

# Cornerstone Behavioral Healthcare

## PM.15 Smoking Policy

### **Summary:**

Cornerstone Behavioral Healthcare (CBH) is dedicated to providing its clients, staff, visitors, and vendors with a safe and healthy environment by implementing a 100% commercial tobacco-free campus policy.

### **Policy:**

CBH recognizes that the use of commercial tobacco products on our grounds is detrimental to the health and safety of everyone. This institution supports an environment where staff, clients, visitors, and vendors are not exposed to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and are supported in efforts to live commercial tobacco-free. Preventable chronic disease is a significant contributor to early mortality in behavioral health populations. People with serious mental illness are dying 25 years younger than average, often from preventable physical conditions such as obesity, diabetes, and heart disease. Commercial tobacco smoking rates among persons in behavioral health populations are many times higher than the general population. A smoke-free life can be achieved by behavioral health populations and can add years of wellbeing and a healthy life. Therefore, CBH has adopted a 100% commercial tobacco-free campus policy, that exceeds state law (22 M.R.S.A. § 1580-A).

Commercial tobacco use is defined as the smoking, vaping, or use of all commercial tobacco products, including but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, spit and smokeless tobacco, chew, snuff, snus, electronic cigarettes, and other non-FDA approved nicotine delivery devices. This does not include products specifically approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the purpose of cessation or nicotine replacement therapy, or tobacco intended for ceremonial use.

This policy prohibits commercial tobacco use:

- In all organization-affiliated buildings and at any locations where employees work.
- On all organization-owned or leased grounds, including parking lots, including personal vehicles parked on campus.
- In all organization-owned or leased vehicles and personal vehicles used in the course of work whenever other employees or another person is in the vehicle for work-related reasons.
- At all organization sponsored events – both indoor and outdoor.
- At all events hosted or organized by CBH.

This commercial tobacco-free policy applies to all staff, clients, visitors, and vendors including organizers of and attendees at, public events, including but not limited to, conferences, meetings, lectures, and/or events using CBH owned, leased, and affiliated property who are required to abide by CBH's commercial tobacco-free policy.

The only exception to this rule would be for cultural activities and Native American ceremonies. The program manager or designee will be supervising the use of tobacco for cultural activities or Native American ceremonies. Aside from this exception, no tobacco use is permitted at any time.

### **Procedures:**

This policy will be communicated through commercial tobacco-free signs posted at all campus entrances and throughout the facility, through staff education, including being written into training manuals and new employee orientation, and to clients through admission paperwork and discussion.

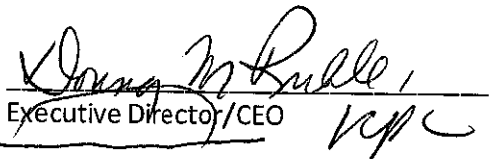
Everyone is required to comply with CBH's commercial tobacco-free policy. Enforcement of this policy will follow the standard procedures of the facility.

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Commercial tobacco treatment information is available for those interested in quitting, including about the Maine QuitLink (1-800-QUIT-NOW or MaineQuitLink.com). The Maine QuitLink offers a variety of phone - and web-based quit service options that are free, friendly, and confidential.

To help support healthy, commercial tobacco-free lifestyles, CBH will assess all clients for commercial tobacco use at intake and address commercial tobacco as part of a comprehensive treatment plan.

  
Executive Director/CEO

5-25-2021  
Date