

Model Tobacco-Free Policy for Community Organizations

Purpose

According to the U.S. Surgeon General's Report of 2006, the Environmental Protection Agency of 1992, the South Carolina Clean Indoor Act of 1990, and the Federal Pro-Children Act of 1994, tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke are hazardous to the health of human beings. As a community organization, we are dedicated to improving the health and well-being of our residents and visitors. We recognize that tobacco in any form is a major cause of preventable disease and death in this state and country. It has also been acknowledged a fire hazard.

Thus, the use of all tobacco containing or tobacco derived products, smokeless tobacco (snuff, chewing tobacco, dip, snus), e-cigarettes, and other tobacco or non-FDA approved cessation products are prohibited. It does not apply to nicotine replacement therapy products (gum, patch, lozenge, inhaler), which help tobacco users with cessation efforts.

The tobacco-free policy applies to everyone (employees, members, visitors, contractors, delivery drivers, etc.) at all times (with no exemptions).

Goals

The goals of this policy are to provide a safe and healthy environment. These goals will be achieved through efforts designed to:

- Exhibit model tobacco-free behavior for our youth and adults;
- Eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) and vaping aerosol toxins;
- Provide information on and/or promote smoking and/or vaping cessation programs for those in need;
- Reduce fire hazards.

Procedures

We will:

- Prohibit tobacco use in or on any of the grounds and vehicles of the organization.
- Prohibit tobacco use at meetings, events or any sponsored program activities.
- Support the prohibition of tobacco use by sponsoring tobacco-related educational sessions.
- Educate all the community regarding the harm of tobacco use.

Enforcement

We will be responsible for enforcing this policy and determining the appropriate sanctions for violations of the policy.

Education and Assistance

We will be responsible for providing support, educational sessions and materials, and referrals for cessation services.

Tobacco Industry Marketing or Sponsorship

We will not accept any sponsorship from any tobacco-related producers or marketers. In addition, we will not allow tobacco advertising on gear or other paraphernalia at any function/activity.