

Key Findings

Background

There is **no risk-free level** of **secondhand smoke exposure**. Cigarette smoking prevalence is higher among low-income adults and individuals who reside in federally assisted housing. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ruled that all public housing agencies were to adopt a smoke-free policy by July 30, 2018.

Milwaukee, WI

Largest city in Wisconsin and the 5th most impoverished city in the nation.

The adult smoking prevalence for African Americans is 28%, nearly double the average Wisconsin smoking prevalence of 16%

Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM), the largest public housing authority in Wisconsin, serves 10,600 households.

Purpose

Nearly **600 surveys** were completed by HACM public housing residents to assess their opinions regarding smoke-free housing policies, resident smoking behavior, knowledge and utilization of smoking cessation services, and perceived service gaps.



Results

80% of all smokers who responded to the survey, reported taking at least **one positive action toward quitting**, post smoke-free policy.



Some residents are still unsure what the smoke-free policy covers, and **continued educational efforts** are still necessary.



More than **1 in 5** residents still report smoke in housing buildings **after** policy implementation.



The top requests for help to quit smoking were



On-site support groups.



Quit incentives



On-site cessation programs



On-site free cessation medication