



August 2026

Dear School Administrator,

Tobacco Free North Dakota (TFND) and Bismarck Burleigh Public Health (BBPH) are pleased to announce that we will be hosting the Fall 2026 Bismarck Break Free Youth Action Summit (YAS) on Tuesday, October 6th, 2026, from 8:30am – 2:30pm at the Bismarck Event Center, 315 S 5th Street, Bismarck, ND. This annual event provides a unique opportunity for youth advocates to demonstrate their passion and commitment in helping create the next tobacco free generation.

The Bismarck Break Free Youth Action Summit is a one-day event with about 200 youth and adult coordinators from across North Dakota coming together to learn about tobacco prevention history and the beneficial tips/strategies available to live a tobacco-free life. This year, students and adults will learn about the evolution of tobacco prevention activism on a national scale and the importance of amplifying the youth voice about tobacco prevention initiatives that impact the world around us. Throughout the day, California Youth Advocacy Network's Ignacio Burgos and Kristy Packer will be facilitating workshops with a focus of building youth confidence and leadership skills on tobacco prevention issues. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in fun interactive activities that they can later repeat at their schools and in their local communities.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all summit participants. The participants' local youth coalition, school, or agency is responsible for arranging transportation to and from the summit. Please note, portions of the event may be photographed, or video recorded by TFND and BBPH staff or photographers to capture the event in action. A model release form will be provided for each student's parent/guardian to review and sign.

For more information, please visit our website at <https://tfnd.org/youth-action-summit/>. If you have additional questions or concerns about the Break Free Youth Action Summit, please don't hesitate to contact me at amenke@bismarcknd.gov or 701.355.1595.

Sincerely,

Alex Menke
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