Healthy Housing for All Month – June 2020 Press Release Template

For Immediate Release: **(INSERT DATE)**

Contact: **(INSERT NAME, PHONE NUMBER)**

**Now more than ever, smoke-free homes are healthy homes**

**CITY, WI** – START YOUR PRESS RELEASE BY SHARING THAT JUNE IS HEALTHY HOUSING MONTH, WHICH IS SPONSORED BY U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD). THE OBSERVANCE FOCUSES ON RAISING AWARENESS OF HOUSING’S IMPACT ON HEALTH AND PROVIDING WAYS FOR FAMILIES TO PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM HAZARDS IN THE HOME.

CONTINUE BY SHARING THAT SMOKING IN THE HOME IS ONE HAZARD THAT’S SADLY ALL TOO COMMON IN WISCONSIN. SUPPORT THIS POINT BY SHARING THAT A FIFTH OF WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS REPORTED LIVING IN HOMES WHERE OTHERS SMOKE.

CONTINUE BY ACKNOWLEDGING THAT BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE SPENDING MORE TIME THAN EVER IN THEIR HOMES DUE TO COVID-19, THIS MAY MEAN INCREASED EXPOSURE TO HAZARDS LIKE TOBACCO SMOKE.

“INSERT QUOTE HERE ABOUT HOW NOT SMOKING IN THE HOME HELPS KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HEALTHY AND SAFE, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER RESIDENTS IN THE SAME BUILDING,” SAID **(ORGANIZATION CONTACT)**.

CONTINUE BY SHARING THAT WHILE RESEARCH IS ONGOING, IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER SOME KEY POINTS REGARDING TOBACCO USE AND COVID-19. KEY TALKING POINTS ARE:

* CIGARETTE SMOKING CAN SUPRESS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM AND CAUSE HEART AND LUNG DISEASE
* A PERSON WHO SMOKES MAY BE AT GREATER RISK FOR, AND MAY HAVE A HARDER TIME RECOVERING FROM, COVID-19
* THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USE OF E-CIGARETTE (OR VAPING PRODUCTS) AND RISK OF COVID-19 IS UNCERTAIN

“INSERT QUOTE HERE ABOUT HOW NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO QUIT SMOKING OR STAY TOBACCO FREE. PRIORITIZING YOUR HEALTH AND THAT OF OTHERS IN YOUR HOME IS A GREAT WAY TO ALLEVIATE STRESS AND ANXIETY SURROUNDING COVID-19,” SAID **(ORGANIZATION CONTACT)**.

FINISH YOUR PRESS RELEASE BY SHARING THAT THE WISCONSIN TOBACCO QUIT LINE PROVIDES FREE QUITTING ASSITANCE FOR ALL TOBACCO USERS READY TO QUIT. ENCOURAGE THOSE INTERESTED TO CALL THE QUIT LINE AT 1-800-QUIT NOW OR VISIT [WWW.SMOKEFREE.GOV](http://WWW.SMOKEFREE.GOV).