

**For Immediate Release** February 7, 2024 City of Highland Hts. Contact: Michael Giffen mgiffen@hhky.com

## Highland Heights, KY City Council Honored for Passing Smoke-Free Air Ordinance

Highland Heights, KY Leadership Honored for Enacting Groundbreaking Legislation: Continuing Important Community Health Movement in Northern Kentucky

Highland Heights, KY – As one of the first Northern Kentucky communities to pass groundbreaking smoke-free ordinances, the Highland Heights, Ky City Council was honored at its February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting by the Breathe Easy Coalition and the Northern Kentucky Agency on Substance Abuse Policy (NKY ASAP).

"Highland Heights' mayor, city council and administration showed true commitment to community health through the passage of this smoke-free ordinance," said Karen Finan, President & CEO, OneNKY Alliance. "We applaud this support as we pursue a healthy community for all."

Highland Heights Mayor Greg Meyers said, "Community health is a true priority for our city's leadership and passing this ordinance demonstrates how we work to advance that priority every day."

Two other Campbell County cities (Bellevue and Dayton) recently passed similar legislation. More NKY communities are expected to follow this lead in the coming months and years.

Stephanie Vogel, Director of Population Health at the Northern Kentucky District Health

Department, which is responsible for administering the ordinance, touts the importance of local community councils passing these smoke-free ordinances. By doing so, Vogel explained, they are better protecting the health of their individual communities. and setting a great example for other regional leaders to do the same in theirs.

For more information, visit <u>www.breatheeasynky.com</u>.

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## About Highland Heights, Kentucky:

Welcome to the City of Highland Heights. Nestled in the hills of Northern Kentucky, just seven miles south of Cincinnati, out quiet suburb got its start as a farm community in the 1920s. To this day, we have maintained our small-town intimacy and security, while providing convenient access to a vibrant metropolis. We are also home to one of Kentucky's fastest growing post-secondary institutions, Northern Kentucky University (NKU).

## About Breathe Easy NKY

Breathe Easy NKY connects health, education, elected and business leaders in a concerted effort to combat the public health crisis in the region related to tobacco use and vaping. The coalition is focused on improved public health, economic outlook, and the overall quality of life through a comprehensive smoke-free ordinance in Northern Kentucky. More Information: <u>Breathe Easy NKY</u>

## About NKY ASAP

NKY ASAP works to develop and oversee implementation of a long-term community strategy to reduce the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and to promote effective treatment in Northern Kentucky. More information: <u>NKY ASAP</u>