

Memorandum of Understanding

Between Starke County Health Department and Saint Joseph Health System.

The Starke County Health Department mission is to promote and preserve the health of Starke County residents and visitors through disease prevention: healthy lifestyle promotion; safe food and a safe environment. One of the ways of achieving these goals is to partner with Saint Joseph Health System's Breathe Easy of Marshall County Alliance (BEMCA). SCHED wants to promote a smoke-free and vape-free environment in Starke County. We want to promote tobacco/nicotine addiction education program to the youth of Starke County.

Both SCHED and the Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance receive funding through Indiana Department of Health to conduct commercial tobacco prevention and cessation efforts. Because our goals around commercial tobacco prevention and cessation are aligned, we desire to collaborate and maximize resources. Therefore, this Memorandum of Understanding was designed to create an exchange of information related to educate students on commercial tobacco use, secondhand smoke exposure, vaping and cessation resources between the Starke County Health Department and the Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance.

As partners, the above-named organizations agree to provide the following:

Starke County Health Department

1. We will utilize the Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance as a primary resource for providing local health department core services for tobacco prevention and cessation required for Health First Indiana funding. This includes the following:
 - a. The Starke County Health Department will encourage schools and/or school districts in the county to collaborate with the Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance to implement "You and Me Vape Free" for 4th grade students.
2. The Starke County Health Department will offer \$500.00 per school to support the educational program of "You and Me Vape Free" to the schools in Starke County in 2025.
3. The Starke County Health Department will pay for the printing of the t-shirts for the students who participate in the educational program, "You and Me Vape Free".

Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance

We will provide Starke County Health Department the required SCHED core services for Tobacco Prevention and Cessation, including:

1. The Breathe Easy Marshall County Alliance will implement, “You and Me Vape Free” to all 4th grade students within Starke County schools.

THIS UNDERSTANDING shall go in effect March 10, 2025, and be re-evaluated in August of 2025 the beginning of a new school year. At that time, either partner may offer revisions to the agreement.

Starke County Health Department

Saint Joseph Health System/BEMCA

Signature
Frank Lynch, Administrator

Signature

Starke County Commissioner
By:

Printed

Charles Chesak, President