

Success Story Worksheet



Date Submitted:

4/15/2011

County/Area/Tribe:

Lincoln

Goal Area:

- ☐ Cessation
- ☐ Disparate Populations
- ☒ Secondhand Smoke Exposure
- ☐ Youth Prevention

Individuals/Target Audience:
(who this happened to)

North Platte Housing Authority, Autumn Park Residents

Setting:
(Where and when this took place)

Autumn Park Housing Complex
900 Autumn Park Drive
North Platte, NE 69101-7639

Conflict:
(obstacle, barrier or problem)

The Executive Director of the North Platte Housing Authority approached Tobacco Free Lincoln County Coalition members about passing a smoke-free policy for all living units within the Autumn Park Housing Complex. He did not have unanimous support from the North Platte Housing Authority Board or the Autumn Park residents. Board members complained that the policy was infringing on residents' rights and referenced problems with policy enforcement. Resident complaints and negative feedback regarding the potential policy also posed a barrier for implementation.

Action:
(what happened)

In addition, Prochazka spoke to the manager of the local bar in Huck's business neighborhood regarding the concern of people smoking near the other businesses entries. The bar owner was asked to encourage bar customers to use the rear entrance of the bar to smoke and where a cigarette butt receptacle is available. The manager seemed amenable.

Outcome(s):
(measurable or concrete evidence of change)

As of April 1, 2010, all Autumn Park living units are smoke-free. Through the education efforts of Tobacco Free Lincoln County Coalition members, and supporting materials made available from Tobacco Free Nebraska, the Executive Director was able to gain the support needed from the Housing Authority Board to pass a comprehensive smoke-free policy. Smoke-free building signage is present on all Autumn Park complexes and informational materials are available for residents to give family and visitors alerting them of the policy change. He is working to offer cessation opportunities at a reduced cost for residents wanting to quit using tobacco.

Relevance:
(how this story helps us demonstrate need or measure success)

The Executive Director of the North Platte Housing Authority saw the need for a smoke-free policy to be implemented in all Autumn Park living units. He also recognized the need to have the policy be effective for every resident at the same time and not during lease renewals. The risk of involuntary secondhand smoke exposure on residents' health led to a positive change and a strong impact on the Coalition's goal of creating a social norm change around no tobacco use in Lincoln County.