

DECLARATION OF SUPPORT for **YOUNG LUNGS AT PLAY**

Capital District
Tobacco-Free Coalition



In consideration of the evidence that:

- **Secondhand smoke (SHS) is harmful.** SHS can reach levels in outdoor settings as high as those found in indoor facilities where smoking is permitted; and children exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from ear infections, reduced lung function, and other negative health effects.
- **Cigarette litter is hazardous.** Small children and animals are at risk of swallowing, choking or burning themselves with discarded butts and suffering nicotine poisoning; the toxic residue of tobacco litter can seep into underground water systems and poison the soil.
- **Children model adult behavior.** When children see adults smoking in family-friendly places such as parks and playgrounds, they are more likely to view the behavior as a normal part of adult behavior and be more likely to make it a part of their own behavior.

And in recognition of the overwhelming community support , specifically:

- Nearly **83%** of Capital District (CD) residents **support** the establishment of **tobacco-free playgrounds**, including 3 of every 4 current smokers.
- **Three out of four** CD residents **support tobacco-free pools**, including 2 of every 3 current smokers.
- **More than half** of the CD community **supports making all parks and beaches tobacco-free.**

I declare my support for the *Young Lungs at Play* campaign to make Capital Region playgrounds, pools and recreation areas where children play tobacco-free.

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Please return to *Young Lungs at Play*, c/o Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition
24 Aviation Rd., Suite 204 , Albany NY 12205 or fax to 518-459-2633

Thank you for your support.

