

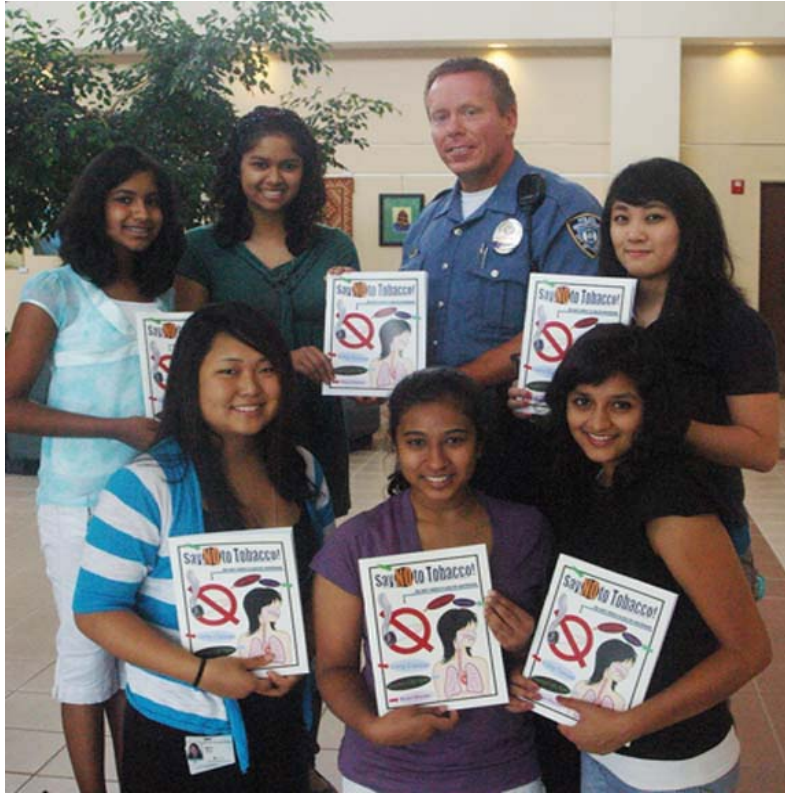
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Members of the Asian American Youth Council of Dayton along with Centerville Police Officer Robert Markham hold the first publication of the "Say NO to Tobacco!" puzzle workbook designed to help kids stay away from tobacco.

## Saying 'no' to tobacco

The teens of the Asian American Youth Council of Dayton, have released their first publication, "Say NO to Tobacco!", an anti-tobacco puzzle workbook. This culminates a year-long effort to create, produce

and design fifty pages of high quality, original word searches, crossword puzzles, secret messages and more. The effort has been a unique answer to a disturbing statistic: there are 3,000 teens who try smoking for the

first time every day in the United States. Additionally, the state of Ohio has drastically cut funding that supports anti-tobacco messaging. History shows that when tobacco information stops or slows, smoking rates once again climb.

Ohio is last among all 50 states in preventing tobacco sales to youth. By creating a fun way to reinforce tobacco facts, AAYCD intends to fight such negative trends.

It is hoped that the workbook, which targets upper elementary and middle school students, will not only decrease the number of future smokers, but also prevent future health complications and costs. The workbook has been acclaimed by principles teachers, doctors and parents alike and has received letters of support from major anti-tobacco Asian groups across the country. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the workbook should visit: [www.aaycd.org](http://www.aaycd.org)