



spotlight

Talking Tobacco at the Asian Festival in Columbus

On Saturday, May 26, 2007, members of Columbus AAYAT hosted an information booth and performed skits at the 13th Annual Asian Festival at Franklin Park in Columbus. The booth included interactive displays on the harmful effects of secondhand smoke, information on ways to quit smoking, and tobacco prevention games for all ages. During the event, youth were also able to get a photo and talk briefly to Governor, Ted Stickland, about the future of tobacco prevention funding in Ohio. This was AAYAT's fourth year at the Asian Festival, which was attended by nearly 125,000 people this year and featured Asian cultural activities, food, entertainment, health information, and children's activities. The Asian Festival was sponsored by The Ohio Commission on Minority Health, the Ohio Arts Council, Nationwide Insurance Company, State Farm Insurance Company, McDonald's Corp. and NewsCenter on ABC-6 & Fox-28. For more information, visit the Asian Festival website at www.asian-festival.org.



Columbus intern, Kunal Parikh, presents information on tobacco securitization to Gov. Ted Stickland during the Asian Festival in Columbus.

AAYAT Thanks Area Businesses For Their Continued Support of A SmokeFree Ohio

Throughout the summer months, several AAYAT chapters hosted **stand** "Thank You Section" events to show their support and thank area businesses for their continued compliance with Ohio's new smoke-free law.



Dayton AAYAT interns present a DEBUNKIFY t-shirt to the manager at Poelking Woodman Lanes in Kettering.

On June 16, Dayton AAYAT hosted their "Thank You Section" at Poelking Woodman Lanes in Kettering. Team members wore their orange **stand** t-shirts and presented the owner of the bowling center with a thank you card and gift bag for maintaining a smoke-free environment for his patrons. Dayton AAYAT would also like to thank the management of the following restaurants for their support in providing food for the event: China Inn and Subway Restaurant on Woodman Rd. in Kettering.

On June 23, Columbus AAYAT hosted their "Thank You Section" at MoMo2 KTV and Tea Zone at 2885 Olentangy River Rd. in Columbus, which hosts a bubble tea cafe, bowling and karaoke. AAYAT members passed out various gear to patrons and presented the management with a thank you card, certificate of appreciation, and a gift bag of fun smoke-free items.

On August 12, Cincinnati AAYAT hosted their first "Thank You Section" event at Crossgate Lanes in Blue Ash, Ohio. Team members dressed in their orange "Thank You Section" shirts from **stand** and took to the bowling lanes passing out prizes to youth patrons and playing a couple games. During the event, the team presented the manager with an award plaque for supporting Ohio's new smoke free law and continuing to provide a clean air environment for patrons. Cincinnati AAYAT would also like to thank Papa Johns Pizza in Blue Ash for providing pizza for the event.

On September 1, Akron AAYAT hosted their second "Thank You Section" event at Chipotle in the Montrose shopping district. Team members held up tobacco signage along Medina Rd., hosted a laser tag competition nearby, and then moved to Chipotle for a late afternoon snack to pass out items to patrons and present the store management with a certificate of appreciation. Akron AAYAT would like to thank youth from the Akron Chinese Christian Church, Montrose Chipotle, and Laser Quest Akron for their support of the event.



Akron AAYAT and ACCC youth at Chipotle in Montrose.

Teaching Kids About Tobacco in Cleveland

During the end of July, AAYAT interns in Cleveland spent several busy afternoons preparing and teaching the S.T.A.M.P. tobacco prevention curriculum to elementary-aged Chinese students in the Community Adult Mentoring (CAM) summer program. The "Stay Tobacco Free Athlete Mentor Program", or S.T.A.M.P., is a tobacco prevention curricula developed by the American Cancer Society of Ohio for youth in grades 5-8. The program uses trained high school peer mentors to teach younger students about the harmful effects of tobacco and the benefits of leading a tobacco-free lifestyle. S.T.A.M.P. consists of four 45-minute sessions that are lead by a team of peer mentors and incorporate role playing, problem solving, educational games, and group discussion to help younger students explore their own attitudes and beliefs about the harmful effects of tobacco use.

This year, AAYAT trained 10 high school interns from the Cleveland area to act as peer mentors for the CAM summer program. Peer mentors learned teaching and presentation skills, communication techniques for talking with younger children, leading small group discussions, and developing and/ or selecting age appropriate tobacco education materials. They even learned how to work with an interpreter in a classroom.

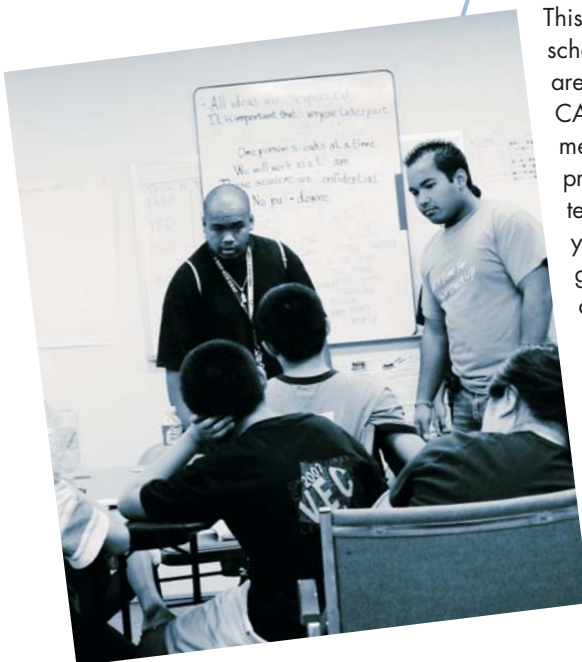
Cleveland AAYAT interns, Chan Houn and Charlie Yun, present a STAMP activity to children in the CAM program.

