



THE COUNTY OF CHESTER



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Tamara Schauf, Public Health Educator

Health Department Offers Complimentary Tobacco-Free Services To Employers

West Chester, PA – Last year, Pennsylvania officially implemented the Clean Indoor Air Act (CIAA), prohibiting smoking in most public places and workplaces across the state. The Chester County Health Department advises employers in the county to take measures to become compliant with the CIAA, helping their employees become tobacco-free.

The Chester County Health Department offers tobacco-free services at no charge to employers, employees, and residential facilities in Chester County. The Tobacco-Free Living (TFL) workshop is an on-site, free, one-hour program that focuses on the advantages and challenges of becoming tobacco-free, explores the resources available, and helps to develop personalized plans for preparing to quit. Participants don't have to be ready to quit, only willing to think about quitting.

“Many smokers are nervous about quitting and may not attend an on-going program because they believe they will have to quit immediately.” says Margaret Rivello, director of the Chester County Health Department. “With the TFL workshop, attendees don't have to quit right away. We just want them to start thinking about quitting and to learn about the resources and tools available to help them.”

The Chester County Health Department also provides free technical assistance to help organizations develop their tobacco policies or enhance their existing policies to ensure that they are compliant with the CIAA. The PA Department of Health requires that business owners and operators take all reasonable measures to comply, including the development and implementation of smoke-free workplace policies.

“With the one-year anniversary of the Clean Indoor Air Act coming up in September, employers should be aware that smoking is not allowed in the workplace,” says Rivello. “It’s never too late to comply, and with help from the Chester County Health Department, employers can make sure they are acting within the law.”

To schedule a workshop or tobacco policy consultation, or to request additional information, contact [Tamara Schauf](mailto:Tamara.Schauf@chesco.org), Public Health Educator, at 610-344-5286, or visit us on the web at www.chesco.org/health/tobacco.

The Chester County Health Department’s TFL workshops and policy development services are funded by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Tobacco Control Project (SEPA TCP).

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