



## Talking Points: 2017 Legislative Session

OSHI staff and grantees may be getting calls and questions about the results of the election and the upcoming state legislative session (the session starts Jan. 3, 2017). We have prepared this document to serve as a resource for those questions.

As we are processing the results of the recent elections both at the state and federal level, many of you have questions or concerns related to SHIP. There are many unknowns at this time, but there are some things that we do know and can do right now.

### What we know

- Power has shifted in both the Minnesota House and Senate; there are more people of color and fewer women holding elected offices; we have a Governor and a Commissioner who are very supportive of the work of OSHI.
- SHIP is still in the base budget and funded through the Health Care Access Fund (HCAF).
- Even though there is uncertainty related to the federal and state legislative transition, our important work continues.
- We are making an impact across the state and we need to share our work and tell the SHIP story.

-We have forged strong relationships with our state, regional and local partners.

-We are showing great progress related to tobacco use and initial signs of bending the curve on obesity rates (see these resources for information)

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2015/smoking012215.html>

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/tobaccodata>

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/obesity/>

<http://www.health.state.mn.us/news/pressrel/2016/obesity090116.html>

-We have 800+ engaged CLT members and even more community partners who are supporting and engaging in the work of SHIP.

-SHIP strategies are being implemented at nearly 2,300 sites across the state.

-SHIP efforts are making a positive impact as seen through focused evaluation:

- Smoke-free multi-unit housing
- Child care
- Coming soon: Active Schools Minnesota

-SHIP leverages other funding: For every \$1 of SHIP dollars spent, \$0.68 was leveraged in additional grants or in-kind hours (based on SHIP 4 year one invoices as reported by grantees)

## TALKING POINTS

### What is MDH doing to help?

- Rolled out new statewide SHIP logo, tag line and brand message.
- Developed materials to communicate our results.
- Released evaluation materials (more will come in January).
- PSE results will be released soon.
- February regional grantee trainings will focus on media advocacy and spokesperson training.

### What can grantees do?

- Continue to do your great SHIP PSE work – it's important and it's making an impact!
- Keep working hard alongside your partners.
- Keep focused on the mission to build healthy communities.
- Share what you are doing – with policy-makers and the public through media.
  - Describe the value and the impact, using both data and success stories
  - Share communications materials that make the case for your SHIP work
  - Invite local and state policy-makers to your events
  - Work with other partners to help them share letters to the editor and information with new legislators
- Reach out to American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) to learn more about advocacy efforts and to inform CLT members on how to engage and mobilize. Contact Dana Bacon at 651-255-8132 (his email is: [dana.bacon@cancer.org](mailto:dana.bacon@cancer.org))

### What is MDH doing at the federal level?

- Preparing materials for Minnesota's federal delegation
- Providing information about SHIP to several associations e.g., APHA (American Public Health Association), American Heart Association, ASTHO (Association of State and Territorial Health Officials).

### Next steps

- OSHII leadership and staff will keep you posted as we learn more information

Minnesota Department of Health  
Office of Statewide Health Improvement Initiatives  
PO Box 64882  
St. Paul, MN 55164-0882  
651-201-5443  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

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