

#### Healthy Housing, Healthy Communities

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#### CAPI

Mission: To guide refugees and immigrants in the journey toward self –determination and social equality

## **Refugees coming from:**



Arabic 2 Bhutanese/Nepali/Tibetan 77 Caucasian 42 Ethiopian/Oromo 172 Hispanic 2 Hmong 1231 Indian 2 Iraqi 2 Lao/Cambodian 149 Native American 1 Somali 686 Sudanese 3 Thai 1 Vietnamese 309 West African 19 Total: 2698

### Organization's Core Programs & Services

Employment and Training Food Access and Nutrition Health and Human Services Civic Engagement and Community Development



# SHIP (Statewide Health Improvement program)

**Goal:** 

- Implement smoke free policy at MPHA(<u>Minneapolis Public</u> <u>Housing Authority</u>) and
- Implement a Health Housing, Physical activity, and access to healthy food at two housing sites.

The implementation involved collaboration with a variety of partners and stakeholders: residents, property managers, community-based organizations, community leaders, and MDHFS (Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Services), community parks and schools

#### Strategies that really worked...

Building relationships with a variety of key stakeholders including residents and resident organizations, property managers and administration, and community-based

organizations



• Engaging stakeholders through a variety of methods including conducting assessments, surveys and community events, interviews, door knocking, organizing community meetings to incorporate their input in the implementation process

Educating residents and property managers to increase awareness about policy initiatives to reduce tobacco use and impact of second hand

smoke.



#### **Multi-Cultural Approach**

- Diverse population
- Cultural differences and values
- Bring everyone for a common goal "Impact of secondhand smoke"
- Ongoing process...

# **Target Population**

- Refugees and Immigrants
- Mainstream
- Low-income families
- Youth and children



### No. of smoke-free surveys completed at two housing sites



■ Glendale = 61

Franklin = 83

- No. of response at Glendale =42
- No. of response at Franklin= 53

#### No. of residents that Prefer Smoke- Free Buildings-both sites



#### **Results....**



 Residents in favor of implementing a smoke-free policy – 72% at Glendale and 79% at Franklin Terrace



#### Accomplishment....

This success was a testament to CAPI's ability to engage multi-cultural (Oromo, Somali, Hmong, mainstream) residents at both sites. Once residents started to care about the issue, CAPI's persistence with property management paid off and resulted in beneficial policy change.

- At Glendale: 4 buildings, 22 units total, smoke free effective August 1, 2011 .
- On June 21<sup>st</sup>, residents in these units signed lease addendums agreeing not to smoke in their apartments.

#### **Continued**...

- At Franklin Terrace, a new policy bans smoking for residents,
  - Grandfather clause that allows existing residents an exemption from the policy.
  - Residents signing new leases in the building are not allowed to smoke.

## **Challenges and Strengths:**

- Nature of SHIP project was challenging for CAPI
- Our different approaches:
  - focused on mobilizing the assets of community
  - Training staff capacity (city of Minneapolis and ANSR\*
- CAPI learned a lot about community engagement and outreach through City of Minneapolis trainings and by simply doing the work.
- CAPI has expanded its scope to include community engagement as well as direct service work.
- Diversity of community we serve became a strength

\*(Association for Nonsmokers)

## Community Speaks out...





www.capiusa.org