



B I S M A R C K TOBACCOFREE C O A L I T I O N

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health
PO Box 5503
500 E. Front Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58506-5503



Fall 2013

Survey Finds Bismarck Tenants Ready for Smoke Free Policies

Across the nation, the interest in smoke free housing is swelling. Bismarck is no different. When the new statewide smoke free law passed, Bismarck Burleigh Public Health received a flood of calls from tenants who were ecstatic about finally seeing the secondhand smoke disappear from their apartment unit. However, they were soon disappointed to find the new state law addressed smoking in common areas, hallways, and near entrances of apartment buildings but not 100 percent of the building.

In 2013 a survey of multi-unit housing residents living in Bismarck, North Dakota was completed by the Roswell Park Cancer Institute located in Buffalo, New York. Below are some facts found from the tenant market in Bismarck.

- 76% of all multi-unit housing residents surveyed, reported they would prefer to have a smoke free policy in their building that prohibited smoking in all indoor areas, including individual units and common areas.
- 87% of all multi-unit housing residents reported already having a voluntary smoke-free home (unit) where they did not allow smoking inside their residences.

- 58% of smokers have a voluntary smoke free home policy where they do not allow smoking inside their units.
- 67% of all multi-unit housing residents surveyed, reported they would be willing to live farther away from work if they could live in a smoke free building.

Statistics show that the Bismarck Mandan market is ready to follow the national smoke free trend. The 76 percent of surveyed Bismarck multi-unit housing

residents reporting to prefer a smoke free policy is quite a bit higher than the national rate at 56 percent.

For more information on additional data from the Bismarck study, or to find "Frequently asked Questions by Landlords" about smoke free housing, please contact www.SmokefreehousingND.com. To take step one and get assistance to survey your tenants to see what type of policy they prefer, contact Pat McGeary at www.SmokefreehousingND.com or 355-1597.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Great American Smoke Out

Thursday, November 21, 2013





New Board Members Elected to the Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition



Erin Falk is a newly elected board member for the Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition. Erin is a registered respiratory therapist at St. Alexius Medical Center. She grew up on a farm in Tappen, ND and attended the University of Mary receiving a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science in 2011. She became interested in joining the board after graduating with a Master's degree in Respiratory Therapy in May of 2013. Erin states, "In my profession, I first handedly see the damaging effects tobacco has on the body on a daily basis. I look forward to becoming more involved in tobacco education, pulmonary disease prevention, and helping people breathe easier." Erin enjoys camping, hiking, kayaking, and spending time with her family. She is also very excited about her upcoming wedding in October and changing her name to Erin Boucher.



Valerie Schoepf is a new member of the Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition Board. Valerie grew up in Little Falls, Minnesota and became involved with tobacco prevention work early in life. She was named the Minnesota Smoke Free Coalition's Youth Advocate of the Year in 1999. Valerie graduated from Minnesota State University Moorhead with a BA in Professional Communication and a Minor in Sociology in 2003. For the past 10 years, she has worked in the field of communications for various organizations with the most recent being Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota. She moved to North Dakota in 2011. She is married to Michael and has two children. She has a long list of hobbies including: biking, gardening, reading, crocheting, cooking/baking, and socializing with friends and family. She also enjoys the outdoors and animals and has her own horses.

BreatheND
Saving lives, saving money. The voice of the people.

Bismarck Burleigh Tobacco Prevention Staff

Pat McGeary

Program Coordinator and
Cessation Services

Sue Kahler

Community Outreach Coordinator

Diane Weixel

Office Assistant

**ND
QUITS**
www.ndhealth.gov/ndquits
1.800.QUIT.NOW