

# MEET OUR STAFF



## LOWELL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

### TOBACCO CONTROL DIVISION

The Lowell Tobacco Control Program is a two-city tobacco control collaborative that also includes the City of Lawrence. This successful partnership has been in place since 2011, with the mission to develop, promote, implement, and enforce policies designed to reduce youth access to tobacco products and to reduce public exposure to secondhand smoke in the cities of Lowell and Lawrence.



## CESAR PUNGIRUM

Cesar is the Tobacco Control Director for the City of Lowell Health Department. He has been working within this position for over 10 years and has gained immense knowledge on the subject of tobacco. He does all the field work on his own and loves being involved in the community. Cesar's favorite animal is the dog, but he does not have any current pets.

## WHAT WE DO

### Complaint Investigations

The program investigates reports of smoking, illegal sales of tobacco products to minors, and other alleged violations of the tobacco regulations.

### Retail Inspections

The program conducts several retailer inspections throughout the year. It also ensures establishments are in compliance with the tobacco regulations.

### Compliance Checks

These are inspections where a minor, working undercover, attempts to purchase tobacco products at retail stores. It's an effective way to determine retailers' overall rate of compliance with current tobacco regulations.

### Community Education

The Tobacco Control Division is available to provide education on the effects of Tobacco products and Vaping.