

# GOING SMOKE-FREE

# IN PUBLIC HOUSING

## HOW BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS CAN HELP

There are **1,168,000 Public Housing units** in the US.

228,000 Public Housing units have already gone **smoke-free**.

**940,000 more** units still need to go smoke-free by July 2018.

## Many people with mental illnesses

**live in public housing.**

In 2016, there were **2.5 million adults** with serious mental illnesses living below the poverty line. Many were living in public housing.

## People with mental illnesses and people in public housing

**smoke at high rates.**

**One-third of US adults** who receive federal housing assistance currently smoke cigarettes.

Of the 45.7 million US adults with mental illnesses, **36 percent** smoke cigarettes.

## Addressing tobacco cessation in public housing is vital. So, how can behavioral health providers help?

**Build partnerships with your local Public Housing Authorities.** To learn more, read the blog post "Help Build Healthier Housing: How Behavioral Health Providers Can Support Local Public Housing Authorities in Going Smoke-Free" — <http://www.bhthechange.org/resources/building-healthier-housing-behavioral-health-providers-can-support-smoke-free-public-housing>

Access toolkits and resources to support **smoke-free efforts.**

**BHTheChange.org**

### SOURCES:

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**National Behavioral Health Network**  
For Tobacco & Cancer Control

