

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, this November, Tobacco Free Allegheny (TFA), the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) and the Live Well Allegheny campaign are once again joining forces to host the region's third smoking cessation week, November 12-18, "Allegheny Quits for Life;" and

WHEREAS, while smoking rates are declining nationally, the percentage of Allegheny County residents who smoke remains at 19%, ahead of 18.1% of Pennsylvania residents and 15% of adult Americans; the health effects of tobacco smoke disproportionately affect western Pennsylvanians; and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny Quits for Life initiative will feature a week-long series of events and communications designed to support residents' efforts to quit smoking; based on 2015's efforts, the PA Free Quitline saw a 9% jump in calls from other weeks in November; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny Quits for Life will kick off on November 13th with Merengue Monday, presented in partnership with the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and will be held at Katz Plaza; residents will be urged to quit, even if just for one day, encouraged to share their stories of how they quit, and are also hosting a public service announcement video contest; and

WHEREAS, we are always our most successful when we work together and the Allegheny Quits for Life initiative is no exception; in addition to ACHD and TFA, the steering committee includes representation from the American Cancer Society, Addiction Medicine Services, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, American Lung Association, YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh Mercy, and the Health Policy Institute; partners include Pittsburgh Mercy, Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic of UPMC, the YMCA, American Lung Association, American Cancer Society and Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim November 12-18, 2017 as "Allegheny Quits for Life – Smoking Cessation Week" in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 12th day of November, 2017.

Rich Fitzgerald

RICH FITZGERALD