

Bryan's Auto Body Prioritizes Health with Smoke-Free Policy

Summary

Bryan's Auto Body in New Vineyard, Maine is a family owned and operated business celebrating 43 years serving our community. This fall, Bryan's Auto Body made the decision to implement a Smoke-Free Policy, protecting their employees and their customers from the harmful effects of second hand smoke.

Need

According to 2020 County Health Rankings data, 16% of adults in Franklin County are current smokers. In Maine, smoking causes more than \$600 million in productivity losses each year. Smoke-free workplace policies are effective tools for saving money and lives by: protecting worker health, supporting employees who are trying to quit, reducing maintenance and insurance costs, and preventing employees from starting to use tobacco products.



Program Description



Healthy Community Coalition of Greater Franklin County (HCC) staff reached out to Francine Fletcher, the office manager at Bryan's Auto Body to inquire about any policy needs and to encourage the adoption of a comprehensive smoke-free policy. Francine expressed an interest to reduce smoking at their place of business along with a desire to support employees who were interested in quitting smoking. Together HCC staff and Francine developed a policy to meet Bryan's Auto Body needs that was adopted on November 9, 2020.

Results/ Success

Bryan's Auto Body is prioritizing the health of their employees and their customers while establishing a new norm for their business and in their community by prohibiting smoking in all company owned buildings and vehicles, including loaner vehicles. Bryan's Auto Body demonstrates their concern for their employees with their new policy by including support for workers - providing resources for those who are interested in quitting tobacco, including promotion of the Maine QuitLink.



Sustainability

Bryan's Auto Body management will use no smoking signs posted at all building entrances and throughout the buildings as an enforcement strategy for this policy, along with smoke-free window decals for company owned vehicles, and the inclusion of the policy in training manuals and new employee orientation.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health states that addressing the risks of smoking and tobacco use in the workplace and providing tobacco cessation programs for employees is vital to improve overall health of individuals and recommends that workplaces become smoke and tobacco-free and employers make cessation programs available to workers.

For More Information Contact Us At:

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