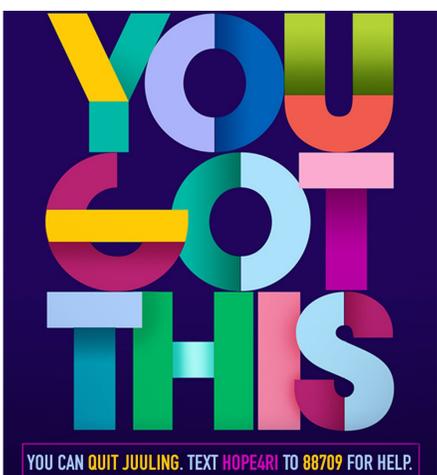
Smoke-free School Model Policy Creation

We have armed every RI school with updated smoke-free school signage, created a cross-sector working group with the support of CVS Health, and created a model school policy that more than a third of RI schools have implemented.



The All-time High for TFRI Network Partner Membership

We are a network of 92 partners that cover all 39 Rhode Island municipalities, public and private at the local, state, and national level all working to move forward TFRI's important mission.



Launched a New Youth E-cigarette Quit Resource

In 2019 we launched a partnership with the Truth Initiative to launch "This Is Quitting". Teens can text "HOPE4RI" to 88709 for free advice, tips, and inspiration on quitting. This campaign was promoted digitally, through print media, and through a brand partnership with the Bruins.



Launched a New Program: Tobacco-Free Ambassadors

This past summer, we brought our youth engagement to the next level with a new Tobacco-Free Ambassador program. Ambassadors represent their communities and have been a part of needs assessments, strategic planning, advocacy, trainings, and have worked to change policies in their communities.

Our Year in Review

This past year, Tobacco Free Rhode Island has grown in incredible ways! With over a decade of work behind us and a heavy workload ahead, I feel confident that we are in a great place. Our network is strong and together we ARE making a difference.

Our network worked to bring in additional funds to combat the e-cigarette epidemic. These funds were used to impact school-based policy, empower students to impact change in their communities, and provide in-person presentations to over 12,000 Rhode Island students, parents, medical professionals, and school personnel. Together, we have mobilized untraditional partners who have helped increase access to smoking cessation services. Our four active workgroups continue to drive our mission forward and with the support of our Steering Committee, worked to ensure the sustainability of our movement regardless of funding.

I look forward to once again joining you, to accomplish another year of lofty goals. We will continue to offer high-quality training and technical assistance, authentically engage youth and young adults, and work towards eliminating nicotine addiction and tobacco-related death and disease in Rhode Island.

Thank you for your continued support,

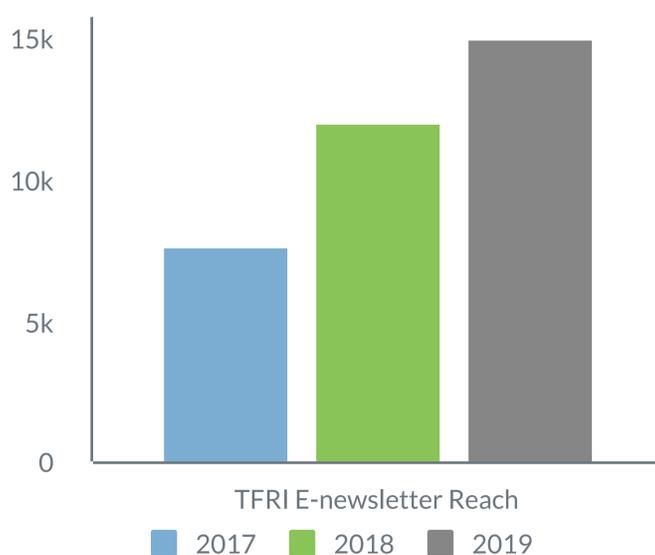


Daniel Fitzgerald, MPH, ICPS
Tobacco Free RI Network Coordinator

12,630 Rhode Islanders
directly educated



- Students (Middle/High/College) (66.53%)
- Medical and Other Prof. (15.51%)
- School Administration (17.96%)



Working for TFRI is a dream come true! Throughout 2019, I have had the opportunity to present to dozens of schools, conferences, coalitions, and more. Our launch of the Ambassador program over the summer was an amazing opportunity to find young leaders from across the state to help lead our tobacco-free movement. In addition to our Ambassadors, I was able to work with about 30 students who were funded by TFRI to attend the 2019 Eastern States Youth to Youth Conference. Besides our work with youth, connecting with partners through our e-newsletter and social media has also been a vital part of our work. Publicizing the latest information available ensures the public is staying informed; this is crucial in a field where the facts are always changing.

Lastly, one of my favorite initiatives that I was involved with this year, was the creation of our community action toolkits, which were sent out to every community in the state. These toolkits were so well received, that we've decided to create new ones tackling different topics in the coming year! Stay tuned and thank you for your continued support!



