

NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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Palisade Housing Agency Achieves Smoke Free Designation

Palisade – Palisade Housing Agency is being recognized for achieving a Smoke Free designation on their fourplex. Housing Director Patty Anderjaska credits her board for providing this opportunity for tenants, especially having an entire complex smoke free.

“Through education from Smoke Free Nebraska, they have emphasized that secondhand smoke migrates,” states Patty. Air quality studies in apartment buildings show that anywhere from 5% to 60% of the air in an apartment unit moves to other units in the building. Contrary to popular belief, secondhand smoke cannot be controlled by ventilation or air cleaning.

“Palisade is to be congratulated for this step to protect tenants, especially children, from the effects of secondhand smoke,” complimented Denise Ringenberg, Health Educator at Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department. “We want to recognize Patty and her board for their efforts and encourage other landlords to consider similar action.” Board members include: Board President - Billy Smith; Beth Smith, Patty Hanken, Betty Simants and Shirley Ferguson.

Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department will assist area Housing Agencies and private landlords implementing smoke free policies. Additional materials are also available to assist in creating awareness of smoke free housing. Listings of smoke free rental housing in each community are under development that will be shared with area chambers, real estate companies and housing agencies.

If you are interested in receiving information on Smoke Free Housing, please contact Denise Ringenberg at envhealth@swhealthdept.com, review our web site at <http://www.swhealthdept.com/health.htm> or call the McCook office at 308-345-4223. SWNPHD is also on Facebook at www.facebook.com/swnphd. The health department serves Chase, Dundy, Hayes, Hitchcock, Frontier, Furnas, Perkins and Red Willow counties.

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