



FY2017 American Cancer Society Budget Priorities

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Jill Sudhoff-Guerin, ACS CAN Director of Government Relations

Vermont's Cancer Burden

- Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Vermont, after heart disease
- 4,050 Vermonters will be diagnosed with cancer this year
- Cancer will kill 1,390 Vermont residents this year
- 35,000 adults in Vermont are living with a current or previous diagnosis of cancer
- Almost two-thirds of cancer deaths in the United States can be linked to unhealthy behaviors like **tobacco use, adult diet, obesity** and **lack of exercise**

We Spend Roughly 88% of our Health Care Dollars on Treating the Sick and Only 4% on Healthy Prevention

What **Makes** Us Healthy



What We **Spend** On Being Healthy



Vermont Health Care Spending

- Currently, Vermont spends approximately \$5 billion on health care annually.
- If we want to bend this cost arc, Vermont must invest more in evidence-based chronic disease prevention.
- According to the Joint Fiscal Office healthcare consultant, Kenneth Thorpe:
 1. 80% of total health care spending is linked to chronically ill patients
 2. Rise in “treated disease prevalence” accounts for nearly two-thirds of the growth in health care spending

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Tobacco Prevention and Control –

- The FY17 Proposed Budget would cut the Tobacco Control program by \$67,500, we have seen similar systematic cuts to the program since FY14.
- The current balance in the Vermont Tobacco Trust Fund is zero.

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What we know:

- 390 Vermonters will be diagnosed with lung cancer this year
- Through Vermont's tobacco control program youth smoking rates went from 33% in 1999 to 11% in 2015
- Every dollar spent on tobacco control nets at least \$5.00 in health care savings

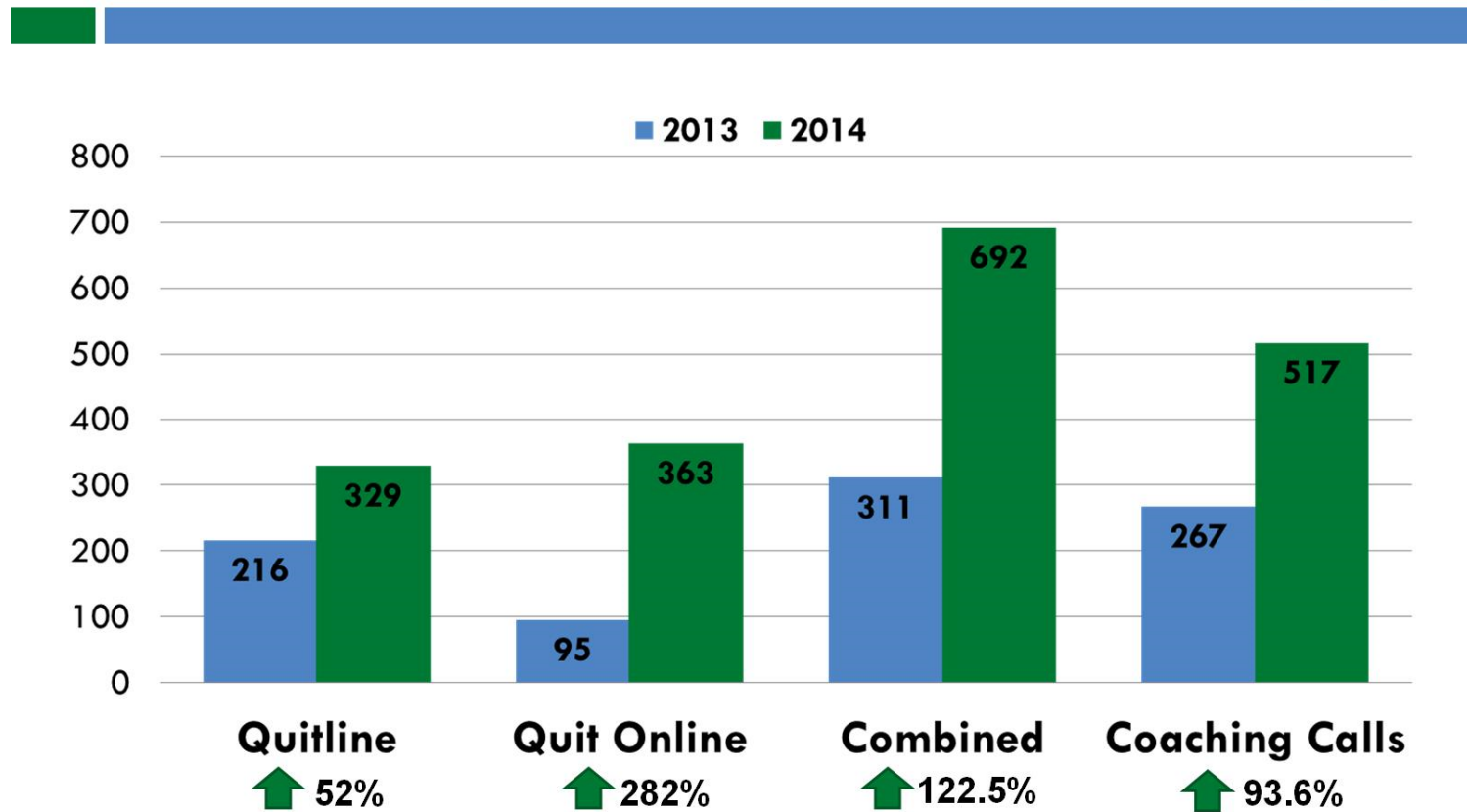
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The Tobacco Problem is not fixed in Vermont:

