**Adoption Strategies: Contemplating Your Smoke-Free Policy\***

**Consider your policy options and reasons for going smoke-free**

It is important to understand why you wish to implement a smoke-free policy. Recognizing and mapping out your rationale will assist you move into the implementation phase and as you explain to your residents about the impending changes.

**Review and become familiar with federal policies such as HUD Notices**[[1]](#endnote-1)

Review HUD Notice PIH-2012-25: Non-Smoking Policies in Public Housing and HUD Notice 2012-22 Further Encouragement for O/As to Adopt Optional Smoke-Free Housing Policies.

**Learn about Local Smoke-Free Laws**

The District of Columbia, like a many cities across the U.S. has established smoke-free provisions in workplaces, factories, restaurants, and bars. Become familiar with these regulations and understand where smoking is allowed in the District.

**Contact Owners/Agents with Smoke-Free Policies**

Talking about the process of going smoke-free with other District owners/agents of subsidized or market rate multifamily housing can be very useful. You may also want to consider hosting a meeting or form a group with a central organizer to talk about smoke-free policies at locally or at regional meetings**.**

**Review Examples of Smoke-Free Policies**

Smoke-free policies follow a similar structure and share common elements. Well-developed policies are publicly available to review and learn from, and they can save you the trouble of writing your own. The policies protect residents in multifamily housing. Specific policy language and enforcement plans vary and can be viewed on the District of Columbia Smoke-Free Housing website.

**For PHAs:** PHAs opting to implement a smoke-free policy must change their House Rules with a lease addendum and obtain board approval for the change. HUD does not need to provide approval of a smoke-free policy. PHAs should update their Annual Plans to reflect the change to the House Rules.

**For Owner/Agents:** HUD encourages owners/agents of subsidized or market rate multifamily housing to review the notice on smoke-free policies for an overview of the guidance. Owners/agents choosing to implement a smoke-free housing policy must update their House Rules and Policies and Procedures, as applicable, to incorporate the smoke-free housing requirements.

\* The "Adoption Strategies: Contemplating Your Smoke-Free Policy" section was adopted in part from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. [Change is in the Air: An Action Guide for Establishing Smoke-Free Public Housing and Multifamily Properties](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=smokefreeactionguide.pdf), October 2014; pages 41-44.

1. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes. [Change is in the Air: An Action Guide for Establishing Smoke-Free Public Housing and Multifamily Properties](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=smokefreeactionguide.pdf), October 2014; pages 41-44.

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