



HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM

## A FREE HEALTH & SAFETY PROGRAM

Providing health & safety education, materials and products door to door  
in Niagara County Neighborhoods.

**(716) 439-7479**



### NIAGARA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

#### **What is the Healthy Neighborhoods Program?**

The Healthy Neighborhoods Program is a **FREE** New York State Department of Health grant funded **door to door health and safety education program** that is dedicated to improving the health and safety of residents in counties across the state. The program has **six major focus areas of concern:**

- 1. Fire Prevention & Safety**
- 2. Air Quality**  
**(Carbon Monoxide Prevention, Eliminating Second Hand Smoke & Radon)**
- 3. Preventing Lead Poisoning**
- 4. Preventing Falls & Accidents in the Home**
- 5. Cigarette Smoking Education & Cessation**
- 6. Preventing Asthma Attacks Caused by Environmental Triggers**

## **Who Works for the Healthy Neighborhoods Program?**

The Healthy Neighborhoods Program is managed by a **Public Health Educator and supported by 2 Public Health Technicians**. All of the staff members are trained in Public Health Education according to NYS Department of Health standards.

## **Are the Services Limited to In-Home Health and Safety Visits?**

**No. FREE Health & Safety Presentations** are available by the Public Health Educator for any group, organization or classroom. There are a wide variety of **FREE** health and safety topics to choose from.

## **If I Choose to Allow the Technicians into My Home Will They Fine Me for Things That Need to be Done?**

**NO!** The Healthy Neighborhoods Program staff are only in the neighborhoods to improve the quality of life for the residents by improving conditions in the home. The Healthy Neighborhoods Program is not an enforcement agency in itself. We may make some recommendations to you about how you can improve a situation, but the choice is yours whether or not to follow up with these suggestions. **Our program staff has no jurisdiction to fine you or anyone else.**

## **In What Ways Do the Healthy Neighborhoods Program Staff Improve the Quality of Life for Residents?**

The technicians will ask for admittance into your home. Once there, they will test the air quality for carbon monoxide gas using a meter that is much more sensitive than the carbon monoxide detector that is in your home. They will also test the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, check fuse boxes and circuit breaker panels, furnace filters and other and safety concerns.

## **Can the Healthy Neighborhoods Program Make Me or My Landlord Make Improvements?**

**No.** Only the Code Enforcement Officer can do that.

## **Why All the Fuss?**

### **How Can Air Quality Effect My Health?**

Lung diseases, lead poisoning, allergies and asthma are all related to poor air quality. We can help you to identify the problems and teach you to solve them.

## **The Front of the Brochure Mentions FREE Health & Safety Information and Products. What does that mean?**

The technicians will make a professional assessment of the home and determine at that time if some safety remediation needs to be done. **At that time they may or may not replace smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and/or batteries to keep you safe. Some families will receive other health and safety products to improve their health and well-being. \* All of the products given during a Healthy Neighborhoods Program inspection are absolutely FREE of charge and there are no strings attached whatsoever.** Every household visited receives a **FREE** packet of health and safety educational materials.

**\* We do not provide weatherization materials, new windows or roofing.**

### **How Can I Schedule a Healthy Neighborhoods Program Visit?**

If you missed the technicians when they were in your neighborhood you can **call the phone number on the front of this brochure to schedule an appointment. We only visit Monday – Friday during daytime hours.**

### **Why is the Healthy Neighborhoods Program Visiting in my Neighborhood?**

Many people are unaware of the health hazards in their homes. These health hazards have a variety of effects on the people who live in the home. Many of these conditions can be improved or eliminated with better environmental health & safety awareness:

**Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:** CO is an odorless gas that kills people in their homes. When fuel burns (from gas ranges, gas dryers, oil & gas furnaces, kerosene heaters, etc.) CO gas is released.

**Asthma:** Particles in the air (pollen, smoke, dust, dust mites & their droppings, rodent hair & droppings) are often asthma triggers.

**Lung Cancer:** Can be caused by tobacco smoke, pollution or radon gas in the home.

**Bronchitis, Tonsillitis, Ear Infections, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome:** Can be reduced or eliminated after secondhand smoke is eliminated from a residence.

**Lead Poisoning:** Homes built before 1978 usually have lead paint on the walls, on the window sills and window wells. We can help to you to protect your child.

**Eczema:** Environmental conditions sometimes contribute to this persistent skin irritation.

**Falls, Fires, Poisonings & Accidents:** Our trained staff members can help to identify problematic areas in your home before an accident happens.

**You may receive some of these FREE PRODUCTS to improve the conditions in your home: Smoke Detectors, Batteries, Asthma Relief Products, Cleaning Supplies, etc.**

The **HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM** staff can help you to identify environmental health and safety hazards and to create a healthier home by providing **FREE** products (as determined by our trained staff) to keep you healthy and safe.

**DID WE MISS  
YOU TODAY?  
CALL US!  
For a FREE  
HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS  
PROGRAM VISIT.  
CALL: (716) 439-7479**

To receive information about  
**FREE Health & Safety Education Programs for your group or classroom:**

**CALL: (716) 439-7479**

The Public Health Educator is available to speak to groups ranging from Pre-K to Adults, Schools, Clubs, Organizations, Medical Students, Scouts, Physicians, etc. A wide variety of topics are available and can be sent to you via email.