



Sustainability

## *Secondhand Smoke Protections in Tribal Communities*

### Mission and Core Values

To provide commercial tobacco secondhand smoke awareness and resources to New Mexico tribal communities, improving health outcomes.

Respect, Culture, Family, Responsibility to Community, Humility, Health, Love, Community, Empowerment,

### *Community Success*

Southwest Tribal Tobacco Coalition  
Storms Santa Fe

On February 21, the Southwest Tribal Tobacco Coalition (STTC) gathered in Santa Fe, NM for a common cause—to combat adverse health effects of commercial tobacco and share resources and successes from around the state. The coalition meeting had 35 attendees and representation from 10 NM tribes and 10 Tribal serving organizations all working to address commercial tobacco use in Native American communities.



STTC's mission is to acknowledge and collaborate with tribal communities in honoring and respecting the sacred use of tobacco by educating people about the differences between traditional and commercial tobacco and its use.

The meeting included presentations on traditional tobacco, practices regarding survey tobacco use questions, a process to implement the HUD's smoke free ruling in tribal housing, an educational presentation on the differences between advocacy and lobbying, and a training on how to speak to lawmakers.

The next day, attendees joined the NMACT and other allies addressing commercial tobacco. Through this opportunity, they met with their lawmakers and shared their voices on how the state can help in the fight against commercial tobacco. The event was a big success, and perhaps the biggest takeaway is this: we are not alone in our work. We must continue to support one another, share successes and come together to remove commercial tobacco and its harms from Native American communities and across the state.

Additionally, STTC is recruiting for participation in two workgroups:

- Materials Development Workgroup: Help in the creation and development of the educational materials on various tobacco topics.
- Data Workgroup: Will look at current tobacco survey questions and the creation of new tobacco survey questions to help tribal programs in their data collection.

Would you like to learn more about the STTC and/or join either or both of the workgroups? Email the coalition chair [here](#).

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## Smoke Free Spaces

### Policy Implementation

This document presents a tribal-specific story of successful policy implementation. This quick read details how four federally recognized tribes in Maine created positive change in a community where over half the population smoked commercial cigarettes.

Learn more [here](#).



## Event Calendar

What's going on in the community.

### IHS St. Patrick's Day Walk

Come join us for a walk or run during your lunch break! Everyone is welcome!

**Date:** March 15, 2017

**Time:** 12:00 PM

**Where:** Indian Health Service ABQ Area Office (4101 Indian School Rd NE). Meet on the 1st floor near lobby water feature.

Any questions please [email](#) or call Michael at 505-256-6720.

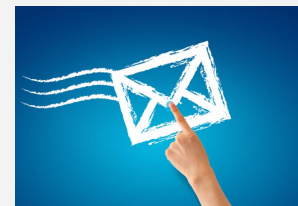
Click [here](#) to see the full event calendar. If you have an event in your area that you would like to add to our calendar, please share it with us [here](#).



## What now?

Moving Forward.

We encourage you to read all the articles in this and upcoming newsletters, and to share and forward these emails to people within your network to keep everyone up to date!



*This is a free notification service that provides the latest on commercial and traditional tobacco news, events, topics, and successes.*

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