

Name	Organization / Title
Dr. Barry Hummel, Jr.	QuitDoc Foundation (Chair)
Gary Blemur	Florida Department of Health (DOH) Broward
Brianna Holland	Florida Department of Health (DOH) Broward
Love Levy	Florida Department of Health (DOH) Broward
Claudia Fernandez	Florida Department of Health (DOH) Broward
Andy Cuddihy	Nova Southeastern University (NSU) AHEC
Bill Amodeo	All Star Media
Steve Einhorn	Commercial Real Estate
SSG Christopher Pierce	Florida National Guard Counter Drug Program
Michael Liquerman	Office of Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (Outreach/Press)
Dr. Danita Pimiento	
Jennifer Folkenroth	America Lung Association
SPC Latoya Samuels	Florida National Guard Counter Drug Program

## Tobacco Free Partnership of Broward County Meeting

Thursday, March 19, 2026, 8:15 AM

### Quick recap

The March meeting of the Tobacco Free Partnership of Broward County focused on updates and discussions across various tobacco control initiatives. The group approved February meeting minutes with minor modifications and heard updates on the Beach Sweep, led by Steve Einhorn, which has been ongoing for 11 years and continues to collect significant amounts of trash. Gary Blemur provided updates on Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) clubs, highlighting their efforts in Coral Springs to address the density of vape shops near schools and their successful engagement with local government. Andy Cuddihy shared progress on tobacco cessation programs at Nova Southeastern University, including new electronic health record integrations and upcoming Grand Rounds on vaping. The group discussed federal and state legislative updates, including concerns about FDA pre-authorization of vaping devices and the failure of several tobacco-related bills in Florida's legislature. Jennifer Folkenroth, Senior Director of Nationwide Tobacco Programs at the American Lung Association, was introduced to the group and expressed interest in highlighting their work at the national level. The conversation ended with discussions on upcoming community events and the importance of continued collaboration among partners.

### Next steps

- Steve Einhorn: Send photos and information about the beach sweep to Jennifer Folkenroth's email address today
- Barry Hummel/TFP: Add Jennifer Folkenroth to the MailChimp newsletter distribution list

- Barry Hummel/TFP: Write up notes from the meeting with the candidate (from 4 weeks ago) and send them to Claudia Fernandez
- Gary Blemur: Write something up about mentoring breakfast for the newsletter
- Barry Hummel/TFP: Send calendar invite for the March 26th joint TFP/SWAT meeting at Atlantic Tech
- Gary Blemur: Send photos from the YAB face-to-face meeting to Barry/TFP
- Barry Hummel/TFP: Send Jennifer Folkenroth's email address to Steve Einhorn
- All Partnership members: Start thinking about award nominees for September breakfast (nominations needed by June)
- Andy Cuddihy (AHEC): Promote the beach sweep as a team-building exercise to student groups at NSU
- Gary Blemur: Attend meeting with Elizabeth Chang (zoning manager) on March 24th
- Gary Blemur: Attend Rotary Club presentation on March 26th
- Gary Blemur: Attend Golden Acres community event on March 28th to recruit for point-of-sale subcommittee
- Barry Hummel/TFP: Write up and send information about the Panthers' tobacco sales at the arena to Mike Liquerman, including the statute and sign requirements.
- Barry Hummel/TFP: Follow up with Panthers' COO about required signage for tobacco sales

## Summary

### **Tobacco-Free Partnership Introductions**

The meeting started with introductions, including Dr. Barry Hummel, who identified himself as the chair of the Tobacco Free Partnership of Broward County and co-founder of the Quit Doc Research and Education Foundation. Several other participants from the Department of Health were introduced, including Brianna Holland from the Tobacco Prevention Program, Claudia Fernandez as staff assistant, Love Levy working in Community Health, and Gary Blemur as SWAT Coordinator and Senior Health Educator. Approval of February minutes, with minor corrections made by TFP. First by Mike Liquerman and second by Andy Cuddihy

### **Beach Sweep Impact Report**

Steve Einhorn reported on the recent beach sweep, which collected 259 pounds of trash with 160 volunteers, despite his absence. Jennifer Folkenroth, new to the group from the American Lung Association, expressed interest in featuring the beach sweep efforts in their national newsletter and requested photos and information from Steve Einhorn. The group discussed the long-standing success of the beach sweeps in Fort Lauderdale and their impact on local tobacco-related litter reduction.

