



COLLABORATING AGENCIES

American Cancer Society
American Heart Association
American Lung Association of Wisconsin
Children's Health Alliance of WI
Fighting Back Inc.
G-Communications
Hmong American Friendship Association
Hmong Education Association
Ignace Indian Health Clinic
Infant Death Center
Latino Health Organization
Milwaukee Area Health Education Center
Milwaukee Chapter - National Black Nurse's Association
Milwaukee Chapter - NAACP
Milwaukee Courier/WNOV Radio Station
Milwaukee Community Tobacco Coalition
Milwaukee Health Department
Milwaukee Public Schools – Safe and Drug Free Schools Program
Milwaukee Urban League
Praxis Project
Reach, Inc
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Shee Community Health Center
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center
Smoke Free Wisconsin
UW Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention
Wisconsin Baptist Pastors Conference

Smoke Free Milwaukee Project

A Wisconsin Ethnic Network Collaborative Initiative

Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin · UMOS · Wisconsin United Coalition of Mutual Assistance Associations

Contacts:

Dr. Patricia McManus
414.933.0064

Angela Adams
414.225.9901 ext. 182
414.736.2239 mobile

SMOKE FREE MILWAUKEE PROJECT (SFMP) PRESENTS ENTERTAINERS FOR A SMOKE FREE MILWAUKEE

*Live concerts will take place at City Hall to support
Smoke Free Milwaukee Workplace ordinance*

MILWAUKEE – (February 22, 2006) – Entertainers who make their living performing in smoky bars and clubs will demonstrate their support for a Smoke Free Milwaukee Workplace ordinance in a music event at City Hall. “Entertainers for a Smoke Free Milwaukee” features musicians who routinely have to work long hours under very unhealthy conditions and are hoping the ordinance will improve their working conditions.

The event will take place on Tuesday, February 28, 8am to 5pm at Milwaukee City Hall, 200 E. Wells St. During a break between acts, supporters of the SFMP will hold a press conference at 12:30. Several of the performers also will speak at the press conference about their concerns related to secondhand smoke.

“This event will illuminate the fact that many people, from different walks of life, in the service and entertainment industry, are concerned about their health and the health of others that are involuntarily affected by secondhand smoke,” says Dr. Patricia McManus, spokesperson for the SFMP and the executive director of the Black Health Coalition of Wisconsin. “As the date approaches for the first public hearing for the community to voice their concerns about this urgent health matter, many are stepping forward now as concerned citizens and casting their vote for a smoke free Milwaukee.”

Six entertainers and groups will take the stage throughout the day. Performing live are **Cache**, a Latin Music ensemble; **Olusegun Sijuwade**, a jazz artist; **Ataya**, an eclectic band; **Scorcher Family**, an avant-garde reggae group; **David Brady**, pianist; and **Pam Duronio and Tim Stemper**; a vocals and guitar duo.

One of the groups performing that day, Scorcher Family, made the following statement about a smoke free Milwaukee. “The arrows of pollution are pointed at us. Our water, our food, our air—all dirtied. The arrows of pollution are piercing us. Our whole being bears the effects of our polluted surroundings. Everyone has visionary power to create a wholesome environment for ourselves and our community. When we come together to eat, to talk, to dream, to drink—why not do it in an atmosphere free of secondhand smoke! If Madison can do it, so can we!”

(more)

P.O. Box 080499
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53208
Phone: (414) 933-0064 · Fax: (414) 933-0084



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On March 2, City Hall, room 301B at 9 a.m., Milwaukee's Common Council Public Safety Committee will hold a public hearing on the ordinance. If the ordinance is approved, Milwaukee will join more than 2,000 American municipalities, 24 in Wisconsin alone, with smoke-free ordinances in place.

The Smoke Free Milwaukee Project is an initiative of the Wisconsin Ethnic Network Collaborative (WENC). WENC addresses tobacco control, specifically, clean indoor air, among its priority issues. It is important to SFMP that communities of color and the community-at-large express its support for clean indoor air because secondhand smoke has dangerous health impacts on the lives of everyone from triggering asthma attacks to developing lung cancer. For more information about SFMP, call 414.933.0064 or visit www.smokefreemilwaukeeproject.com.

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