

# Press release title

## Press release subtitle

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City, State – Program Name – [ORGANIZATION] is happy to announce that on [DATE] we will become a 100% tobacco-free campus. “Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in this country. As a health care organization, we strive to provide a healthy environment for our patients and employees, adopting a tobacco-free policy is an example of this commitment,” said President (name).

When the tobacco-free campus policy goes into effect, no smoking or use of tobacco or vaping products will be allowed in any buildings or on the exterior property of the facility, including parking areas.

Becoming a 100% tobacco-free campus has been a XX-year process for [ORGANIZATION]. Key drivers that led to our decision to make our health campus 100% tobacco-free are:

- The 2020 Surgeon General’s Report on the health hazards caused by cigarettes and how smoking cessation can improve health status and quality of life at any age; and
- Our desire to protect the health of our employees and patients and visitors.

During this transition, we have identified resources that we can provide to help our patients and employees quit using tobacco and vaping products when they are ready. We have a Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist(s) onsite for in-person assistance or anyone interested can call the Texas quitline, which offers telephone counseling free of charge at 1-877-YES QUIT.

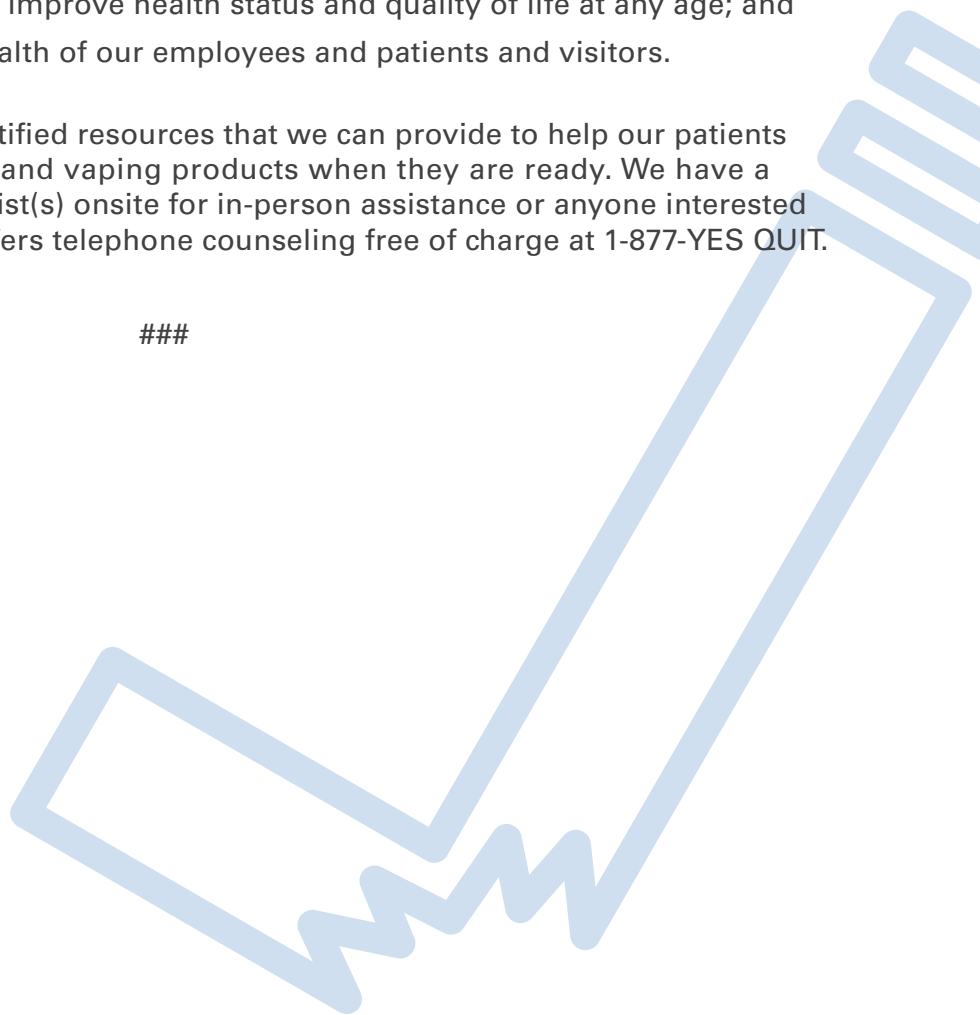
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For more information, press only:

Contact Name, Title

Phone

Email



## Sample letter to client/patient, employees and community members

### To all employees and contractors:

Beginning on [DATE], [NAME OF ORGANIZATION] will adopt a campus-wide, tobacco-free policy. This policy means that clients, visitors, employees and physicians are prohibited from using tobacco products anywhere inside or on the property of [ORGANIZATION].

All of us at [ORGANIZATION] are committed to providing the best quality care to improve the health of our patients and employees. This includes the promotion of healthier decisions by creating an environment that will encourage those behaviors.

We recognize that giving up smoking is difficult -- and we are committed to helping any employee or physician who needs support in their efforts to quit.

We can provide you with resources to assist if you want to quit smoking, include smoking-cessation consultation and medication to help reduce cravings.

You may also consider contacting our Tobacco Treatment team here at [ORGANIZATION] at [PHONE NUMBER]. The Texas quitline also offers telephone counseling free of charge at 1-877-YES QUIT where trained coaches can help you through the quitting process.

Over the next several [TIMEFRAME], look for more information about our tobacco-free campus in employee and member publications, as well as on posters, flyers and as part of other positive activities. If you have any questions about the tobacco-free campus policy, please contact \_\_\_\_\_, [DEPARTMENT], at \_\_\_\_\_.

Signatures

