



PENNSYLVANIA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY

PHFA's Housing  
Services Department  
**Best Practices**

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**Park Spring Apartments/Safety Day**

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**Category:** Healthy Living

**Outcomes:**

Residents benefited by improving the overall quality of life in their community through fire and safety training. The program used a variety of educational activities for all age groups. The program gave residents basic strategies to prevent household accidents and fires and taught them how to respond to a fire in their apartment.

**Program Components:**

- **Partnership with Fire Department.** The local Fire Department facilitated the educational safety trainings for the residents of Park Spring Apartments at no cost. Safety training is available through the community outreach department of most fire departments.
- **Community Safety Day.** Each child received free photo and finger print identification card. The adults attended a presentation concerning basic safety in the home. The day had all the ingredients of a festival, including hamburgers, hotdogs, face painting, and music. The highlight of the day was a Trailer that simulated an actual fire in a furnished apartment. Residents were able to walk through and experience what it would be like to be in a real life fire situation.

**Units:** Park Spring Apartments is a Section 8 development consisting of 151 units for general occupancy.

**Management Agent:**  
Interstate Realty  
Management Company

**Service Coordinator:**  
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**Background:**

Park Spring Apartments is located in Chester County. Thirty percent of the residents at the property are female headed households between the ages of 18 to 25. There are 200+ children living at Park Spring. This program was developed to address serious safety issues and concerns at Park Spring Apartments.

**Investment in Services:**

The safety training was provided by Liberty Fire Company at no cost to the site. Approximately \$500 was provided by Park Spring Apartments for the food and entertainment.

**RESULTS**

Residents learned basic safety and accident prevention.

Resident participation was increased and a stronger sense of community was promoted.

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For more information,  
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