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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**JAN. 20, 2004**

**TEEN ADVOCATES WORK TO SAVE OTHER TEENS FROM PERILS OF TOBACCO**  
***TOBACCO 101 CLASS IS IN SESSION***

(Greenville, NC) – The hazards of tobacco use are impossible to ignore. That's the message teen tobacco prevention advocates with the Question Why? Youth Empowerment Center of Eastern North Carolina will deliver to local high schools at a Tobacco 101 workshop on Saturday, Jan. 22 at the ViQuest Fitness Center in Greenville.

Question Why? Youth Empowerment Centers, funded by the NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund (HWTF), seek to reduce the rate of tobacco use among middle and high school students.

"We must explain to young people that tobacco use is dangerous on the body," said Terry Quinn, Question Why?'s training coordinator. "Workshops and conferences allow us to get that message out. Having teens educate their peers about tobacco use and how it impacts their lives and their bodies is a wonderful way to prepare our future leaders."

According to the 2003 Youth Tobacco Survey, nearly 7 in 10 students in eastern North Carolina have used tobacco. 46.3 percent of current [youth](#) smokers want to quit.

Tobacco 101 training objectives:

- Learn about audience analysis/preparation
- Learn basic information about harmful effects of tobacco usage
- Learn how to present a series of tobacco educational activities
- Develop an action plan to use 101 training skills

**What:** Tobacco 101  
*Meeting Activity: Group discussion and interactive presentations on tobacco facts*

**When:** **Saturday, Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:30 p.m.**

**Where:** ViQuest Fitness Center at 2610 Stantonsburg Road in Greenville.

**ABOUT THE NC HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRUST FUND**

The NC Health and Wellness Trust Fund makes North Carolina stronger, both physically and economically, by funding programs that promote preventive health. Created by the General Assembly in 2000 to allocate a portion of North Carolina's share of the national tobacco settlement, HWTF has invested \$55 million to support preventive health initiatives and \$78 million to fund a prescription drug assistance program for seniors. For more information, please visit [www.hwtfc.org](http://www.hwtfc.org).