Public Health Solutions

SMOKE-FREE HOUSING IN NYC

The ability to live in a smoke-free home is a luxury not all New Yorkers are afforded. While many condos, co-ops, and rentals in NYC are increasingly going smoke-free, this positive trend has been slow to reach New Yorkers who live in affordable or rent-regulated housing. NYC Smoke-Free, a program of Public Health Solutions, works to ensure no family, children or the elderly is forced to endure harmful secondhand smoke pollution in their homes.

SMOKE-FREE HOUSING BENEFITS EVERYONE

Smoke-free housing protects the health of all New Yorkers, saves landlords and property owners money, and is strongly supported by the public. Buildings that are 100% smoke-free, prohibit smoking altogether, including in individual apartments, indoor common areas, and any outdoor space.

- 44% of multi-unit housing residents who do not smoke inside have experienced secondhand smoke in their unit
- Smoking causes 7,600 fires in residential buildings each year in the US
- Smoking adds $3,000 to unit refurbishing and cleaning expenses

SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING LEADS TO HEALTHIER RESIDENTS

As of July 2018, all New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) housing has been smoke-free, complying with a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulation for all federally-funded public housing in the US. NYCHA's policy promotes the health of public housing residents and staff by reducing their exposure to secondhand smoke.

- As of July 30, 2018, NYCHA has been smoke-free — meaning the use of cigarettes, cigars, electronic cigarettes or ENDS , pipes, and hookah pipes is prohibited in apartments, indoor common areas, and within 25 feet of public housing buildings.
- More than 1/3 of NYCHA residents reported having 1 or more child with asthma, and were twice as likely to have asthma than the general population before this policy
- 400,000 New Yorkers who live in NYCHA housing are no longer exposed to harmful secondhand smoke in their homes

CHILDREN AND THE ELDERLY ARE MOST AT-RISK

Smoke-free housing policies ensure that New Yorkers who are at risk, especially children and the elderly, can live healthy lives free from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

Secondhand smoke can lead to many health conditions that are deadly for children and seniors:

- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS
- Ear and respiratory infections
- Asthma
- Stroke and heart attack
- Cancer

17 percent of people 60-79 years old have chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) or asthma — both of which are frequently caused by smoking or exposure to secondhand smoke.

SMOKE-FREE HOUSING'S HISTORY IN NYC

2008 ONLY ONE RENTAL LISTING IS AVAILABLE IN A BUILDING ADVERTISED AS NON- SMOKING

2014 THE NUMBER OF RENTAL LISTINGS AVAILABLE IN SMOKE-FREE BUILDINGS INCREASES TO 1,488

2018 ALL NYCHA PROPERTIES IMPLEMENT A SMOKE-FREE POLICY, BENEFITING OVER 400,000 NEW YORKERS WHO LIVE IN NYCHA HOUSING

ALL NYC BUILDING OWNERS ARE REQUIRED TO CREATE AND DISCLOSE A SMOKING POLICY TO CURRENT AND PROSPECTIVE RESIDENTS —GIVING NEW YORKERS CRUCIAL INFORMATION WHEN CHOOSING WHERE TO SMOKE AND USE OF E-CIGARETTES IS PROHIBITED IN COMMON AREAS IN MULTIPLE DWELLINGS WITH FEWER THAN TEN UNITS

NYC Smoke-Free can provide education, resources, and technical assistance to help your building create smoke-free protections for all residents and visitors

Please visit **nycsmokefree.org/connect/** to contact your borough Community Engagement Manager and start the process.

CONTACT US

NYC Smoke-Free
Visit: nycsmokefree.org
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www.nycsmokefree.org @NYCSmokeFree