Dear [Educational Partner],

We are writing with an update about the outbreak of vaping-associated lung injury in Oregon and the state’s six-month ban on the sale of flavored vaping products. This includes resources for schools, educators, parents and others in Oregon who are talking with young people about these dangerous products. All resources are available at [**healthoregon.org/vaping**](http://www.healthoregon.org/vaping).

In response to the national outbreak of vaping-associated lung injury, including several cases and two deaths in Oregon, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) issued a public health warning urging all youth and adults to immediately stop using all vaping products. In addition, Governor Kate Brown issued an Executive Order to temporarily ban sales of all flavored vaping products in Oregon. The ban went into effect on October 15, 2019.

Both Oregon and nationally, the outbreak has been concentrated in youth and young adults, who are the most likely to use vaping products. E-cigarette use among Oregon 11th graders increased nearly 80% from 2017 to 2019, from 13% to 23%. Flavors are a key factor that entice youth to use these products. The health and safety of young people and families is a top priority for OHA and [our local health department] as we implement the ban and provide resources for the public about the health risks of vaping.

Schools, health care providers, and other organizations that work directly with youth have already been dealing with the challenge of youth vaping. With the temporary ban on flavored vape products, the Oregon Health Authority has developed a new website that includes information about the ban, resources for partners working with young people – including posters and other communications tools – and information on how to help young people quit. The website is here [**healthoregon.org/vaping**](http://www.healthoregon.org/vaping), and they are continually updating it with new materials and translations – you may find the section “For partners working with young people” especially relevant to your work. With this email, we have included two one-page flyers (one for parents and educators and one for youth), and a template letter for schools or school districts to send to parents.

We hope this website is a resource for you, your organization, and partners at the local level. Please share widely with your partners and let us know how else we can support your work to reduce the youth vaping epidemic in Oregon.

Best regards,