# **Congratulations!**

You have made your family safer by participating in the Smoke Alarm Program.



# **Key Messages**



Fire and Carbon Monoxide can be deadly.



Smoke Alarms have been installed in your home.



Your smoke alarm batteries last 10 years.

Do not change them!



Do not take down the smoke alarms.

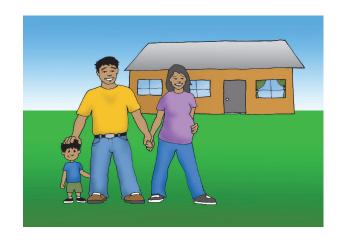


# Safety Steps

Talk to your family about the dangers of fire and carbon monoxide. If there are questions you can't answer, reach out to the person who installed your smoke alarms.

### Have a family meeting:

- Tell everyone about the dangers of fire and carbon monoxide.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows not to change these smoke alarm batteries.
- Show everyone how to use the hush button on the smoke alarm.
- Create and practice a fire escape plan. For tips on this process, read the information on the next page.





## **Questions?**

Savannah Burke, email: sburke27@jhu.edu. Phone: 505-368-4234

JOHNS HOPKINS

BLOOMBERG SCHOOL

of PUBLIC HEALTH

### Keeping our Homes Secure: Preventing Fires & Taking Safety Measures

#### **Fire Prevention**

- Home fires are a serious problem.
  - Home fires are a preventable cause of injury or death.
  - Most fire-related deaths happen during sleep, between midnight and 6am.
  - Fires are fast. Families may only have up to two minutes to get to a safe place outside.

#### ■ How do we prevent injuries from fire?

- Have a working smoke alarm
- Create and practice a fire escape plan

#### **Smoke Alarms**

- Smoke alarms will help protect your family and keep them safe.
  - Smoke makes it hard to breathe.
  - Smoke alarms make a loud noise when there is smoke in the home.
  - A smoke alarm's job is to give people am early warning and wake them up if a fire starts while they are sleeping.
  - Every home should have at least one working smoke alarm on each level of the home.
  - Smoke rises to the ceiling. Put smoke alarms on the ceiling or high on the wall.

#### ■ What to do if a smoke alarm goes off when there is not a fire, like when someone is cooking?

- Don't take the battery out of the alarm. The alarm will not work if the battery is missing.
- Press the hush button or fan away the smoke if the alarm goes off while you are cooking or showering.
- Make sure to fan away the smoke or steam from the alarm. Consider opening windows or doors for a
  few moments to let the room air out.

#### ■ Make sure your smoke alarms work.

- You are not safe if the smoke alarms aren't working.
- Make sure the smoke alarm always has a working battery.
- These smoke alarms have batteries that last up to 10 years. 10-year lithium batteries are a new technology that makes it easier to keep your smoke alarms working for longer.
- Smoke alarms do not last forever. Get new smoke alarms every 10 years.

### **Fire Escape Planning**

- A fire escape plan helps you and your family get to safety in the event that a fire occurs inside the home.
  - If a fire starts, you have **two minutes** to get to safety.
  - Call 911 or tribal emergency numbers **after** everyone is outside.
  - Think about how you describe where you live so emergency services can find you.
  - Sometimes it will take them a long time to get to your home. Local authorities may tell you to evacuate. Follow their guidance once outside of the home.
  - Everyone in your household should know of two ways to escape from each room of the house.
  - Think about escaping room by room.
  - Identify specific safety roles for adults.
  - Choose a safe place to meet outside.
  - Inform others in your home of your fire escape plan, including elders, children, and overnight guests.



