

**Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention  
Grantee Monthly Training Call  
Topic: Smokefree Housing  
September 16 and 17, 2009**

**Trainers**

Diane Laughter, Consultant  
Health In Sight LLC  
Oregon Smokefree Housing Project  
[Diane.laughter@comcast.net](mailto:Diane.laughter@comcast.net)  
503 291-9134

Jo Becker, Fair Housing Council of Oregon  
[jbecker@fhco.org](mailto:jbecker@fhco.org)     <http://www.fhco.org>  
503-453-4016 (cell) 503-223-8197 (office)  
1020 SW Taylor St, #700, Portland OR 97205/

**Highlights**

The primary focus of the call was to explore the opportunity to wrap messages about Smokefree Housing into education about the new Landlord Disclosure Law:

- General discussion about the new law and Q&A:
  - The law states that landlords, as part of the rental agreement, need to disclose their smoking policy to their tenants. The landlord is required to notify renters if smoking is or is not allowed on property. If smoking is allowed on the property, the landlord must clearly indicate where it is allowed.
  - Since there is no enforcement built into the law, it can be used as an educational campaign for landlords and tenants, and provides an opportunity for local TPEPs to encourage landlords to go ahead and adopt no-smoking policies.
  - This law is not enforcement centered.
  
- Participants shared what they had done so far.
  
- Went through *Checklist of Potential Activities* and made the following points:
  - Activities should be prioritized, landlords first, renters next and then general population outreach.
  - Don't worry about overlap in messaging to the same agencies; the more landlords hear from different sources, the better.
  - Encourage renters to request smokefree housing.
  - Activities must work within a program's budget.
  - Taking advantage of these great opportunities to become a trusted source of information, not necessarily an "expert".
  - Make sure we are not dispensing legal advice; stick to wording in template materials, have someone read over things going out.

- Jo Becker from the Fair Housing Council went through her spreadsheet of opportunities and how to do a Section 8 check insert.
- **“Tracking of properties that have adopted no-smoking policies”** – went through form that is due with their quarterly reports from now on. Explained expectations.
- **HUD Memo** – Great opportunity to send a letter and offer to work together and help. Diane will repost the email she sent regarding HUD Memo The following is a list of ideas of people to connect with, how to connect and other ideas for mailings regarding the Landlord Disclosure Law: 1) Share information through presentations with landlord committees, rental associations, Section 8 housing mailings, Housing Authority mailings and newsletters, Section 8 housing meetings, Rental owners association, garbage and fire departments can also be of a benefit when getting the word out. . Please share additional ideas with the TPEP listserv.

### **Don't Forget**

- **Quarterly Rental Ad tracking** is due at the end of the month -- Go to the rental ad tracking spreadsheet on TPEP connection and use this EXACTLY as is and please get it to Diane by the end of September.
- There is a whole subsection on **TPEP Connection** that includes tools.
- **NEW REQUIREMENT:** Tracking form for Multi Unit Housing that Have Adopted No Smoking Policies spreadsheet. This spreadsheet is located at: Policy team>Smokefree Housing Resources>tracking tools. This is a way to keep track of properties that have adopted no smoking policies. The Unit is the policy. Each property would have a separate line. Send in with quarterly reports. Duplex and up are required to be entered
- Please feel free to invite Diane for some strategic planning; she would love to come out!