

# Texans Standing Tall

The statewide coalition committed to creating healthier and safer communities to make alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs irrelevant in the lives of youth.

## Who We Are

Texans Standing Tall (TST) is a statewide coalition focused on reducing youth substance use. TST consists of a broad spectrum of the statewide community including education and prevention agencies, advocacy groups, service and youth leadership organizations, faith-based groups, businesses, and law enforcement.

TST began in 1997 as one of twelve statewide coalitions to reduce underage drinking funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, administered by the American Medical Association. TST has since expanded and now works on youth tobacco and other drug prevention in addition to preventing youth alcohol use.

In 2009, TST became a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization but continues to function as a coalition. Over the years, funding sources have included the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Safe and Drug-Free

Schools, Paso del Norte Foundation, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Texas Department of State Health Services, Texas Department of Transportation, American Lung Association, individual donors, and fee-for-service activities, including technical assistance and training.

## What We Do

Research indicates that the most effective ways to reduce youth substance use at statewide and community levels are through policy and environmental change. As such, TST strives to implement and train others to use evidence-based community (environmental) prevention strategies to reduce alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use among Texas youth.

TST provides coalitions, communities, and individuals with:

- updates on state policies, policy implementation, and enforcement
- education on the latest research

- trainings on how to implement evidence-based prevention strategies and navigate the public policy process
- technical assistance and skills development

**Regional Forums:** TST hosts Regional Forums across Texas to equip participants with information and tools to effectively prevent youth substance use in their communities.

**Report Cards:** TST creates an annual *Report Card* that provides the latest information on youth substance use and evidence-based prevention strategies and analyzes legislation on youth alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.

**Statewide Summit:** TST hosts an annual Statewide Summit, bringing together national and state experts with participants to work to ensure continued funding and focus on proven strategies to prevent youth alcohol and tobacco use.

Join the Texans Standing Tall Statewide Coalition Today!  
Visit [TexansStandingTall.org](http://TexansStandingTall.org) for more information.



**Texans Standing Tall**  
Together creating healthier  
and safer communities.

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## Our Beliefs:

- We believe actions create the future.
- We believe everyone has a role to play.
- We believe every youth should have a healthy and safe environment to live and grow.
- We believe students deserve to graduate from high school ready for a career or college.

## Our Values:

- Civic Engagement
- Proactive
- Effectiveness
- Accountability
- Connect & Collaborate
- Prevention
- Integrity
- Research-Driven

## Our Vision:

Our vision is to make alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs irrelevant in the lives of youth.

## Our Mission:

The mission of Texans Standing Tall is to create healthier and safer communities.

## Organizational Priorities:

Change attitudes and behaviors regarding youth and college student substance use.

Educate and mobilize from grassroots to state level.

Energize and engage people to advocate for policy change.

Be a current, reliable source of information pertaining to student alcohol, tobacco, and other drug issues.

Facilitate effective trainings to create viable community participation.

Provide communities the means to take action to protect youth and college students.

Develop effective resources and tools for community use.



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