

# Čanlí Coalition of CRST



## Smoke-Free Housing Talking Points

Housing surveys with rental tenants have shown that a majority (70% - 80%) of renters prefer to live in smoke-free environments. Secondhand smoke contains over 7,000 chemicals, of which 250 are known toxins, and 69 are known to cause cancer. Smoke-free living is now the norm not the exception in many communities. There are hundreds of thousands of smoke-free rental units across the United States.

### As landlords you have a responsibility to the health of all tenants.

- There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke.
- Smoking-related fires are the leading cause of deaths from house fires.
- Tenants prefer smoke-free housing
- Smoking is not a protected activity or right

### 100% Smoke-Free Housing Policies...

- Reduce fire danger for renters and landlord
- Reduces property damage for renters and landlord
- Removes exposure to secondhand smoke for renters and landlord
- Removes exposure to third hand smoke for renters and future renters
- Insurance savings for landlord
- Turnover cost savings for landlord when renters move out
- Reduces liability for landlord
- Makes for more attractive rental units for prospective renters
- Allows for happier and healthier renters

*400 Adult Cheyenne River Tribal Members were surveyed in 2012 and stated the following...*

- *93.9% believe that non-smokers are entitled to breathe air free of tobacco smoke in public places.*
- *96% believe that tobacco is harmful to one's health.*



### Smoke-Free Policies Save Money & Protect Landlords Investment...

Unit turnover costs are two to seven times more expensive when smoking is allowed in a unit. Below is a breakdown of the dollars associated with unit turnover costs.

#### Monetary Impact on Landlords

	No Smoking	Light Smoking	Heavy Smoking
General Cleaning	\$240	\$500	\$720
Paint	\$170	\$225	\$480
Flooring	\$50	\$950	\$1,425
Appliances	\$60	\$75	\$490
Bathroom	\$40	\$60	\$400
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$560</b>	<b>\$1,810</b>	<b>\$3,515</b>

Source: Smoke Free Housing 2012 Webinar

### Who is going smoke-free?

- Public and tribal housing authorities
- Private developments (subsidized and market rate)
- "Mom & Pop" landlords
- Condominium associations
- Group homes & transitional housing
- Behavioral health facilities
- Nursing & assisted living facilities

Last Updated February 2020

This content is the property of the Čanlí Coalition of CRST. To credit, please use:

Adapted from the Čanlí Coalition's Tribal Tobacco Toolkit. Available at <https://quittobaccosd.com/tribal-tobacco-advocacy-toolkit>.

### **Smoke-Free Housing Policy Implementation Steps...**

1. Make a plan to go 100% smoke-free
2. Hold a meeting with renters to discuss the changes
3. Inform renters of the timeline for going smoke-free and smoke-free policy. Offer information for cessation services from South Dakota Tobacco Prevention and QuitLine at 1-866-737-8487
4. Amend new leases to include smoke-free policy for new renters and have existing renters sign a lease addendum that includes the smoke-free policy to make the policy clear to all renters
5. Promote smoke-free status to gain new renters

### **Options for Landlords Converting Apartment Buildings to Smoke-Free...**

**Phase-in method:** Begin having new renters who move into the building sign a smoke-free lease addendum or policy immediately. Announce the policy change to the current renters and have them sign a smoke-free lease addendum or policy at the time of lease renewal.

**Quit-date method:** Decide what date you would like the building to go smoke free. Give renters notice of the policy change and tell them that they must sign a smoke-free lease addendum before the policy change.

**Reasonable notice:** You will want to notify renters about the policy change in a reasonable period of time. Depending on the building's situation, reasonable notice could be 30-60 days.

Last Updated February 2020

This content is the property of the Čaŋlí Coalition of CRST. To credit, please use:

Adapted from the Čaŋlí Coalition's Tribal Tobacco Toolkit. Available at <https://quittobaccosd.com/tribal-tobacco-advocacy-toolkit>.