Zoe Moreau
Community Engagement

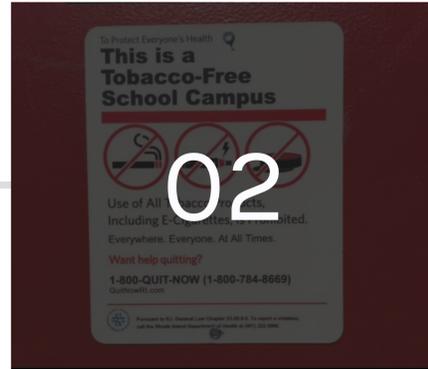
Timeline



January - March

Quarter 1

- Helped to plan, sponsor and implement the RI PREVCON conference which reached 155 professionals across the spectrum of behavioral health.
- Partnered with RI Student Assistance Services to host a webinar with PBS, about a new e-cigarette education program for schools.
- Created and convened a smoke-free policy workgroup comprised of principals, school counselors, parents, students, school resource officers, deans and prevention specialists.
- Hosted a youth advocacy day training in celebration of Kick Butts Day at Dave & Busters and collaborated with partners on a tobacco-free generation state-wide educational advocacy event at the RI Statehouse.

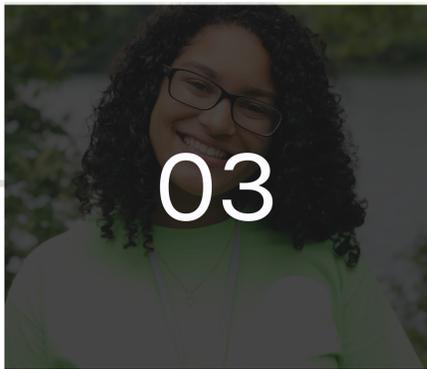


April - June

Quarter 2

- Became a formal member of the community advisory board for the Brown University School of Public Health.
- Finalized and launched Model Smoke-Free School Policy.
- Provided authentic youth engagement training to Rhode Island Health Equity Zones.
- Completed Year 5 of 5 of the Rhode Island Department of Health's "Tobacco Control Community Education and Coordinating Organization" Grant.

Timeline



July - September

Quarter 3

- Began implementation of the "Intersection of Nicotine Addiction and Opioid Misuse" grant and working with national content experts to inform our work.
- Collaborated with partner organizations to recruit, fund and support 30 new youth advocates to participate in the 4-day, 3-night "Youth to Youth" Eastern States conference.
- Launched a Tobacco-Free Ambassador program at a 3-day / 2-night educational retreat.
- Created and disseminated Smoke-free School/Environment "Community Action Toolkits" to every RI community.
- Launched This Is Quitting (TIQ) and ran a multimedia campaign to promote through social media, print media and brand partnerships.



October - December

Quarter 4

- Assisted in identifying, sponsoring and vetting a national speaker to present on the intersection of nicotine addiction and opioid misuse at the RI LUNG FORCE Expo.
- Exhibited at a Providence Bruins Game which promoted the TIQ program.
- Partnered with the Society for the Prevention of Animal Cruelty to educate about protecting household pets from the adverse effects of secondhand smoke.
- Participated and engaged TFRI youth and partners in Governor Raimondo's Vaping Advisory Committee and workgroups.

Resource Development in 2019



Tobacco-Free Teens

We launched a new youth-specific e-cigarette quit program called 'This is Quitting', mobilized youth and young adult advocates from around RI, distributed community action tobacco toolkits and conducted a youth/adult needs assessment on the perception of harm, access, and availability of e-cigarettes to inform our work moving forward.

July 8, 2019 - September 29, 2019



Smoke-Free Schools

We provided Smoke-free School Signage to all 309 Rhode Island public, private, charter, elementary, middle and high schools in English and Spanish, coordinated a cross-sector workgroup tasked with developing a smoke-free schools enforcement model policy (inclusive of e-cigarettes), policy promotion and ongoing training and technical assistance to schools who are implementing.

December 2018 - November 2019



The Intersection of Nicotine Addiction & Opioid Misuse

We used emerging research that connects opioid misuse and nicotine addiction to inform best practices that address both epidemics. TFRI has worked alongside national content experts to inform this project and has educated RI medical professionals.

July 2019 - January 2020



Partnership Engagement

We are working with Health Resources in Action (HRiA) to engage TFRI Network Partners in providing input for the RI Department of Health's five-year Tobacco Control Strategic Plan and in communicating this process externally.

November 2019 - July 2020

TFRI Ambassadors in Action



Tobacco-Free Ambassador

Blessing Oyedele

Blessing, Senior at Blackstone Valley Prep High School, lives in Pawtucket, RI. Blessing was appointed by Governor Gina Raimondo to serve on the Vaping Advisory Board. Blessing serves as the co-chair of the Youth and Schools Subcommittee and is tasked with assisting in the creation of permanent regulations.

Tobacco-Free Ambassador

Kennedy Chartier

Kennedy, a Sophomore at Johnson and Whales University, is from North Smithfield, RI. This year she worked with the Truth Initiative as a Truth Ambassador. She hosted a cigarette butt clean-up in Providence, educated her federal delegation, and helped implement a national protest in front of JUULs headquarters that mobilized students from all around the United States to protest against marketing products to youth.



Tobacco-Free Ambassador

Sean Palumbo

Sean, Senior at Mt. Hope High School, lives in Bristol, RI. Sean served on the workgroup tasked with creating a model school policy focused on enforcing a smoke-free school inclusive of e-cigarettes. Sean worked to get youth input and provided multiple trainings for his school administrators. In September, Sean worked with his school to implement this smoke-free school policy which will positively impact young people in his community for generations to come.



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