



ARKANSAS TOBACCO SETTLEMENT COMMISSION

July 13, 2018

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson
Governor, State of Arkansas
State Capitol, Room 250
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

Dear Governor Hutchinson,

I am pleased to provide you our 2016-2017 Biennial Evaluation Report, highlighting the progress for each of the seven programs funded by the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act of 2000. The attached report was prepared by the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Commission Evaluation Team at the University of Central Arkansas.

Pursuant to the Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act of 2000, the Commission is authorized to hire an independent third party to perform monitoring and evaluation of the programs receiving tobacco settlement funds, and the third party retained to perform such services shall prepare a biennial report to be delivered to the General Assembly and the Governor by each August 1 preceding a general session of the General Assembly. The report shall be accompanied by a recommendation from the Commission as to the continued funding for each program.

The Commission is proud that this report will show the adherence by the seven programs to the goals of the Initiated Act of 2000. Overall, the report shows success in programs having reached applicable short-term goals and progress in attaining long-term goals.

The Commission is pleased to recommend to the Governor and the Arkansas General Assembly that these seven programs receive full funding to carry out their important and vital work of improving the health and lives of Arkansans. The Commission fully believes each of these programs should go forward into the next biennium with a continued sense of mission and purpose of improving the health of Arkansans. In order to achieve this, the Commission firmly believes the seven programs of the Arkansas Tobacco Settlement Proceeds Act must continue to be funded at the current percentages.

Arkansas has continued to use the tobacco settlement funds for health improvement. The Commission and programs are grateful for your continued support and for the emphasis that you place on healthcare in Arkansas. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or have your staff contact me at (501) 683-0072 or phillip.gilmore@arkansas.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Gilmore".

Matt Gilmore
Executive Director

cc: Arkansas General Assembly
ATSC Commissioners