

# National Anti-Smoking Drive Starts With Clinic in State

By

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A federal health educator has been assigned to Connecticut to inaugurate a national anti-smoking campaign by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

HEW Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr. announced the assignment Tuesday as he toured a lifestyle health clinic with Gov. Grasso at the Southern New England Telephone Co. offices, 111 Trumbull St.

The clinic, one of a series to be held around the state, was sponsored by the state Department of Health and the state affiliates of the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Lung Association and Blue Cross & Blue Shield.

Ronald Stoddard of the Bureau of Health Education in the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta has been loaned to the state Health Department for at least a year, Califano said. "He's the first member of our new anti-smoking team to be assigned to a state. He'll work with the Health Department and the private sector to promote our quit-smoking program, to find out why people smoke and how we can help them stop," he said.

Califano, who stopped smoking three years ago at the request of one of his children and who now is an anti-smoking crusader, said 100,000 13-year-old Ameri-



## Health Chief Tests Lungs

Joseph A. Califano Jr., secretary of health, education and welfare, right, blows up a bag for a test of the carbon monoxide in his lungs during his tour of a health clinic in Hartford Tuesday with Gov. Grasso. "I feel terrific," the non-smoking HEW chief said when his lungs were shown to be clean (Courant Photo by Michael McAndrews).

cans smoke at least a pack a day. He said \$1 billion of the \$13 billion paid out by the Social Security Administration for disabilities is for heart disease, cancer and strokes traced to cigarette smoking. He called this a "\$1 billion tax imposed on us by the cigarette companies."

The secretary praised the lifestyle clinic as he watched telephone company employees being tested for high blood pressure, for exercise

tolerance, for breathing capacity and for overall health. Califano was tested for carbon monoxide concentration in his lungs and had a low reading typical of non-smokers. He called the program a first in the United States.

The governor and HEW secretary then went to the Albany Avenue Senior Center at the First Baptist Church, 165 Oakland Terrace, and talked to the elderly men and women who have their noon meals there. That federal program, administered by the state Department on Aging, provides meals at 141 sites in the state and serves more than 40,000 patrons.

Tuesday morning, Mrs. Grasso and Califano visited the Branford construction site of Hospice.