



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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- *Tobacco treatment training program one of 28 accredited worldwide*
- *Scholarships provide access for those supporting underserved communities*
- *Salamanca H.S. and BestSelf Recovery Community implementing programs*

## **TOBACCO TREATMENT SPECIALIST TRAINING PROGRAM AND SCHOLARSHIPS IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH**

*Weeklong training sessions slated for May and October at Roswell Park; more than 230 scholarships awarded since 2023 to bolster communities*

**BUFFALO, N.Y. – April 28, 2026** – The majority of people who use highly addictive tobacco\* products want to quit, with about half making attempts [each year](#). Trained Tobacco Treatment Specialists (TTS) make a difference in their communities by empowering those making quit-attempts and prescribing proper cessation medications, increasing the odds for success and saving lives.

Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center (Roswell Park) offers a week-long [Tobacco Treatment Specialist \(TTS\) Training Program](#) to help train those interested in addressing tobacco product use and better serving their communities. The on-site certification program is one of just 28 worldwide accredited by the [Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs](#). As part of its commitment to increase the number of specialists throughout New York State, Roswell Park offered [more than 230 scholarships since 2023](#) to those working in communities that experience tobacco-related disparities.

Amee Crowley, a social worker at Salamanca High School on the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory, attended Roswell Park's program in October 2025. After attending and then becoming a certified TTS, she launched a [pilot program](#) to help students. The school hopes the program can provide prevention-based alternatives, especially for students caught with vapes or other tobacco products at school.

Nate Calhoun, a senior peer specialist at BestSelf Recovery Community in Buffalo, attended Roswell Park's TTS Training Program in May 2025. Through the skills Nate learned, he incorporated cessation treatment sessions as part of a holistic approach to wellness.

"Thanks to the knowledge and tools I brought back, we're now able to offer small group treatment sessions for nicotine cessation," Calhoun said. "This provides more engaged levels of interaction and personal attention for BestSelf participants."

The next sessions of the Roswell Park TTS Training Program take place on-site in Buffalo from **May 11 to 15** and from **October 5 to 9**. Registration details and a scholarship application are available at [www.roswellpark.org/tts](http://www.roswellpark.org/tts) or by calling 716-845-8970. Attendees are from all parts of New York State and include new Quit Coaches with the [New York State Quitline](#), which is physically based at the Roswell Park campus.

*\* The term tobacco throughout this press release refers to the use of manufactured, combustible commercial products and electronic/vape products – not the sacred, medicinal and traditional use of tobacco by Native American nations and other Indigenous groups.*

### **About Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center**

From the world's first chemotherapy research to the PSA prostate cancer biomarker, Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center generates innovations that shape how cancer is detected, treated and prevented worldwide. The Roswell Park team of 4,000+ makes compassionate, patient-centered cancer care and services accessible across New York State and beyond. Rated "Exceptional" by the National Cancer Institute, Roswell Park, founded in 1898, was one of the first NCI-designated comprehensive cancer centers in the country and remains the only one in Upstate New York. To learn more about Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Roswell Park Care Network, visit [www.roswellpark.org](http://www.roswellpark.org), call 1-800-ROSWELL (1-800-767-9355) or email [ASKRoswell@RoswellPark.org](mailto:ASKRoswell@RoswellPark.org).

### **About the New York State Quitline**

The New York State Quitline is a service supported by the New York State Department of Health and based at Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center in Buffalo, N.Y. It is one of the first and busiest state quitlines in the nation and has responded to nearly 3 million calls since it began operating in 2000. The NYS Quitline encourages those who use commercial tobacco and electronic/vape products to talk with their healthcare professionals and access available Medicaid or health insurance benefits for medication support. Confidential texting programs with weekly guidance for skill-building are available by texting QUITNOW (English) or DÉJELO YA NY (Spanish) to 333888 or by visiting [www.DropTheVape.org](http://www.DropTheVape.org). All those who live in New York State can contact the NYS Quitline seven days a week for free coaching and resources by calling 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487) or by visiting [www.nysmokefree.com](http://www.nysmokefree.com).