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'Exposing the Truth' about tobacco premieres on March 23

The premiere performance of "Exposing the Truth," a play that exposes the truth about the impact that tobacco has on youths in our community will take place on Tuesday, March 23, at 5:30 p.m. at the Robert L. Taylor Community Center, 1845 34th St., Sarasota.

Written by April Glasco, chief executive officer of Second Chance-Last Opportunity (SCLO), and developed by a group of clients and local residents, the play is blunt, funny and hard-edged in its reflection of the daily stresses and challenges of life in today's world. This is the third in a series of free plays performed by a group of local residents who are completely untrained and inexperienced as actors, yet bring a vibrancy and authenticity to their performances.

The play is designed to be uplifting, imparting knowledge as well as hope. "Exposing the Truth" touches on issues of health, personal responsibility and aspects of life that do not respect boundaries of race or socioeconomic groups.

The play is sponsored by the Newtown Community Health Action Team (CHAT), with funding support from the Sarasota County Health Department. The Community Health Improvement Partnership (CHIP) is the coordinating entity for CHAT groups. CHIP is comprised of local health departments, hospitals and nonprofit organizations dedicated to improving the health of Sarasota County residents.

Second Chance-Last Opportunity is a nonprofit agency dedicated to teaching life management skills to at-risk teens, teen mothers, homeless people and low-income families who often face multiple health, social and economic challenges. SCLO's mission is to provide them with the tools, guidance and opportunities to make a better life for themselves and their families and to assist them in becoming self-sufficient.

Admission is free. For more information, call 941-360-8660.

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