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Health Department to kick off Smoking Cessation Awareness Month during April

What: Kane County Health Department is partnering with 7 local healthcare agencies this April to kick-off the County's *Smoking Cessation Awareness Month*, sponsored by Pfizer. The campaign is entitled **Kane County Quits.**

Kane County Quits is a county-wide effort encouraging the community to help put an end to smoking. The goal of **Kane County Quits** is to connect tobacco-users with the countless resources available just around the corner.

Resources include: consulting with your primary care physician/healthcare provider, calling the Illinois Tobacco Quitline at 866-QUIT-YES for free cessation counseling, utilizing online tools such as www.PlanMyQuit.com, and lastly, visiting the Kane County Health Departments' tobacco webpage at www.kanehealth.com/tobacco cessation.htm.

Why: Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death worldwide, and is responsible for 480,000 deaths per year in United States alone. Further, smoking causes chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, stroke, lung disease, and diabetes. Chronic disease has been identified as one of Kane County's top health threats in the Health Department's Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). By working towards reducing smoking rates in Kane County, we are one step closer to becoming the healthiest county in Illinois by 2030.

Who: Kane County Health Department, Pfizer, and 7 local health care agencies united to create the Kane County Quits campaign, and joined forces to promote the most effective cessation tools. Kane County Quits Partners 2015 include:

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- Pfizer
- Rush-Copley
- Presence Health
- Northwestern Medicine
- Advocate Sherman Hospital
- Advocate Dreyer
- Greater Elgin Family Care Center
- VNA Health Care

For more information on how to quit smoking, please visit your local health care agency's webpage. For more information about the Kane County Health Department's tobacco program, please visit www.kanehealth.com/tobacco program.htm.