### **Tobacco Prevention Program Updates**

The meeting covered updates on communication channels and upcoming events. TFP announced plans to connect Jennifer Folkenroth to Claudia Fernandez for health department meeting notices and add her to the MailChimp newsletter system. The Department of Health shared updates on the Tobacco Free Florida program, including work plan training scheduled for April 17-24, the Spring Into Health fair on March 28th at Lauderhill Mall, and the submission of content for the Tobacco Free Florida newsletter. Gary Blemur provided updates on the Students Working

Against Tobacco (SWAT) program, noting that 37 clubs are currently active in Broward County with a goal to reach 50 clubs, and mentioned an upcoming meeting with The Coral Springs zoning manager about potential restrictions on vape shops near schools.

### **SWAT Club Partnership and Events**

The meeting covered updates on SWAT club activities and partnerships. TFP reported hiring a second SWAT person and shared that mayors from Hollywood, Coral Springs, and Cooper City had responded positively to letters about the clubs. Upcoming events discussed included a Relay for Life event at Pines Charter High School and presentations at MacArthur Senior High and Somerset Park. The group also discussed plans for a joint meeting with TFP and SWAT Club at Atlantic Tech on the 26th at 2 PM, with a suggestion to potentially host an evening meeting for parents in the future. TFP mentioned drafting letters for middle school programming and noted challenges in planning a community event with the Panthers due to scheduling conflicts.

### **Tobacco Regulation and Enforcement Strategy**

The team discussed upcoming events and initiatives related to point-of-sale tobacco regulations. Gary reported on scheduled meetings with Elizabeth Chang, Zoning Manager from Coral Springs, and the Rotary Club, as well as a community event at Golden Acres to recruit for a point-of-sale subcommittee. The group explored challenges with mobile vans selling tobacco and other products, particularly noting that these unlicensed vehicles are appearing at events across multiple cities, with Broward and Miami-Dade being hotspots for this issue. The team also discussed their strategy of working with zoning divisions to implement regulations around tobacco product placement and marketing, as this falls outside preemption language that restricts local communities from restricting tobacco sales.

### **Youth Vaping and Tobacco Prevention**

Christopher Pierce from the National Guard shared two concerning incidents involving students and vaping products, including one where a vape led to a hospitalization and another case of a 17-year-old being recruited by a company to market their product. TFP discussed the need to address high-THC products and their impact on youth, emphasizing the importance of educating both students and legislators about the risks. The group also reviewed progress on tobacco-free public spaces, noting that Miramar and Margate were key focus areas, with plans to strengthen ordinances in Plantation and other communities.

### **Tobacco Control and Prevention Updates**

Andy Cuddihy reported progress on integrating tobacco cessation referrals into Nova Southeastern University's electronic health records system and discussed upcoming training for medical staff. The group reviewed a new American College of Surgeons standard requiring cancer centers to refer patients with smoking history to cessation programs. A Vapes on Campus case competition was highlighted, with 15 multidisciplinary teams submitting proposals, and plans were made to promote beach sweep events to NSU students as team-building exercises. The FDA's consideration of allowing flavored e-cigarette products was discussed, with concerns raised about potential impacts on youth. Legislative updates indicated that none of the tracked tobacco-related bills in Florida made it across the finish line. The conversation ended with a

discussion about the Florida Panthers selling e-cigarettes at their hockey arena, with plans to follow up on required signage compliance.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:45 A.M.

Next Meeting: April 16, 2026