



# Cochise Health & Social Services

Public Programs...Personal Service

[www.cochise.az.gov](http://www.cochise.az.gov)

MARY GOMEZ, RN, MN

DIRECTOR

\* \* \* MEDIA RELEASE \* \* \*

**Contacts:** Mary Gomez, Director  
[mgomez@cochise.az.gov](mailto:mgomez@cochise.az.gov)  
520-432-9404

Ray Falkenberg, Public Information Officer  
[rfalkenberg@cochise.az.gov](mailto:rfalkenberg@cochise.az.gov)  
520-432-9414

**Date:** June 10, 2015

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: *Sierra Vista Youth to Host "Tobacco-Free Day!" at Tompkins Park*

The Cochise County Youth Health Coalition in Sierra Vista will host a "Tobacco-Free Day!" on Thursday, June 25 from 2:00pm - 4:00pm at Tompkins Park (2060 S. 7th St. at Buffalo Soldier Trail). The entertainment and educational event will focus on tobacco use prevention, cessation, and creating a safe tobacco-free environment for kids, peers, and residents of Sierra Vista. All are invited to come out and support this community effort. Activities, games, trivia, and prizes will be offered to make the event enjoyable and one that will raise awareness.

This afternoon of citizen involvement will help raise awareness about the harms of tobacco use, especially around young children and in public areas where children play. Since the start of the new year, the Cochise County Youth Health Coalition has conducted two separate park clean up events and found that the amount of cigarette butts and litter from tobacco products has actually *increased* over the past few months.

The Youth Health Coalition hopes to gather as many signatures as possible at this event to petition the Sierra Vista City Council to designate all of Tompkins Park as tobacco-free, or at the very least create clearly identified smoking areas. This would significantly limit the space where children would be exposed to second-hand smoke and tobacco litter in the play areas.

For more information on becoming a valuable member of the Cochise County Youth Health Coalition, contact Roza Vickers, Health Educator at (520) 432-9495 or [rvickers@cochise.az.gov](mailto:rvickers@cochise.az.gov). The Youth Coalition Facebook page (Cochise County Youth Health Coalition) contains regular meeting dates, locations, and times, as well as other useful information.

## About Cochise Health and Social Services

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, Cochise Health and Social Services promotes health and quality of life for all Cochise County residents through community partnerships, education, service, and leadership. For more information, including recent media releases, please visit our website at <https://www.cochise.az.gov/health-and-social-services/home>.

# # #

<b>Main Office</b> 1415 Melody Lane, Bldg. A Bisbee, AZ 85603 520-432-9400 520-432-9480 fax <a href="mailto:health@cochise.az.gov">health@cochise.az.gov</a>	<b>Benson</b> 126 W. 5 <sup>th</sup> St. Benson, AZ 85602 520-586-8200 520-586-2051 fax	<b>Douglas</b> 1012 N. G. Ave., Ste. 101 Douglas, AZ 85607 520-805-5600 520-364-5453 fax	<b>Sierra Vista</b> 4115 E. Foothills Dr. Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 520-803-3900 520-459-8159 fax	<b>Willcox</b> 450 S. Haskell Ave. Willcox, AZ 85643 520-384-7100 520-384-0309
---	---	--	--	--