# The Youth Leader

Project Prevent • Summer 2020 Newsletter • Vol 2 Issue 4

# Thank You for an Awesome Year!

We cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work in tobacco and nicotine prevention this year! We truly believe the education that you are providing to your classmates and community members is making a difference! With more young people finding ways to end their nicotine addiction, and even more making the decision to never start, your encouragement and enthusiasm has helped them make these important life decisions. Way to go!! We welcomed 31 new Project Prevent Chapters this year, while 33 Chapters finished their second year, and 14 finished their third - wow! A total of 78 groups of students all over the state of Arkansas are working to reduce tobacco and nicotine use and help save lives in the process. We can't wait to see what you do next year! In the meantime, stay connected with us through Facebook, Instagram and our website. Have a great summer and we'll see you next school year!

#### 2020 My Reason to Write Winners 7ТН-8ТН ( 2 N D - 3 R D 4 T H - 6 T H 4 T H - 6 T H 7 T H - 8 T H GRADE POEM GRADE ESSAY GRADE ESSAY GRADE POEM GRADE ESSAY Ist Place: Ist Place: Ist Place: Ist Place: Ist Place: Kezie Wolford Nash Farmer Molly Lucy Anessa Marshall Skylar Johnson Melbourne Elementary Heber Springs Middle School Batesville Junior High School Atkins Middle School Harrison Middle School 2nd Place: 2nd Place: 2nd Place: 2nd Place: 2nd Place: **Morgan Summers** Levi Larue Joben Wagner Zari Wooten Lily Coffey Greenbrier Westside Harrison Middle School Heber Springs Lavaca Middle School Harrison Middle School Elementary Middle School 3rd Place: 3rd Place: 3rd Place: 3rd Place: 3rd Place: Brodey Dobyns **Rylee Hensley Bailee Forbis** Isaiah Wallis **Charisma Edwards** Melbourne Elementary Genoa Central Lavaca Middle School Harrison Middle School Harrison Middle School

#### **Congratulations!**

Congratulations to our 2020 My Reason to Write winners and thank you to everyone who submitted an entry! My Reason to Write happens every year and students in grades 2nd-8th have the unique opportunity to submit a short poem, essay or song lyrics showcasing why they choose to live a tobaccoand nicotine-free life. Prizes are awarded in several categories. Congrats again to all of our winners and we hope to hear from you all again next year!



# **Keeping Our Lungs Clean During Quarantine**



As we wrap up the year a little differently than expected, many of our awesome Project Prevent students are still showing support from home. We love seeing all of these smiling faces wearing their Project Prevent shirts as they carry on daily activities around the state. We hope that you all are staying safe and healthy, and we look forward to seeing your creativity again next year! To see more #FacesOfProjectPrevent, follow us on Facebook and Instagram @**ProjectPreventAR**! Continue to tag us in any Project Prevent photos you share, we love them!

### You Can Start a Project Prevent Chapter!

With 78 Chapters around the state, chances are there is already a Project Prevent Chapter in your town. If not, you can get one started! Simply apply on our website at ProjectPreventAR.org by clicking "Get Involved" and "Register Chapter." All you need is a minimum of five members and an adult to agree to act as your Chapter Advisor.

The Project Prevent Youth Coalition also provides a limited amount of funding for activities, as well as a stipend for the Chapter Advisor.Priority will be given to the counties with the highest tobacco use.To apply for funding, contact Laura Taylor at TaylorLB@archildrens.org.





