



Association for Nonsmokers - Minnesota

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Special to ANSR

Shoreview Mayor Sandy Martin bestows ANSR intern Anna Grace Hottinger, right, with the Caring Youth Award in December. Hottinger works on a number of issues, including helping to protect her friends from the harms of tobacco and nicotine.

# ANSR intern receives award

Anna Grace Hottinger, who has worked as an intern for the Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota for the past year, recieved the Caring Youth Award from the City of Shoreview in December 2020 for her advocacy efforts.

From giving presentations to peer groups to testifying in front of local city councils and at the state

legislator to educating tirelessly, Hottinger has proven truly deserving of the award. Her desire to prevent her friends and classmates from starting the deadly habit of tobacco use has gained notice in her home city of Shoreview and across the state of Minnesota. ANSR is grateful for her hard work and sincere efforts to educate and help others.



## AMAZEworks ED leads workshop

Minnesota has some of the widest health and social inequities between whites and people of color and American Indians in the nation.

Addressing these alarming gaps starts with oneself, their work and how they can create change.

Minnesota Regional ATOD Prevention Coordinators brought in Rebecca Slaby, the Executive Director of AMAZEworks, to lead a workshop on

the issue. Slaby guides AMAZEworks in working with schools, communities, and organizations to create equity and belonging for children and adults.

Slaby led three workshops – Unpacking the Cultural Iceberg: Looking deeper into Bias and Cultural Norms; Behaviors That Trigger Negative Bias, and White Fragility: When Good People Behave Badly.

Throughout the three workshops, participants

were introduced to how culture shows up in their work and lives, examining how cultural norms are often based in whiteness and patriarchy, how implicit bias shows up and can influence responses, how white fragility can show up in your workplace and how it can be addressed for individuals and organizational growth.

The total reach with all three workshops was more than 800 participants. In the past, training or workshops



Slaby

provided to Minnesota was always in-person. However, in the past year, many trainings have moved online, allowing more participants to join in than typically are able with in-person events.

### CHECKING IDs DURING COVID-19

COVID-19 presents unique challenges for IDing customers. However, you are still legally responsible for preventing sales to minors

**HEIGHT**  
Check the height on the ID

**HAIRLINE**  
Compare forehead height and hairline

**EYES**  
Check eye shape and color

**EARS**  
Compare shape and position

**ASK QUESTIONS**  
Confirm key information off ID

**OPTIONAL REQUEST**  
The Executive Order allows a person to temporarily remove their face covering when asked to do so to verify their identity. However, businesses are encouraged to use other means of identification that do not require a person to remove their face covering to the extent possible.

Questions? Contact Minnesota Prevention Resource Center at [info@mnpcc.org](mailto:info@mnpcc.org)

Funding Provided by the MN Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Division

Based on "Cordling During Covid" from the Vermont Department of Liquor and Lottery

Insert community or coalition logo here

### New Resource from MPRC:

This resource outlines several alternative ways to check people's IDs while adhering to mask policies, such as checking their height, eye shape and color, or forehead height and hairline, among others.

It also contains language from the Minnesota governor's executive order on allowing people to temporarily remove masks to check identification. The box on the bottom right allows communities and coalitions to add their own logo.

Download the resource here: <https://mnpcc.org/2021/01/20/handout-checking-ids-during-covid-19/>



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For more information, contact ANSR at:

