

Why Are Tobacco-Free Environments Important to Me as a Public Health Professional?



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Why Are Tobacco-Free Environments Important to Me as a Public Health Professional?

General Purpose:	To educate public health professionals on the benefits of tobacco-free environments
Specific Purpose:	To initiate a call to action amongst public health professionals that will prompt a grassroots movement.
Central Idea:	Tobacco-Free environments aid in the prevention of tobacco-related diseases/chronic diseases.



Quality of Life

- Tobacco-Free Lives increase overall quality of life
- Tobacco Related diseases are the most preventable forms of death
- All employees have the right to work in tobacco-free environments
- Tobacco Use is not a right, rather a privilege.
- Non-Tobacco Users have the right to breathe clean air in all places of employment



FACT

Cigarette smoke contains over 4,800 chemicals, 69 of which are known to cause cancer. Smoking is directly responsible for approximately 90 percent of lung cancer deaths and approximately 80-90 percent of COPD (emphysema and chronic bronchitis) deaths. (American Lung Association, 2011)



FACT

About 8.6 million people in the U.S. have at least one serious illness caused by smoking. That means that for every person who dies of a smoking-related disease, there are 20 more people who suffer from at least one serious illness associated with smoking. (American Lung Association, 2011)



FACT

The list of diseases caused by smoking includes chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema), coronary heart disease, stroke, abdominal aortic aneurysm, acute myeloid leukemia, cataract, pneumonia, periodontitis, and bladder, esophageal, laryngeal, lung, oral, throat, cervical, kidney, stomach, and pancreatic cancers. Smoking is also a major factor in a variety of other conditions and disorders, including slowed healing of wounds, infertility, and peptic ulcer disease. (American Lung Association, 2011)



Prevention of Tobacco Related Diseases/Chronic Disease

- Second Hand Smoke
- Increased Healthcare Costs to State
- Dangers of Smoking




LTCP Info on Evidence-based Strategies to carry out public health *Tobacco-Free Initiatives *

- Comprehensive Framework
- Working through partnerships
- Impact on Cessation
 - Influencing people to quit
 - Access of current cessation programs and medication



Benefits of this Public Health Program/Initiative

- Cost to State ( and Population Health Outcomes)
- Cost to individual (Quality of life, individual costs)
- Impact on LA youth people's health



Conclusion

- Tobacco Control equals better Public Health
- Comprehensive tobacco-free policies increase the health and productivity of the workforce and decrease healthcare costs on the state.
- State Employees => LPHA Members
- The Tobacco Control Movement is Growing
- Maps of Policies

