

# American Lung Association NM (ALANM): Fiscal Year 2015



## Description of Program

The mission of the American Lung Association (ALA) is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease. The ALA in New Mexico offers practical help to people living with asthma, emphysema, and other lung diseases. ALA also confronts lung disease at the root level, educating children about the dangers of smoking, pushing for more smoke-free workplaces, and working to reduce air pollution.

ALANM is working to increase the number of MUH properties with smoke-free policies through 1) building infrastructure that supports benchmarking at a state level, 2) making contacts and building relationships with corporate contractors, and 3) educating property managers and owners on the cost savings and health benefits of smoke-free properties.

## Statement of Need

Little data exist on smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing (MUH) properties across New Mexico. Many properties have no smoke-free policies, leading to increased exposure to secondhand smoke among MUH residents. Additionally, many MUH properties with smoke-free policies do not highlight these policies in their advertisements.

## Key Accomplishments (FY12-FY15)

### Infrastructure

- Developed and now maintain MUH online database with more than 12,000 properties.
- Established partnerships with New Mexico Housing of Urban Development (HUD) and Public Housing Authorities (PHAs), large property owners, and non-profit affordable housing entities for voluntary smoke-free policies.
- ALANM now lists disabled, senior, and low-income smoke-free properties on its website.

### Smoke-free Homes

- Held "Lunch and Learns" for more than 100 decision makers.
- Held Thinking About Quitting Workshops at 10 properties for 120 people.
- Assisted TUPAC contractors in finding opportunities to implement smoke-free housing policies.
- Assisted San Juan County Partnership with resources and tools to forward smoke-free housing efforts in the Navajo Nation
- Instrumental in having the Mortgage Finance Authority approve a 2-point low income housing tax credit for developers implementing a smoke-free policy on their new or rehabilitated property. Five developers applied for the credit.



smoke-free  
@home

A program by

 AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION  
IN NEW MEXICO

## Lasting Impacts

- 29 New Mexico properties have gone smoke-free, representing 3,749 units.
- ALANM is an established resource for MUH communities wanting research, guidance, and technical assistance on developing, implementing, and enforcing smoke-free policies.
- All tribal housing (259 units) on Kewa (Santo Domingo) and San Felipe Pueblos became smoke-free as of January 2015.
- ALANM was instrumental in getting smoke-free policies listed as amenities in rental promotions.
- The Mortgage Finance Authority approved a 2-point low income housing tax credit for developers who implement a smoke-free policy on their new or rehabilitated property. Those who are awarded will also implement smoking cessation onsite twice a year.

## How much was done in Fiscal Year 2015?

### Building Infrastructure

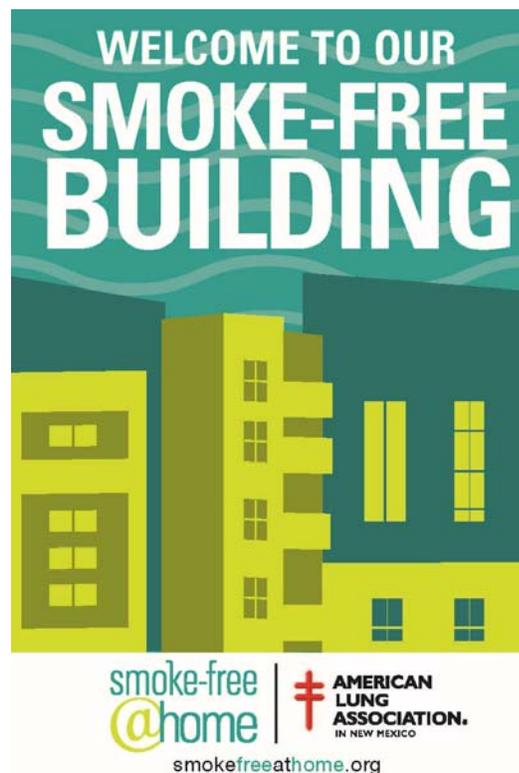
- Used an online comprehensive statewide database to benchmark progress, current smoke-free status, activities, and recommended future actions.
- Continued to provide technical assistance on policy development to TUPAC staff, TUPAC contractors, and the Tobacco Policy Workgroup of the Chronic Disease Prevention Council.

### Building Relationships with MUH Property Owners and Managers

- Identified 140 target properties in seven cities based on size of property, designation as affordable housing (HUD projects), and readiness to go smoke-free.
- Developed relationships with large property management companies to provide TA and support to more than 50 properties representing more than 3,000 units.

### Increasing Awareness

- Hosted educational booths at the 2014 Southwest Affordable Housing Group and the 2015 New Mexico National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials Conference.
- Sixteen property owners or managers attended “Lunch and Learns.”



## How well was the work done in Fiscal Year 2015?

### Building Relationships with MUH Property Owners and Managers

- Two Public Housing Authorities and two Tribal Departments, representing 420 units, requested assistance with developing smoke-free policies.
- Provided 100% (140/140) of identified properties with information about ALANM's smoke-free@home program ([www.smokefreeathome.org](http://www.smokefreeathome.org)).
- ALANM set up face-to-face meetings and trainings with 200% (280/140) of the targeted managers at the identified properties. Meetings/trainings were held in 100% (7/7) of the target cities (Rio Rancho, Las Cruces, Anthony, Farmington, Clovis, Los Lunas, and Los Alamos).

### Increasing Awareness

- Property owners, managers, and MUH tenants distributed HUD toolkits and American Lung Association Steps for Success brochures.
- MUH owners and managers distributed ALANM tenant education packets to 100 tenants.

## Is anyone better off in Fiscal Year 2015?

- Bernalillo County Public Housing with 75 units went smoke-free.
- ALANM now has the data management system to track progress as MUH properties adopt and implement smoke-free policies in Albuquerque, Rio Rancho, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, Tucumcari, Cuba, and Fort Sumner.

***“The class you facilitated at La Resolana was a major factor in my being able to quit.” —Sandy***

