



Dear Potential Community Partner,

We invite you to partner with us on the Family Tobacco Project. This study is being conducted by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. The goal of this study is to learn about the thoughts of rural caregivers/parents and their kids about: 1) preventing tobacco/nicotine use in children and 2) about a tobacco prevention intervention named Smoke-free Kids that helps caregivers/parents who use tobacco/nicotine to prevent their children from using tobacco. We are specifically recruiting caregivers/ parents who use tobacco or nicotine, have an 8–10-year-old child, and live in Desha, Chicot, Lee, or Phillips counties. By doing this study, we hope to learn how to update this intervention to help other caregivers/parents who use tobacco to prevent their children from using tobacco.

Why do we focus on caregivers/parents and their children? Rural youth experience more family-level tobacco use risk factors: They are more likely to live with caregivers who use tobacco, have environmental tobacco smoke exposure, and have access to tobacco. Rural children with caregivers who use tobacco are in critical need of family-focused interventions to prevent child tobacco use.

What will the study do? Parents and their children who qualify for the research study and decide to sign-up will be complete surveys and participate in either a focus group or interview. More specifically, parents will complete an online survey. Parents will then either participate in a virtual or in-person focus group (or group discussion) with other parents who use tobacco or complete a one-on-one interview with study staff. There will also be a short online survey for parents to complete at the end of the focus group or interview. Children will complete a survey online or over the phone with study staff and then participate in either a focus group with other children or a one-on-one interview with study staff. In-person group discussions and/or interviews will either be held at locations in the community (e.g., library) or at UAMS in Little Rock.

What are the benefits for your community? Information from this study will help us develop better interventions to prevent nicotine and tobacco use among children whose parents use nicotine and tobacco products. In addition, all families who participate will receive a copy of a family tobacco prevention program (Smoke-free Kids).

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How can you help? As a valued community partner, we hope that you will be willing to: 1) post the flyers in your facilities and 2) provide feedback on proposed recruitment strategies, preferred locations/times for holding in-person focus groups/interviews.

We have included our study flyer for you to review.

We look forward to partnering with you!

For more information, please contact our study team at FamilyTobaccoProject@uams.edu, call 501-830-1280, or scan the QR code below to let us know you are interested, and our study team will reach out to you.



Sincerely,

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