



Policy and action for a healthier Pennsylvania

# Advocacy Efforts and Policy Research for the American Lung Association in Pennsylvania

Student Interns: Olivia Palmer, University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine

Academic Preceptors: Dr. Hillary Bogner MD, MSC, Perelman School of Medicine Dr. Chris Renjilian, MD, Children's Hospital of Pennsylvania

Community Preceptors: Molly Pisciottano, MHA, American Lung Association,

Pennsylvania Alliance to Control Tobacco

### COMMUNITY PARTNER

The Pennsylvania Alliance to Control Tobacco (PACT), under the American Lung Association in Pennsylvania and funded by a grant through the PA Department of Health, is a statewide coalition that educates the public and elected officials about clean indoor air, tobacco taxes, and other critical tobacco control issues.

### POINT OF SALE POLICY RESEARCH

### **Project Description**

Conducted research on Point-of-Sale strategies including amending tobacco retailer state licensing laws

### **Outcomes:**

- Produced a policy research document that cited relevant PA laws, takeaways from policies in other cities/states, and potential next steps
- Presented research to members of the PA Department of Health
- Assisted with gathering data to include on infographics and educational materials

### TRU SOCIAL MEDIA CONENT

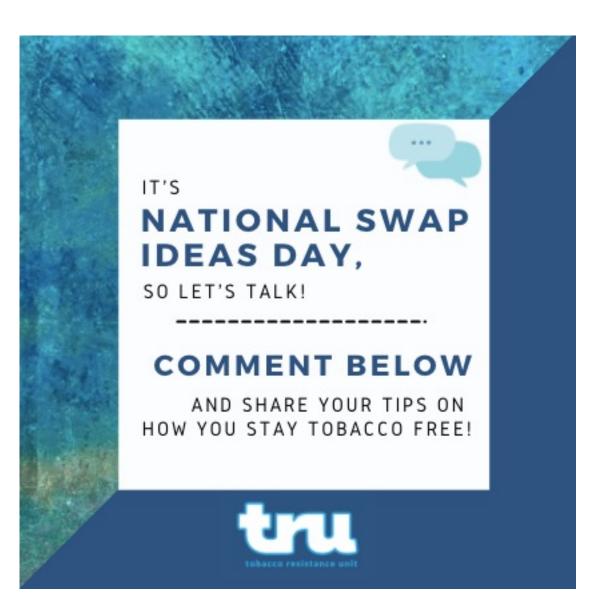
### **Project Description**

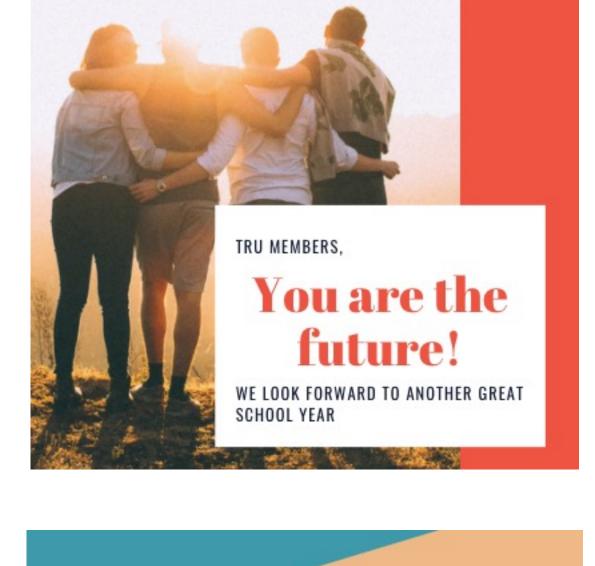
Created new social media content to engage Tobacco Resistance Unit (TRU) youth members on Instagram

