TUPAC Technical Assistance

Is It Lobbying?

TUPAC contractors shall not use any funds provided under the contract, either directly or indirectly, for the purpose of conducting lobbying activities or hiring a lobbyist or lobbyists on its behalf at the federal, state, or local government level, as defined in the Lobbyist Regulation Act, Section 2-11-1, et seq., NMSA 1978, and applicable federal law.

Education is relaying factual information about your program, tobacco use in your community, people's knowledge, attitudes and beliefs, etc. Education empowers others to make sound decisions. **TUPAC provides education to community members and decision makers.**

Policy Development generally involves research, analysis, consultation and synthesis of information to produce recommendations that may lead to community-based interventions. **TUPAC supports policy development through the use of its resources with TUPAC contractors and other community partners.**

Lobbying includes a call to action, asking an elected official to vote one way or another, or asking for support of proposed legislation. Lobbying directly suggests what decision others should make. **Use of funds provided by a TUPAC contract may NOT be used for lobbying.**

It is important that the words or actions of TUPAC contractors or staff not be misinterpreted as "lobbying." Given that we are not always afforded the opportunity to explain our words or actions, TUPAC requests that contractors err on the side of caution. When in doubt, contact TUPAC for further technical assistance with specific situations.

EDUCATION	POLICY DEVELOPMENT	LOBBYING
Presenting data, information and examples	Evaluating and promoting effective means to address an identified problem	Requesting a specific legislative action; contacting elected representatives to urge support of, or opposition to, proposed or pending legislation or appropriations
"This what we know about secondhand smoke…"	"… and here is how to best address it…"	"… and this is how you need to vote or decide on this…"

12.15.14