

Town of Tryon Receives TSET Healthy Incentive Grant Bronze Medallion Award

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Tryon, OK – January 30, 2025 – The Town of Tryon has been awarded the **Bronze Medallion** through the **TSET Healthy Incentive Grant Program**, recognizing the town's commitment to fostering a healthier community. The award acknowledges Tryon's proactive efforts to implement policies and initiatives that support public health, active living, and tobacco-free environments.

Since 2023, the Town of Tryon has been diligently working toward meeting the **TSET Healthy Incentive Grant** requirements. The Tryon Town Board has demonstrated strong leadership by adopting two key ordinances aimed at reducing tobacco use and protecting youth from tobacco and vapor products:

- **Ordinance 2023-04:** Amending the Tryon Municipal Code to regulate smoking and the use of tobacco and vapor products.
- **Ordinance 2023-09:** Establishing the **Youth Access to Tobacco Ordinance**, which restricts the sale of tobacco and vapor products to individuals under 21 years of age.

The Tryon TSET Healthy Incentives Committee was established in 2024. The committee, composed of dedicated local health leaders, David Smith and Sheri Ripley, Lincoln County Health Department Wellness Coordinators, community volunteers, and Tryon employees, has played a crucial role in securing this grant. The committee's efforts align with TSET's mission to encourage municipalities to adopt policies that create healthier environments for residents.

In addition to these ordinances, the town has actively promoted the **Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline**, ensuring residents have access to resources for quitting tobacco use. The **Workplace Wellness Policy**, adopted under Resolution 2024-06, emphasizes health-focused initiatives for town employees, including tobacco-free policies, improved nutrition, and opportunities for physical activity.

The **\$10,000 Bronze Medallion grant** will be used to further enhance community wellness initiatives in association with the new Tryon City Hall building, which is currently under construction. These initiatives include increasing access to healthy food and expanding active living opportunities for the town's employees and visitors of all ages to the public library, which will also be located in the new Tryon City Hall building. Additionally, the Tryon TSET plans to utilize future grant funding to explore new ways to bring **healthy food options** to residents.

The **TSET Healthy Incentive Grant Program** provides funding to cities, towns, and school districts that implement best practices in public health. The Town of Tryon remains committed to leveraging these opportunities to build a healthier future for its residents.

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