# A Growing Trend

"We're seeing a demand for **smokefree living** and many of our members recognize that it is a smart business decision."

 Florida Apartment Association Executive Vice President, Josh Gold, 2015

#### **Smokefree Policy Effect on Occupancy**

Growing Occupancy: 65.7%

Stable Occupancy: 33.9%

Occupancy Decline: 0.4%

More than 99.6% of 1,868 property managers surveyed reported that their smokefree policies did not hurt, and often improved occupancy rates.

Survey findings indicate that 85% of Florida adults are nonsmokers, and four out of five would prefer living in a building with a smokefree policy.

The results of a 2013 survey indicated that 56.3% of multiunit housing residents do not allow smoking in their own units.

## Smokefree Policies: Tobacco Free Florida Can Help



### For more information, visit tobaccofreeflorida.com/ smokefreehousing

It's easy to connect with a local Tobacco Free Florida representative who can conduct resident presentations, offer free cessation services for your residents and assist you in developing a comprehensive policy that is right for your community and its residents all at no cost.

Please note: the information in this brochure is not intended as, nor to be construed, or used. as legal advice, and should not be used to replace the advice of your legal counsel.



# Why Go Smokefree?







### Protect Your Property



A smokefree policy can decrease smoke and burn damage to property, lessen smoking-related fire risks, reduce liability for managers and owners and improve occupancy rates.



The U.S. Fire Administration reports that in 2013, smoking-related fires caused 12.9% of deaths and 6.6% of injuries in multiunit housing buildings.



### **Protect Your** Residents

About **one-third** of smoking-related fire victims are children.

Up to 65% of air can be exchanged between units, involuntarily exposing residents to secondhand smoke in neighboring units.

Current heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems alone **do not** control secondhand smoke exposure. In fact, these systems may distribute secondhand smoke throughout a building.

At present, the only means of effectively eliminating health risks associated with indoor secondhand smoke exposure is to ban smoking activity in buildings.

Secondhand smoke increases a nonsmoker's risk of lung cancer, heart disease and stroke.

Exposure to secondhand smoke increases a child's risk of lung problems, ear infections, and severe asthma, and even doubles an infant's risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).



### **Protect Your** Bottom Line



Smokefree policies can **reduce wear and tear**, reducing maintenance costs.

Smoking-related fires in residential buildings result in an average of **\$326 million in property loss** each year.

A smokefree policy can **decrease turnover** and repair costs.

Nonsmoking units require less **time and money** to turn when a resident moves out.

Reduced turnover time means getting **the unit back on line for rental faster.** 

After implementing a smokefree policy, you may be able to **save money with insurance discounts** and **tax credits** such as:

- Property and casualty insurance discounts
- "Green" building and HUD points applied to funding and tax incentives