

Community Housing of Maine

Health equity can be achieved in tobacco prevention and control by eliminating differences in tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke between certain groups. Smoke-free policies in public housing, affordable housing, and market-rate housing have the potential to provide protection for populations with high exposure to secondhand smoke, including low-income families, elderly residents, and persons with chronic diseases or disabilities.

Exposure to secondhand smoke is harmful. Children, the elderly, and people with disabilities who live in public housing are especially vulnerable. Approximately 58 million nonsmokers in the U.S. are exposed to secondhand smoke, many of whom are exposed in their homes. About 41,000 nonsmoking adults die every year due to heart disease and lung cancer caused by secondhand smoke exposure. Sadly, secondhand smoke kills more than 400 infants from SIDS each year.



Community Housing of Maine (CHOM) develops, owns, and maintains, quality affordable housing options for Maine's most vulnerable people. The organization advocates on the behalf of its residents to produce and maintain community-based housing that fosters a sense of pride, dignity, and respect. There is no doubt that CHOM is dedicated to those that call CHOM properties home. They show continued commitment through the adoption of a strengthened smoke-free policy that will touch many lives by creating healthy, smoke-free environments in which people can live and thrive.

Let's talk about impact!

78% of CHOM housing residents have some form of disability. Additionally, 1,000+ of Maine's most vulnerable people are housed here. A total of 6,750 people have been housed since CHOM's inception in 1993. There are 81 buildings and 787 units across the following counties: York, Cumberland, Penobscot, Somerset, Waldo, Knox, Lincoln, Kennebec, Hancock, and Androscoggin. CHOM has 81 buildings, 791 units and over 1,000 tenants.

District Tobacco Prevention Partners will continue to offer tobacco prevention and cessation resources to Community Housing of Maine. We are optimistic about the opportunity to partner with the property further through the multi-unit housing partnership form.

For More Information Contact Us At:

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