



July 2010

Dear Friend,

As we look towards cooler temperatures (hopefully!), we want to express our thankfulness to those who are a part of CHART. Without the support of volunteers, advocates and supporters we would not be where we are today. For 10 years we have worked consistently and diligently to reduce the tobacco burden in this great state and we have seen many, many successes in this time period. From the first tobacco tax increase in 2001 to the 2007 Non Smokers Protection Act, we have been working hard and we have YOU to thank for these successes!

This year however, was a politically challenging one. Due to the budget crisis and many of Tennesseans out of work, moving forward with our issues was not possible this year. However, we were able to defend our smoke free law and keep it intact, which is a huge success as well. Every year, we look at our long term goals to reduce the disease, disability and death caused by tobacco use along with the political landscape. Taking both of these into account allows us to move forward with our goals and to also continue to work with great legislators and other partners to get it accomplished. As we look to the November elections, we know that the landscape will change, and we anticipate that. We are preparing and are excited with new challenges and new partners and friends.

While we stay focused on analyzing our legislative goals, we have also pushed forward with our programmatic goals as well. To achieve this, we needed to redesign our logo to more accurately reflect who we are and what we do. We also redesigned our website. If you have not visited our website yet, I encourage you to do so, [www.tnchart.org](http://www.tnchart.org). Also this year; we began a statewide program based off of a Metro Nashville Health Department program to eliminate children's exposure to secondhand smoke in their homes and cars. Many of us grew up in a generation where parents smoked in the car and/or at home with the windows rolled up and doors closed. Breathe-free Tennessee seeks to continue the paradigm shift and have healthier families and healthier children. Secondhand smoke exposure is responsible for many illnesses, including, but not limited to respiratory infections, ear infections, asthma, cancer and hundreds of others. Thanks to many of you, we have been able to share this information across our state and truly impact the lives of families. [Breathe-free Tennessee](http://www.breathefreetn.com) is a growing program and we are so very excited of where it is headed! Check out its website at [www.breathefreetn.com](http://www.breathefreetn.com)

All of these many achievements and advancements would not be possible without the generosity of our loyal donors and supporters. We recognize that you must make difficult decisions about whom you help and we ask that you please continue to consider CHART.

You can help by: Making a donation to [CHART](http://www.tnchart.org)

A gift of any size makes a big difference. We have BIG numbers to reduce: 9700 Tennessee adults die every year from smoking, 488,000 children are exposed to secondhand smoke, and smoking costs our TennCare program \$680 million every year! Any amount, \$50, \$75, \$100 will go a long way in helping us achieve our mission statement.

Thank you for your support of [CHART](#). Visit [www.tnchart.org](http://www.tnchart.org) to make your donation today or send your check to:

CHART  
2301 21st Ave S  
Nashville, TN 37212

Sincerely,

Shelley Courington

*CHART is a 501c3 organization as defined by the IRS. All donations are tax deductible.*