Fact Sheet about Tobacco

Did you know . . .

* An individual who smokes 1.5 packs/day, may be spending at least $3,300/year! In some states, it would be at least double that.
* One who chews a can of tobacco per day, could be spending $1100/year on a sure path to oral cancer.
* Tobacco use, particularly cigarette smoking, remains the leading cause of preventable illness and death in this country.
* Around the world, tobacco kills up to half of its users, resulting in 6 million deaths a year, according to WHO.  More than 5 million of those are the result of direct tobacco use while over 600,000 are non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke.
* Tobacco users for each product are more likely to be non-Hispanic whites.  Most cigar and pipe users have at least some college education, but cigarette smoking is more concentrated among those with less than a college education.
* For the smoker, the risk of developing Peripheral Artery Disease - blocked leg arteries - increases as we live longer . . . potentially leading to an amputation and reduced quality of life.
* Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the US.  Approximately 1,300 people die each day from smoking; 480,000 U.S. citizens die/year from tobacco-related causes.
* **Lung cancer** is the second leading cause of death in the United States.
* Lung cancer has increased 451% in the past 30 years, and it has been predicted that this number will rise in the years to come.
* The increased number of lung cancer incidences have been related to tobacco use
* 75% of teen smokers become adult smokers
* Teen smokers could risk losing up to $10,000/year in income in their future
* About 553 women die daily of tobacco-related disease
* Smoking causes more deaths each year than all of these combined:
  + Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV),
  + Illegal drug use,
  + Alcohol use,
  + Motor vehicle injuries, and
  + Firearm-related incidents
* Smokers die on average 10 years earlier than non-smokers, but even those smokers in their 70s can add years to their lives if they quit
* Tobacco smoke is potentially made up of more than 7,000 chemicals. Many are poisons and at least 70 are known to cause cancer in people or animals