What is COPD?

COPD or Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is an umbrella term used to describe progressive lung diseases, encompassing emphysema, chronic bronchitis, refractory asthma, and severe bronchiectasis.

**SYMPTOMS**
- Breathlessness
- Chronic Cough
- Wheezing
- Chest Tightness

**COPD Facts**
- 16 million adults have COPD, millions more are undiagnosed
- COPD is 4th leading cause of death in the United States
- Every 4 minutes someone dies of COPD in the US
- Rate of COPD is 3.5 times higher in those with incomes under $25,000
- COPD costs between 40-70 million annually in US, with majority of costs due to hospitalization

**CAUSES OF COPD**
- Smoking (tobacco products)
- Second Hand Smoke
- Chemicals
- Early Childhood Experiences
- Dust
- Air Pollutants
- Genetics

How can you help support COPD Community?
- Join the COPD Caucus
- Learn about and support implementation of the COPD National Action Plan
- Spread awareness and inform your constituents about signs of COPD
- Increase access to pulmonary rehabilitation
- Support early diagnosis and treatment methods
- Support COPD research initiatives