



Dear Landlord/Property Manager:

The information in this packet is intended to educate landlords and property managers about smoke-free housing and how to implement a 100% smoke-free facility policy. Many are not aware that smoke-free housing is completely legal and even profitable. The enclosed brochure and *Legality and Profitability* sheet provide further information on these issues.

It is well known that exposure to secondhand smoke is a dangerous public health hazard. Creating smoke-free public housing is an important step forward in addressing this issue, and one that is gaining momentum on a national level. As of June 2009, over 115 housing authorities nationwide have smoke-free housing policies in place.

Not only does smoke-free housing protect public health, it saves money for landlords and property managers by reducing maintenance costs, reducing the risk of fires, and possibly reducing insurance premiums.

The enclosed Sample Resident Survey and Sample Resident Survey Letter **may** be used to do a survey of residents in the housing unit(s). Since 75% to 80% of people do not smoke, typically survey results show that the majority of residents are in favor of a smoke-free policy. **However, a survey does not need to be done to move forward with implementing a 100% smoke-free facility policy.**

The Sample Smoke-free Housing Policy and Sample Smoke-free Lease Addendum/House Rule can be adapted for any facility and used to implement a smoke-free policy. A minimum of 30 days is required by law to incorporate any changes into a lease agreement. It is best to allow 60 days or more before starting the smoke-free policy as time is needed to inform and educate all residents, staff and visitors and to post plenty of smoke-free signage.

Tobacco cessation information should be made available to all residents by distributing the enclosed Alaska Tobacco Quit Line information or offering low cost or free cessation classes at your facility.

Please call us if you have any further questions.

**Alaska Smoke-free Housing Partnership**



**1-888-474-4635**