

Community Champions Recognized

Adirondack Tobacco Free Network, along with North Country Tobacco Cessation Center, Reality Check of Franklin County and the Clinton/Essex Reality Check Program recently honored organizations, businesses, municipalities and individuals for their efforts to promote a tobacco free environment. Awards were presented for adoption of tobacco policies that restrict tobacco use, reject tobacco industry money or deny the tobacco industry access to “at risk populations.” Awards were also given for implementation of systems designed to assure success for individuals who want to stop smoking. Twenty-eight honorees were on hand to receive awards. An additional fifty awards will be presented to those unable to attend the event.

Guest Speaker Rachel Iverson, Associate Director of the NYS Tobacco Control Program thanked all of the honorees for their efforts and noted that their work to protect community members from the influence of the tobacco industry makes them local heroes. She highlighted the Tobacco Control Program’s commitment to deliver one million fewer smokers by 2010 emphasizing the role of policy changes in meeting this goal.

Ms. Iverson congratulated health care settings for implementing systems to address tobacco use as a chronic condition by assessing tobacco use at every visit. She applauded community based efforts to reduce youth exposure to tobacco advertising and promotion in retail outlets and youth-rated movies.



And, she reminded the attendees that there is still work to be done. “As hard as we are working in communities across our State, tobacco companies are working just as hard and with more resources. In the year 2005 alone, tobacco companies spent a massive 35.9 million dollars a day to market an addictive and deadly product that kills over 400,000 each year.”

2009 Community Champion Awards

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| Alice Hyde Medical Center | Price Chopper-Malone |
| Alpha Epsilon Phi | Quick Stop Store-Fort Covington |
| Ausable Valley Central School | Reality Check-MJ Shuknecht |
| Cancer Screening Program, Franklin/ Essex | Reality Check-Stacey Rabideau |
| Chazy Central Rural School | Reality Check-Melissa Russell |
| Collette's One Stop-Bombay | Reality Check-Nikita Marshall |
| Essex County Fair | Reality Check-Kelly Chillari |
| Essex County Public Health | Reality Check-Kyle Compeau |
| Evergreen Valley Nursing Home | Reality Check--Maggie Homer |
| Fish's Store-Fort Covington | Reality Check Billie Gadway |
| Franklin County Agriculture Society | Rotary Club of Chateaugay |
| Franklin County Public Health | St. Regis Falls School |
| Gilman's Dairy Supply-Constable | St. Regis Falls-Tina Egeland |
| Greater Malone YMCA | St. Regis Falls Quick Stop |
| GU Family Markets-Ausable Forks | St. Regis Mohawk Health Services |
| GU Family Markets-Elizabethtown | Town of Altona |
| GU Family Markets-Peru | Town of Bellmont |
| GU Family Markets-Saranac Lake | Town of Brandon |
| GU Family Markets-Saranac Lake | Town of Chesterfield |
| GU Family Markets-Schroon Lake | Town of Constable |
| Hill Top Store-St. Regis Falls | Town of Dannemora |
| Lake Placid Youth Sports Comm. | Town of Ellenburg |
| Leroux Moira Store | Town of Malone |
| Maggy Pharmacy | Town of Moira |
| Main Street Medical Group | Town of North Elba |
| Malone Chamber of Commerce | Town of Plattsburgh |
| MOMS of Franklin County | Town of Schroon |
| Northern Adirondack Central School | Town of Schuyler Falls |
| North Country Community College | Town of Westville |
| North Country Medical Center | Village of Brushton |
| Paul Smiths College Health Center | Village of Chateaugay |
| Peru Family Health Care | Village of Malone |
| Plattsburgh YMCA | Village of Rouses Point |
| Price Chopper-Champlain | Village of Tupper Lake |
| Price Chopper-Lake Placid | Wendy's Quick Stop-Chateaugay |