

Strategy #11: Smoke-free/ e-cigarette-free Multi-Unit Housing

Increase the number of smoke-free or smoke-free/e-cigarette-free policies in multi-unit housing with a minimum coverage of all indoor spaces and balconies, patios, and porches.

Expected Outcomes:

Increased number of multi-unit housing complexes with new smoke-free OR smoke-free/electronic cigarette-free policies covering all indoor spaces and balconies, patios and porches.

Health Equity Planning Principals:

Rates of tobacco use are not equally distributed across North Carolina's population. Some groups, identified as priority populations, use tobacco at disproportionately higher rates. These include low income, less educated, males, African Americans, American Indians, people with mental illness, substance use disorders and/or disability issues, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender populations. Pregnant women who use tobacco are at higher risk for having pregnancy complications. Engage the priority population and decision makers that can support evidence-based policies, systems and programs.

Recommended Partners:

• TPCB Regional Managers • local apartment associations • champions who own multi-unit properties that are already smoke free

Intervention Examples:

- A. [Greater Charlotte Apartment Association Smoke-free Housing Certification](#)
- B. [Ginkgo Residential](#)
- C. [Oxford Housing Authority](#)
- D. [Wilson Housing Authority](#)

Related Programs:

The Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch provides support for proven strategies to:

1. [Prevent the initiation](#) of smoking and other tobacco use
2. Eliminate exposure to [secondhand smoke](#)
3. Help tobacco-users [quit](#); and
4. Identify and eliminate [tobacco-related health disparities](#) among N.C. populations and communities.

Recommended Tools/Resources:

- A. Smoke-free Multiunit Housing North Carolina: <https://www.smokefreehousingnc.com>

North Carolina Resources:

- A. NC TPCB Regional Manager staff technical assistance: <https://tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/about/localtpcgroups.htm>
- B. Greater Charlotte Apartment Association Smoke-free Certification www.greatercaa.org/smoke-free-certification

Data Sources

Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) data includes information on exposure to secondhand smoke but is not specific to multi-unit housing.

- A. BRFSS Secondhand Smoke Data <https://schs.dph.ncdhhs.gov/data/brfss/2017/nc/risk/topics.htm#indoor>