

# Tobacco Education Program



Charlotte County Fire/EMS Paramedics and Firefighters see the effects of tobacco use everyday when they transport to the hospital patients short of breath afflicted with emphysema and cancer. Fire/EMS teamed up with the American Lung Association in providing and presenting a tobacco use prevention program to children and teens. The American Lung Association provided the kits that contain props, handouts and information on the effects of tobacco use. Firefighters and Paramedics take the kits into schools, after school programs and other community children and teen groups for presentations. The presentation includes Mr. Gross Mouth which is an example of a 30 year old that chewed tobacco, products that share the same chemicals as cigarettes, and actual pig lungs that are healthy and pig lungs that show what a smoker's lungs look like after years of smoking. For more information on this program, contact Dee Hawkins at Charlotte County Fire / EMS at 941-833-5600.