



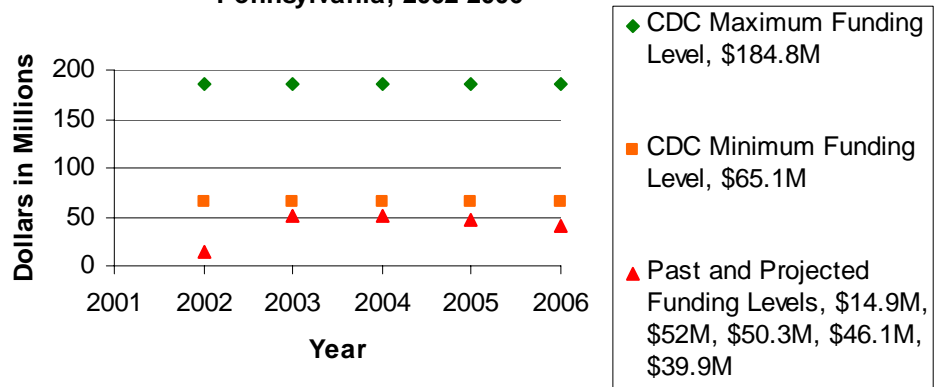
A Program of Washington County Health Partners

Benefits from Fully Funded Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Programs

Tobacco use is responsible for **more deaths** than alcohol, auto accidents, AIDS, suicides, murders, and illegal drugs *combined*. **Over \$4 billion is spent to treat health problems in Pennsylvania caused by smoking, with taxpayers paying \$1.33 billion through Medicaid.** Expenditures for health care related to lost productivity is estimated to be **\$3.94 billion** and costs for smokeless tobacco use, exposure to secondhand smoke, tobacco-related labor costs and damage and loss from cigarette-related fires add even more.

Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Programs save lives and many billions of dollars each and every year. There is no better investment Pennsylvania can make to improve the health of its citizens.¹ Currently, Pennsylvania is funding its Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program at only 70.3% of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) minimum recommended level.

Amount of MSA Funds Directed to Tobacco Prevention and Control Compared with CDC Recommendations, Pennsylvania, 2002-2006



If Pennsylvania funded at 100% of the CDC minimum (\$65.1 million), we could prevent 28,220 future youth smoking deaths and save over \$1 billion additional dollars in future health costs from less youth smoking.²

¹ Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *New State-Specific Tobacco's Toll Data From CDC*, 7-19-2002.

² Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *Youth Smoking Declines & Benefits from Adequate State Tobacco Prevention Investments*, 1-25-2005.