

Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority

2010 Policies & Procedures

Smoke-Free Housing Policy

Smoke-Free Housing Policy

The Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority finds that:

WHEREAS, the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority cares about the health, welfare and safety of all residents and rental facilities;

WHEREAS, numerous studies have concluded that exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke is a serious health hazard that can cause disease in healthy nonsmokers including cancer, heart disease, and respiratory disease and is responsible for over 53,000 deaths annually nationwide;

WHEREAS, secondhand tobacco smoke is particularly hazardous to elderly people and children, causing or exacerbating asthma, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease and infections, cancer and SIDS (sudden infant death syndrome);

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General's Report in 2006, *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke*, states (1) secondhand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke, (2) exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system, and (3) **“there is NO risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke”**;

WHEREAS, the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) has determined there is currently no air filtration or other ventilation technology that can completely eliminate the carcinogenic components in secondhand smoke;

THEREFORE, the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority adopts this smoke-free housing policy for all LIHTC, HOME, Transitional, Elderly Low Rent and Low Rent, and Fair Market units in all communities.

Definitions:

1. “Smoking” means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated tobacco product.
2. “Resident” means living in, or staying in Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority housing.
3. “Employee” means manager, owner representative or worker of Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority.

Smoke-Free Procedure:

1. Effective on August 1st, 2010, smoking will not be permitted anywhere inside the buildings / units. This includes, but is not limited to, individual living spaces, all common areas, hallways, stairs, elevators, restrooms, and other enclosed areas.
2. This policy applies to all current and new residents, all employees, and all guests at all times.
3. Failure of any resident to follow the smoke-free policy will be considered a lease violation and treated as such under the original terms of the lease. Repeated lease violations may result in termination of the resident's lease.
4. "No Smoking" signs will be posted inside and outside the building(s).
5. If a resident smells tobacco smoke in any place in the building(s), they will report this to the Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority as soon as possible.
6. Upon adoption of the policy, all new and current residents will be given a copy of this Smoke-Free Policy.
7. Upon adoption of the policy, all new and current residents will sign the Smoke-Free Housing Lease Agreement Addendum. A signed copy will be placed in the resident's file and a copy given to the resident.
8. The Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority Smoke-free Policy shall be communicated to all current staff and residents 60 days prior to its effective date, and at the time of employment for all employees and prior to admission and/or prior to the signing of any new lease agreements. This policy is effective on August 1st, 2010.

Signatures:

Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority Representative	Date
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Tenant Signature	Date
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