Starting July 23 through August 2, AAYAT interns worked in teams of four to present the curriculum to students during afternoon education sessions. Session 1 focused on introducing the students to basic information about tobacco and secondhand smoke, and encouraged students to examine the negative physical/ social consequences of tobacco use. Session 2 further encouraged students to examine how the brain becomes addicted to nicotine and began developing refusal skills through role playing exercises. Session 3 continued to build refusal skills by helping students examine their own attitudes towards Big Tobacco's "sneaky tricks" and the monetary costs of tobacco use. Between Session 3 and 4, students were asked to complete a brief take-home survey with their parents and then return it for the last session. Session 4 reviewed knowledge that students had learned by having them discuss and critique tobacco advertisements in magazines, mass media, and sporting events, and allowed them to take action by creating their own anti-tobacco advertisements and letters to the editor of their local newspapers.

Thirty-five students participated in this year's S.T.A.M.P. sessions during the CAM summer program, which has been implemented by AAYAT interns over the last four years. CAM is a program of Asian Services in Action (ASIA) and funded by the Cuyahoga County Board of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services. Cleveland AAYAT would like to thank CAM Program Director, Kitty Leung, and the entire CAM staff for their assistance and support in creating another successful year.

Want more information about big tobacco, quitting smoking, or getting involved in AAYAT?

Visit our new website at www.aayat.org



AAYAT'S HOT 2007 **stand** SUMMER TRAINING

On July 14, this year's **stand** Summer Training brought together over 60 **stand** teams from all over the state to The Ohio State University for a day of fun, learning, and rocking out against tobacco. AAYAT members from all five chapters participated in a day of various activism workshops, media sessions, and general **stand** team activities. Students were asked to register months in advance to participate in the training process with only three to four students allowed to come from each **stand** team. With numerous training subjects to choose from, **stand** members signed up for the ones that met their interests or would most benefit their team. Throughout the day, **stand** teams were able to collaborate together to brainstorm new ideas for the upcoming year. While a few classes focused on the media spotlight and how to handle questions, others took an active approach to teach the importance of the **stand** brand and the message behind **stand**'s anti-tobacco mission.

However, the day didn't stop there... teams took part in a fun and exciting challenge that brought out their competitive spirits with a twist on the Amazing Race. The hands-on contest combined important lessons, teamwork, and creativity into an awesome competition. And to top off the fun, the winner was... **Team Wasabi** represented by members of the Akron, Columbus, and Dayton AAYAT chapters!

The training day was completed with the highly anticipated DEBUNKIFY Myth Farewell Tour Concert. The concert was held as a goodbye reflection of the successful DEBUNKIFY campaign and the hard work **stand** teams have put into the tour for the year. Performances by Kate Voegel and Jackson Rohm, the winners of the Myth Farewell Tour Battle of the Bands, were a rocking conclusion to a full day of **stand**/AAYAT activism.

by Yawei Linda Li - Akron Intern

Newsletter and Media Supports

Editorial Development: Jennifer Brindle, Joseph Hau, Office Management: May Chen and Staff Members, Contributing Writers: Statewide Interns and Members, Design and Graphics: JacQ Davis, Media Review: Surendra Bir Adhikari, PhD and Beth Schieber, OTPF, Funded By: The Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation, Advisory & Distribution: State and Regional Advisors.

2007 GenerAsian neXt Conference

On August 11, this year's middle and high school youths gathered at the Capital University for the 7th Annual GenerAsian neXt Youth Leadership Conference. GenerAsian neXt is a conference providing opportunities for Ohio Asian American teenagers to develop leadership skills, self-awareness, and to become positive role models in their communities. This year, the theme "Embrace Diversity" included guest keynote speakers, Ohio State Representative Jay Goyal, up-rising comedian speaker Rajiv Satyal, and the Columbus WAIT Team—a team of youths spreading the message of "abstinence until marriage" through talents and skills including performing arts and electronic media—and many others. This year's schedule allowed participants to choose their morning workshops ranging from Asian Identity, Diversity Hybrid, Martial Arts, Yoga, and Japanese Tea Ceremony. Lunch was an all-you-can-eat buffet provided by Capital University's Parkhurst Dining Services and included a thirty-minute stand-up comedy by Rajiv Satyal. In the afternoon, participants enjoyed three afternoon sessions and the conference ended at 5:00pm with a raffle drawing of a digital camera, mp3, and radio alarm clock. After the conference, high school conference participants gathered in the courtyard for snacks, mingling and dancing until 7:30pm. Two members of Dayton AAYAT, three members from Columbus, and seven members from Cleveland were among the participants. Everyone said that they enjoyed the conference immensely because they learned a lot from the workshops, and they had fun at the same time. Everyone said they would definitely participate in next year's conference. For more information about the event, please visit www.aacsOhio.org.

by Vigor Lam - Columbus Intern

Helpful Resources

stand – www.standonline.org

Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)

– www.appealforcommunities.org

truth campaign – www.thetruth.com

Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids

– www.tobaccofreekids.org

Ignite – www.ignitegeneration.org

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

– www.cdc.gov/tobacco

World Health Organization

– www.who.int/topics/tobacco/en

PHOTO MOMENT



Akron AAYAT holds up signage along Medina Rd. in Montrose during a "Day of Activism" on September 1.



Members of Cleveland AAYAT pose for picture while passing out tobacco information before a Cleveland Indians game on August 4.



Members of Dayton AAYAT pose during a stand "Thank You Section" bowling event on June 16.



Ninjas and tobacco advocates!!! Columbus AAYAT interns in costume after a skit at the Asian Festival in May.



Join us today!
2007-08 AAYAT Internship
Applications Now Available!

Visit us at www.aayat.org
or e-mail us at
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Against Tobacco