

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

***BUILD SUCCESS BY*** partnering with local agencies and organizations. Community partners can advise during planning, educate residents during implementation, and help support cessation.

### Planning for success

Identify local resources and engage partners early in the planning process. Local partners can:

- Provide easy-to-understand written materials or in-person presentations during organized meetings to help communicate the purpose of the smoke-free policy
- Provide legal guidance and technical assistance during policy development
- Offer cessation resources for residents who may be motivated to quit smoking

### Benefits of partnerships

Local partners within your community are potential resources to support policy adoption and implementation efforts. For example, community partners may offer:

- Easy-to-understand resources about the effects of secondhand smoke, in appropriate languages
- Health educators to provide presentations at resident meetings about secondhand smoke and the benefits of smoke-free policies
- Data to provide evidence on the effects of smoke-free policies on the community's health
- Funds and giveaways for resident meetings
- Direct cessation support for residents interested in quitting
- Technical support to address specific challenges that may arise during policy implementation

### Potential partners

Potential partners will differ by community, but here are some examples of types of partners and the kinds of support they may offer during implementation.

#### Health

Community health centers, hospitals, health or public health departments, and community service agencies:

- Health educators to train residents on the health benefits of smoke-free housing
- Smoking cessation support or referral services
- Smoke-free signage or other smoke-free print materials

Health care professionals:

- Individual smoking cessation support
- Strategies to help smokers who are not ready to quit comply with the policy

## Municipal

Fire department:

- Training on fire risk reduction

## Legal

Local courts and legal advocacy groups:

- Guidance on legal processes to enforce a smoke-free policy
- Assistance for residents who are struggling with compliance or frustrated by enforcement

## Housing

Other smoke-free PHAs:

- Sample smoke-free policy language
- Successful strategies for compliance
- Support for challenging aspects of implementation and enforcement

HUD regional offices:

- Guidance on local ordinances or laws that affect the smoke-free policy

## Non-profit organizations

Local chapters of American Lung Association, American Cancer Society:

- Information about the health effects of tobacco
- Reports on tobacco control efforts in your community
- Smoking cessation resources

National Advocacy Groups: Americans for Nonsmokers Rights, Truth Initiative:

- Education for staff and residents on smoke-free housing
- Graphics and print information on the health effects of tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke

## Resources

**American Cancer Society** [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

**American Lung Association** [www.lung.org](http://www.lung.org)

**CDC Office on Smoking and Health** [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about/osh/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/about/osh/index.htm)

**HUD Office of Public and Indian Housing** [www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing](http://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing)

**HUD Regional Offices** [www.hud.gov/states](http://www.hud.gov/states)

**Smoke-free Housing Options (Americans for Non-smokers Rights Foundation)**

[no-smoke.org/at-risk-places/homes/](http://no-smoke.org/at-risk-places/homes/)

**The Building Success project** supports efforts to implement smoke-free policies by sharing practical ideas and insights from housing providers and residents who went smoke-free. Learn more at [www.BuildingSuccessSmokefree.org](http://www.BuildingSuccessSmokefree.org).