

Say Thank You Community Appreciation Events

“Everyone likes to feel valuable. Community events build relationships, refocus energy, and motivate action.”

Why plan an event now?

1. Build community support for local implementation of the state-wide smoke-free air law.
2. Thank supportive legislators and volunteers for all their hard work.
3. Keep your community engaged around tobacco control issues.
4. Continue to identify supporters.



Representative Spencer Black at Madison's event

Who should you invite?

Invite your coalition, community residents, local leaders, and your area's state legislators who are supportive of tobacco prevention and control. Ask coalition members to help “staff” the event.

When and Where to have the event

Pick a time that's before or after regular work hours with a convenient location. Keep it short – one hour or less.

What to do

1. Welcome and greet all attendees.
2. Capture names, addresses, telephone numbers and e-mails from attendees as they arrive.
3. Feature action stations.
4. Present a short informal program to welcome, celebrate, motivate, and inform attendees. Consider asking a partner (such as SmokeFree Wisconsin) to provide information on smoke-free air implementation and other future policy work.

How to make the best out of your event

- **Have a Presence:** Fill the room. 50+ is a powerful turnout
- **Engage Everyone:** Enlist volunteers to mingle and make attendees feel comfortable
- **Capture Momentum:** Encourage participation in the action stations
- **Share Results:** Share lessons learned with other coalitions planning events

Action Station Idea — “What do you like?”

Like to know what's happening?

Have a computer station for TFAN sign-ups

Like to see your name in print?

Engage and assist attendees in writing letters to the editor (Find resources at tobwis.org)

Like to persuade others?

Ask who has connections to community groups (union leadership, church, Rotary...) to build partnerships

Who doesn't like a thank you?

Write and collect thank you cards for legislators who could not make the event