



## **Kansas Tobacco Prevention Workgroup for Specific Populations**

### **“Critical Issues”**

*Critical issues are fundamental policy or program concerns that define the most important situations facing a specific population group or organization now and in the future. Critical issues can reflect:*

- *Long-standing problems having a significant impact on an organization and/or people served.*
- *Barriers to be overcome in order to meet goals.*
- *Major shifts in thinking that can change direction (priorities, policies, systems changes) of an organization and the nature of the environment.*

#### **Your Task:**

The task is to discuss the items below. Identify a volunteer in the group to share the information with the full workgroup at 1:30 p.m. during “Critical Issues/Goal-Setting”. Feel free to summarize your comments on flipchart paper.

- What holds us back (barriers) from doing more to reduce differences (disparities) in tobacco use among our communities?
- What community assets and resources could be utilized to reduce disparities in tobacco use?
- What do you believe are some of the most critical issues for your specific population that need to be addressed related to tobacco prevention?