2395 University Ave. West, Ste. 310, St. Paul, MN 55114 or at (651) 646-3005.  
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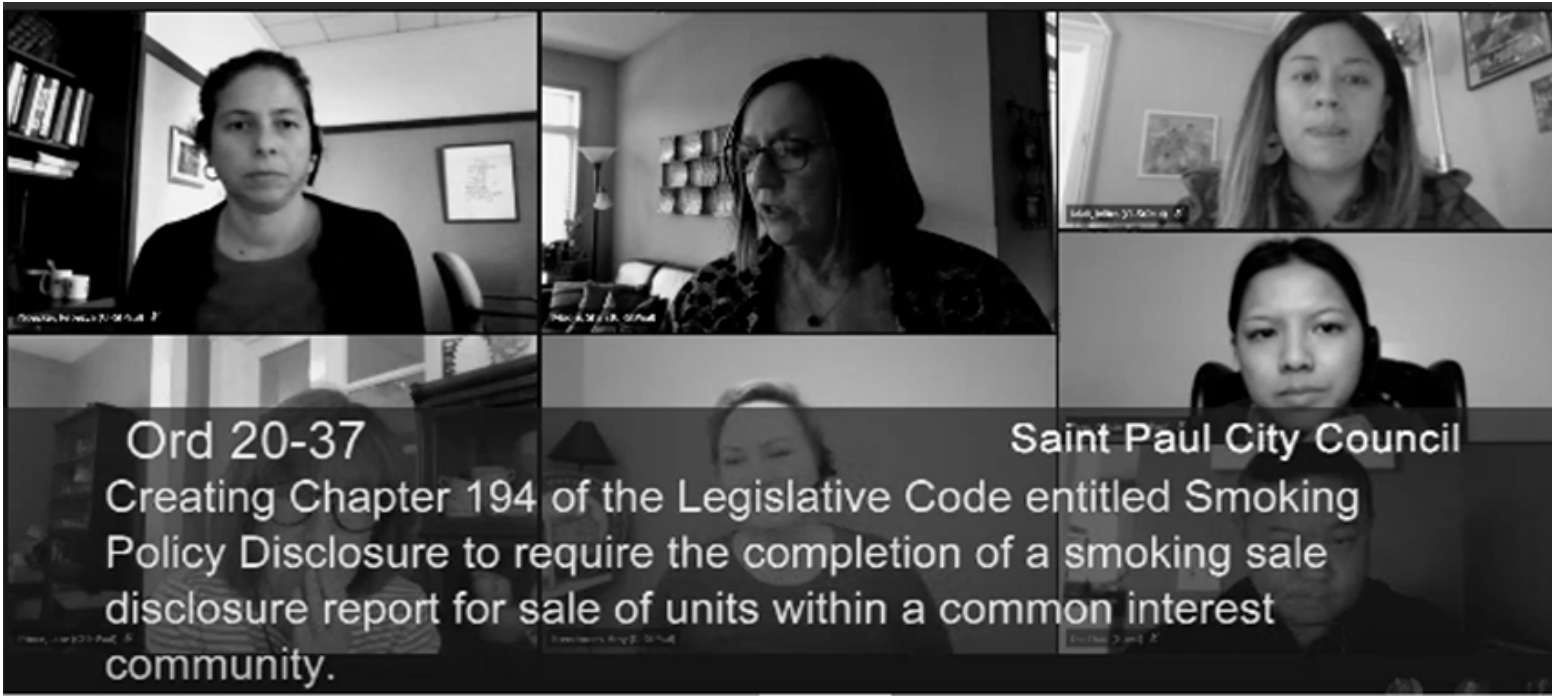
## ANSR updates Beautiful Lie website

For the past few years, ANSR has operated the website: BeautifulLieUglyTruth.org to call attention to how the tobacco industry targets blacks, youth, women and other communities with

menthol tobacco. The industry has targeted these groups with their deadly product for decades, and it shows. Blacks who smoke use menthols at a rate of 88 percent, far higher than the general population. Youth

have long been initiated to tobacco because menthol's cool flavor reduces the harshness of tobacco. It remains one of the top flavors used by youth. In January, ANSR gave the site a makeover, so take

a few minutes and hop over to the site to check it out. It's time to put the tobacco industry on notice. It's time to ban the sale of menthol tobacco in Minnesota. Learn more at BeautifulLieUglyTruth.org.



The Saint Paul City Council unanimously voted to require disclosure by sellers of condo units and townhomes of their homeowners associations' smoking policies upon listing for sale.

## Saint Paul to require smoking policy disclosure

The Saint Paul City Council took a step in protecting residents from exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke when it voted unanimously on Jan. 6 to require disclosure by sellers of condo units and townhomes of their homeowners associations' smoking policies upon listing for sale.

This ordinance arose from the advocacy of downtown condo owners who were dismayed by secondhand smoke in their homes, feeling it was having a negative impact on their health and quality of life.

“Residents of Saint Paul condos demanded this change in policy, after being impacted by secondhand smoke in their own homes,” said Noecker, who authored the ordinance. “This policy provides buyers the information they need to make an informed decision about the home they purchase.”

The purpose of the disclosure is to

empower homebuyers with knowledge about the air quality of potential future homes.

Homebuyers should have the freedom to choose a home free from health hazards, including second and thirdhand tobacco smoke.

“This ordinance is a great step toward providing residents cleaner indoor air quality in Saint Paul,” said Kara Skahen, director for Live Smoke Fee, a program of the Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota. “All residents of multi-unit housing deserve to have complete information and choose a home that is healthy and safe for their family.”