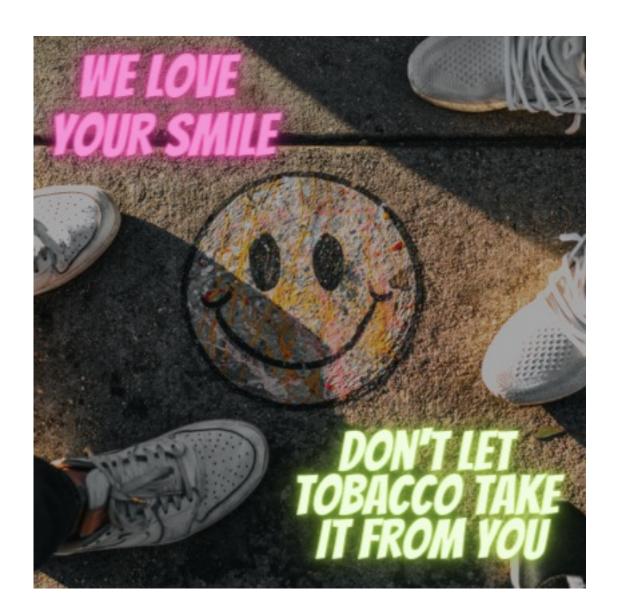
### **Outcomes:**

- Produced over 15 social media posts to be published on the TRU Instagram page this fall (examples included on right)
- Created interactive Instagram stories to actively engage TRU youth



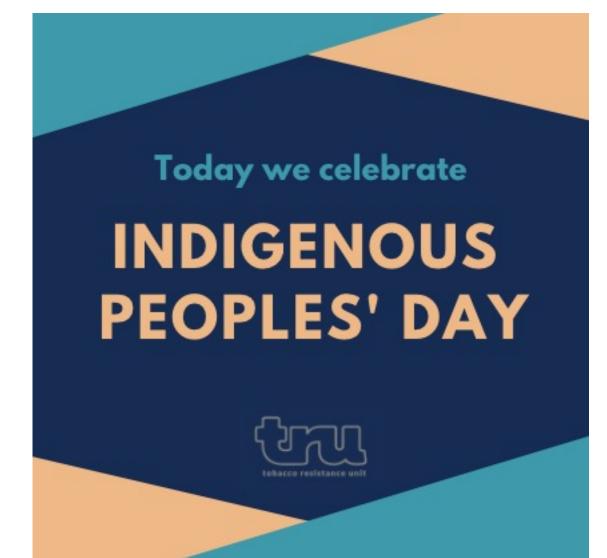


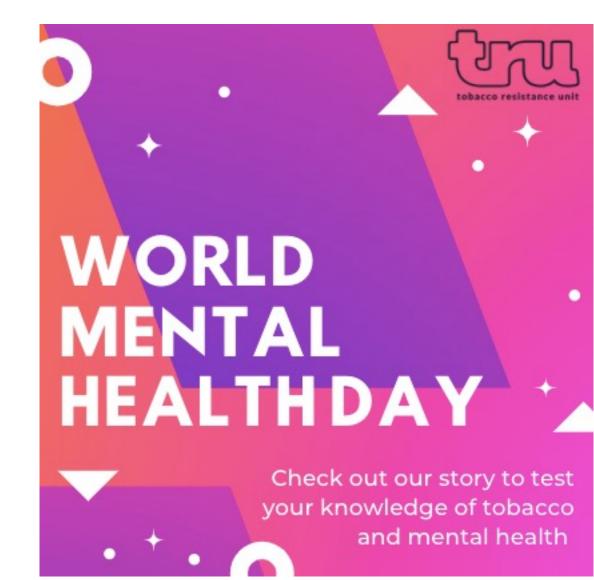




























### REFLECTION

Through my time at the American Lung Association, I witnessed the steps necessary to solve public health issues through legal action. I learned about the power of grassroots advocacy and saw that the voice of the community serves as the strongest catalyst for change. As a future healthcare provider interested in working with underserved communities, I look forward to applying this invaluable knowledge to my future career. This summer has given me the tangible skills and institutional knowledge to integrate advocacy and policy change into my future practice as a physician.

## Preceptor Signatures

- Molly Pisciottano, Advocacy Director, American Lung Association
- 7/27/2021