

# THE FACTS...



- Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in Massachusetts.
- Tobacco use among pregnant women is responsible for 20% of low birth weight babies.
- 24% of adults in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts use tobacco.
- The health effects of tobacco use cost the state of Massachusetts over 1.5 billion dollars each year.
- Tobacco use kills over 11,000 Massachusetts residents each year. This is more than the number of deaths due to AIDS, drug abuse, motor vehicle accidents, homicide, suicide and alcohol deaths combined.
- Smoking accounts for 85% of all lung cancer deaths, 30% of all cancer deaths, and 25% of heart attack deaths.
- More than 90% of all smokers become addicted as teenagers, starting to smoke by the age of 20.
- About 11% ninth grade boys and 28% twelfth grade boys said they used smokeless tobacco in 1990.
- 12 Billion cigarettes are smoked in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts each year. If placed end to end, these cigarettes would circle the globe 28 times.