

Chapter:	Administrative Issues	
Subject:	Second Hand Smoke	Page 1 of 2
Approved:	Cynthia Walcott, Deputy Commissioner	Effective: 1/11/06 FINAL
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Purpose

To outline the Division’s expectations regarding exposure to second hand smoke for children served by the Division and to provide guidance and resources to people who are interested in quitting.

Policy

The developing lungs and bodies of young children can be severely affected by second hand smoke. Health risks such as asthma, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), bronchitis, pneumonia and ear infections can be reduced by maintaining a smoke-free zone around all children, at all times.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, second hand smoke is associated with an estimated 8,000-23,000 new asthma cases in children each year. In addition, second hand smoke exposure is responsible for an annual estimated 150,000-300,000 new cases of bronchitis and pneumonia in children aged less than 18 months.

Smoke Free Environments

Family Services staff shall not smoke in the presence of children served by the Division. This includes in foster homes (Family Foster Care Regulation 403), in residential facilities, in vehicles, or outside.

Nor shall Family Services staff give permission to or permit any child served by the Division to smoke in their presence.

 VERMONT DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES Family Services Policy Manual		<h1>269</h1>
Subject:	Administrative Issues	Page 2 of 2

Resources for Quitting

The following resources are available, at no cost, to help anyone who would like to quit smoking.

- Vermont Quit Line - toll-free at 1-877-937-7848
- Freedom from Smoking - online at www.lungusa.org
- Free smoking cessation clinics in all hospitals in the state.