



# Tobacco-Free Onondaga County

## Commitment to Our Community

### Agreement to Provide Tobacco-free Housing

#### Why smoke-free apartments?

- According to U.S. Surgeon General Carmona in the June 2006 report on secondhand smoke:
  - There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke.
  - Secondhand smoke leads to many serious illnesses including asthma, respiratory infections and cardiovascular disease, especially in children.
  - Secondhand smoke cannot be controlled by ventilation or air cleaning.
- According to the Community Survey of Adult Residents in Onondaga County, June 2006:
  - Approximately 80% of adults in Onondaga County do not smoke.
  - An overwhelming majority of Onondaga County respondents (89.4%) consider secondhand smoke to be harmful; 67.8% indicated they believe it is *very harmful*. Over 70% of *current smokers* consider exposure to secondhand smoke to be harmful.



#### Smoke-free apartments are good for landlords

- Smoking causes damage to residential property from fires, cigarette burns, and smoke residue on walls and curtains and carpets. Smoking is the #1 cause of household fires.
- Tenants complain more about secondhand smoke infiltration into their apartments.
- A smoke-free policy is NOT discriminatory. Apartment owners are permitted by federal and state law to adopt total smoke-free policies.

#### Therefore, I the undersigned agree to:

- Prohibit tobacco use in the following buildings and/or areas (please list: i.e. entire building, entranceways, common areas, patios/decks, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company Contact Person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Full Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number Date

Please complete this "Commitment to Our Community" and return it to Tobacco-Free Onondaga County  
At 421 Montgomery Street - 9th floor, Syracuse, NY 13202 or fax to: 315-435-3613.  
Thank you!