

# Tobacco Settlement Funds in the Northwest

*The CDC's Best Practices are the common thread in tobacco-related public health activities in the Northwest. The Best Practices include preventing the initiation of tobacco use among young people, promoting quitting, eliminating exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, and identifying and eliminating disparities related to tobacco use and its effects.*

The following summaries address only Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) funds.

## Alaska

The Lung Association received a \$1.4 million grant for FY 2001 from MSA funds. Its tobacco control program focuses on cessation efforts and counter-marketing. Cessation efforts include educating health professionals and providing Quit Kits to individuals and practitioners. Each Quit Kit contains a resource list and strategies to quit smoking. Anyone in Alaska who wants help with cessation can call 1-800-LUNG-USA. Counter-marketing efforts use advertisements from the CDC. These counter-advertisements will eventually reach more than 250 rural communities, where smoking prevalence tends to be high, via rebroadcasts by the Alaska Rural Communications System.

## Idaho

The Idaho Millennium Fund was established in 2000 with MSA dollars and has an annual distribution policy of 5%. MSA dollars for FY 2001 have been directed toward cessation efforts, counter-marketing advertising, research and development, and building youth assets. A \$735,000 additional grant was given to counties to reduce their expenditures for catastrophic health care provided to indigent patients with tobacco-related illnesses.

## Montana

In November 2000, Montanans passed an initiative to create a trust in which 40% of the state's MSA dollars will be invested, with the interest from the trust to be used for tobacco disease prevention programs and health care. The 2001 Legislature passed legislation to implement the trust. The Legislature significantly reduced the 2002-2003 biennium state funding for tobacco use prevention to \$500,000 a year (down from \$3.5 million in 2001).

## Oregon

The Oregon governor's budget for 2001-

2003 proposes allocating \$7 million of MSA funds for a tobacco use prevention program with six components, including community-based coalitions, tribal programs, school-based programs, multicultural programs, statewide public awareness campaigns, and the Oregon Tobacco Quit-Line. Attempts to designate MSA funds were defeated by voters in the November 2000 election, but the programs have been supported with state and federal funds.

## Washington

The Department of Health's Tobacco Prevention and Control account has \$100 million to spend over the next seven years on prevention and cessation efforts. FY 2001 MSA allocation funds such activities as a multimedia public awareness and education campaign (\$5.3 million), community-based programs (\$4 million), \$2.5 million of which has been distributed to the counties based on their population and existing tobacco control resources. Cessation efforts (\$1.2 million) include the implementation of a QuitLine, the funding of a pilot program for pregnant women who smoke, and the development of training and assistance for health professionals to provide effective cessation services. The nine

Educational Service Districts are responsible for school-based programs (\$2.5 million) and programs to decrease youth access to tobacco received \$100,000. Assessment, evaluation, and administrative efforts (\$1.9 million) include such innovative activities as Web-based reporting systems.

## Wyoming

Wyoming's MSA funds are held in a trust fund of which the interest only may be spent and only on tobacco prevention, education, cessation, and meaningful youth programs. Funds for FY 2001 went to planning and development, to supplement local projects, and to a pilot comprehensive, perinatal project. Specific projects include "Threw the Chew," an education program targeted at reducing Wyoming's smokeless tobacco use rate, and the Reward and Reminder Campaign, which concentrates on reducing the sale of tobacco products to underage youth through compliance checks and retailer education. The program gives positive recognition and reinforcement to retailers who do not make sales to minors and has reduced the buy rate to less than 9%.

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## Tobacco-Control Spending in the Northwest

*Total state spending on tobacco cessation activities, including the Master Settlement funds and other state and federal funding, for fiscal year 2001.*

	FY 2001 MSA	Total Spending	\$ Per Capita	CDC Best Practice Estimate*	Spending Rank**
Alaska	1.4M	2.7M	4.31	33%	29
Idaho	1.0M	2.0M	1.60	19%	34
Montana	3.5M	4.4M	4.85	47%	20
Oregon	0.0	9.3M	2.71	44%	23
Washington	15.0M	18.0M	3.08	54%	17
Wyoming	0.9M	1.9M	3.79	25%	32

\*CDC Estimate is % of the lower estimate for the Best Practices recommended funding level for that state. \*\*Tobacco Spending Rank among the states according to percent of the funding estimate. Source: Investment in Tobacco Control: State Highlights 2001, [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statehi/pdf\\_2001/2001statehighlights.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/statehi/pdf_2001/2001statehighlights.pdf).