- Although VT's cigarette smoking rates are at 18% which is consistent with national rates, adult smokers from 25-44 years old smoke at 26%, and
- Vermonters with less education and lower household incomes smoke at 35%, and most alarmingly
- According to 2015 YRBS data 30% of high school students in Vermont have tried e-cigarettes and 15% of students are current users, and finally
- 3 out 4 e-cigarette users also smoke cigarettes

The Tobacco Control Program Gets Results

Results – Record Medicaid Participation

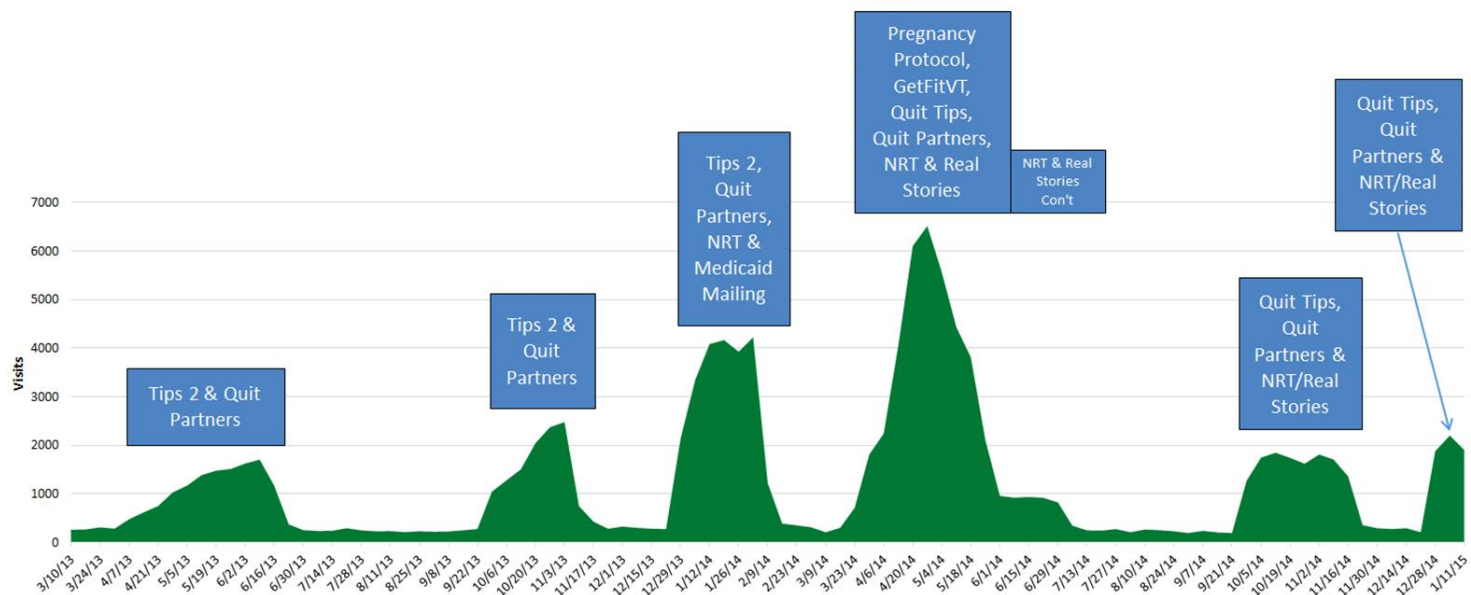


Vermont Department of Health

Targeted Media Programs Get Results



Results – Website Visits



With the campaigns noted, we can see **the top driver to the site is paid media.** The current Winter Quit Tips, Quit Partners and NRT/Real Stories campaigns started on December 29, 2014.

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Please Ensure that the state's comprehensive tobacco control program, including the Departments of Health, Liquor Control and the Agency of Education, is funded at \$3.9 million in FY2017.

And dedicate 3% of the annual tobacco tax revenue for the tobacco control program's evidence-based health communications interventions.

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Obesity Prevention –

- Approximately 6,000 Vermonters currently live with an obesity-related cancer diagnosis.
- 60% of Vermont's population is considered obese and one-third of cancer deaths are a result of physical inactivity, poor diet and obesity.
- The rise in obesity in US accounted for 27% of the growth in health spending over the past 20 years.
(Kenneth Thorpe)

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Access to healthy food and physical activity opportunities is unequal in VT:

- From the 2015 Inventory of Community Resources we learned 41% or two out of 5 towns in Vermont have NO sports fields
- 16% of Vermont towns have NO food access in their towns
- Only 4% of towns 4% have a policy for protected bike lanes and only 4% have a policy for bike paths

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Obesity is a major contributor to the state's burgeoning health care system, with obesity-related health care costs among Vermont adults estimated at \$202 million per year.

Please reinstate the \$300,000 in CHAMPPS obesity prevention community grants that were cut in the FY16 Budget

Thank You!!!!

Jill Sudhoff-Guerin

(802) 872.6312

jill.sudhoffguerin@cancer.org

