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## **February 2020 Newsletter**

Center for a Tobacco-Free Finger Lakes (CTFFL) (Funded by NYSDOH, Bureau of Tobacco Control)

Serving: Chemung, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne & Yates counties

Contact Connie Bottoni at connie bottoni@urmc.rochester.edu if you wish to receive or stop receiving this monthly newsletter

## Smoking is Related to Heart Disease and Stroke

Smoking is a major cause of Cardio Vascular Disease (CVD). Smoking causes one of every four deaths from CVD. Smoking can:

- Raise triglycerides (a type of fat in your blood)
- Lower "good" cholesterol (HDL)
- Make blood sticky and more likely to clot, which can block blood flow to the heart and brain
- Damage cells that line the blood vessels
- Increase the buildup of plaque (fat, cholesterol, calcium, and other substances) in blood vessels
- Cause thickening and narrowing of blood vessels



https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\_information/health\_effects/heart\_disease/

## 5 Steps to quit smoking/vaping

(from American Heart Association)

- 1. Set your "Quit Day" and take a "No Smoking" or "No Vaping" pledge.
- 2. Choose your method for quitting.
  - Stop all at once.
  - Cut back on the amount you smoke each day until you stop completely.
  - Smoke half a cigarette to reduce the amount you're smoking until you can quit completely.
- 3. Talk with your doctor and decide if you'll need medicines or other help to successfully quit.
- 4. Make a plan for your Quit Day and afterward.
- 5. And finally, quit tobacco for good on your Quit Day! Call the NY State Smokers' Quitline for extra support.



For more information or to schedule a CTFFL tobacco intervention training, contact:
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Tobacco Users and Providers can contact the NY State Smokers' Quitline or visit their website for support and resources at: 1-866-697-8487 or their website www.nysmokefree.com.