Secondhand smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals, 70 of which are known to cause cancer in humans. Smoke easily seeps into neighboring units and poses a serious health risk to other residents. Smoking in multi-unit housing is also a significant fire risk

and can lead to decreased property values.

“In my experience, condo units that have smoke damage from cigarette smoking have a far smaller buyer pool, meaning very few people will even consider purchasing a unit that smells like smoke,” said Amy Ruzik, a realtor with the NoPlaceLikeHome Team at RE/MAX Results.”

Condos can go even further to help protect residents, health-wise and financially.

“Having a smoke-free policy will lead to healthier, cleaner and safer living and can help owners protect their investment.” Ruzik said.

“It is certainly in the interest of someone looking to purchase a unit in a multi-unit building to know whether the building allows smoking, so they can make an informed choice about their health, as well as that of their children.”

# Contribution reduces taxes with QCD

*ANSR's Finance Director, Jason Lind, answers questions on how to reduce your taxes by donating part or all of your Required Minimum Distribution from an IRA.*



Lind

questions, we are happy to help you help us.

### Who can use the QCD rule?

Any traditional IRA owner or beneficiary who is at least 70.5 years old.

### What is considered an eligible distribution?

All contributions and earnings that accumulate inside a traditional IRA are eligible for QCD's, up to \$100,000 annually per person.

### Why is it important to reduce my adjusted gross income for tax purposes?

A lower adjusted gross income is more valuable than taking an itemized deduction, which merely lowers taxable income. Because adjusted gross income is used for many tax calculations, having a lower number can allow the donor to stay in a lower

tax bracket, reduce or eliminate the taxation of Social Security or other income, and remain eligible for deductions and credits that might be lost if the taxpayer had to declare the RMD amount as income.

### What else do I need to know?

Ask your investment advisor for a Qualified Charitable Distribution form which you can use to make the donation.

Make sure that Qualified Charitable Distribution form lists the 501(c)3 charity for the distribution from your IRA. It must be made out to the charity, or it will be considered as part of your gross income and will not benefit you at tax time.

### What do I need to know to donate to ANSR?

If you intend to donate to ANSR, you will need our tax ID number, which is 41-1410442.

The Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) rule allows traditional IRA owners to deduct their required minimum distributions on their tax returns if they give the money to charity.

By lowering your adjusted gross income, the QCD rule can effectively reduce your income taxes. QCD's are capped at \$100,000 annually, per person and must be made directly to a 501(c)3 designated charity, such as ANSR.

Please let us know if you have any

## ANSR Membership Form

*Already a member? Not your renewal date? Pass this form along to someone you think might be interested. Share your newsletter. Also, please send in your email address to help us update our records.*



I want to help ANSR's ongoing work:

- Guarantor \_\_\$100 \_\_ \$200 \_\_ Other
- Sustaining member \_\_\$50 \_\_ \$75
- Contributing member \_\_\$30 \_\_ \$40
- Regular member \_\_ \$25
- Associate member \_\_\$15 \_\_ \$10

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

H (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

Home/Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*ANSR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.*

Anyone wishing to donate to ANSR or renew their membership online may do so at [www.ansrmn.org/donate](http://www.ansrmn.org/donate)

Please mail this form with your check to:  
**Association for Nonsmokers-Minnesota**  
2395 University Ave. W., Suite 310  
St. Paul, MN 55114-1512





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 do for ANSR. Please  
 consider sharing this  
 newsletter with a friend!*



# ANSR Bulletin

[www.ansrmn.org](http://www.ansrmn.org)

## Hardenbergh Foundation gives grant to ANSR

The Hardenbergh Foundation awarded ANSR \$10,000 in November to continue its tobacco prevention work in the East Metro area.

The Foundation was founded in 1950 and gives grants in the East Metro area to support health organizations, hospitals, cultural programs and youth agencies.

ANSR president Jeanne Weigum said the organization is fortunate to be able to partner with the Hardenbergh Foundation.

During the past two decades, ANSR has received substantial support



from ClearWay Minnesota, which was created with tobacco lawsuit settlement funds. ClearWay will sunset this summer and will no longer be awarding grants. ANSR is seeking other its work.

“We are thankful for the trust the Hardenbergh Foundation has shown for our work and our future,” Weigum said.

**Give to the Max Day 2020**  
 Thanks to everyone who made this another fabulous day. Your generous contributions totaled \$6,046. If you missed it, don't worry, you can give any day of the year by visiting us at: [www.ansrmn.org/donate](http://www.ansrmn.org/donate)