Grassroots beginnings: Peter Hanauer, Stan Glantz, and many others began to organize for clean indoor air.

1976
BERKELEY

1976 Local GASPs from Southern and Northern California merge and incorporate as California GASP (Group Against Smoking Pollution), later becoming Californians for Nonsmokers’ Rights (CNR) and ultimately Americans for Nonsmokers’ Rights (ANR) by 1988.

1977 Proposition 5, CA State Initiative Campaign, launched for statewide clean indoor air law.

Berkeley passes first local clean indoor air ordinance; the birth of “Local Leads the Way.”

1978 Proposition 6 is launched, ultimately defeated in 1980 by the tobacco industry.

1976
BERKELEY

1980s
EXPOSING BIG TOBACCO

ANR SHINES THE LIGHT

ANR exposes the front group National Smoker’s Alliance as astroturf, paid for by the tobacco industry.

In 1989 Congress adopts smoking ban on all domestic flights. ANR is the only advocacy group cited in the Congressional Record as “particularly active.”

ANR Co-Founder Pete Hanauer is awarded by U.S. Surgeon General & the ALA for his unsung heroism in the smokefree movement.

ANR produces Major Local Smoking Ordinances in the U.S., a Detailed Matrix of the Provisions of Workplace, Restaurant, and Public Places Smoking Ordinances, published by the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

ANR holds national conference for grassroots nonsmokers’ rights groups, held at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

ANR promotes tobacco industry attempts to subvert the EPA Risk Assessment on environmental tobacco smoke.

ANR counters tobacco industry’s efforts to defeat by a $6M 1978 Proposition 5 campaign.

An EPA Scientific Advisory Board declares tobacco smoke a Class A carcinogen.

no-smoke.org is launched, the first of its kind resource for secondhand smoke.

1990 marks the beginning of the end of separate sections, as new local policy makers adopt ANR’s model no-smoke ordinance.

ANR becomes one of six public health interveners in the Dept. of Justice (DOJ) RICO suit against the tobacco industry, U.S. v. Philip Morris.

The DOJ ruling in 2006 showed that the tobacco industry intentionally defrauded the public for 50 years with respect to the health effects of cigarette smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke.

ANR/F provides its model ordinance and training to CA LLAs (Local Lead Agencies), leading to exponential growth of laws in the state.

San Luis Obispo (CA) passes first smokefree bar ordinance in the country.

ANR's model ordinance and training to CA LLAs (Local Lead Agencies) is adopted by thousands of local jurisdictions.

ANR Foundation launches Smokefree Music Cities and, alongside Smokefree Casinos, finds voices to speak truth to power. All workers need to breathe smokefree air.

ANR launches annual March 1st Day of Breathing for secondhand smoke awareness.

ANR Foundation releases Bridging the Gap: Status of Smokefree Air in the United States. Another tool for our advocacy work that identifies the why and the where gaps in smokefree protections still exist.

ANR education efforts provide Sovereign Tribal leadership with resources to make healthy choices for their casinos.

Old tactics like weak policy provisions and preempting local municipalities from adopting strong smokefree protections have been resurrected.

We must defend the protections that have been secured and expand protections to everyone.

2021
45 YEARS OF ADVOCACY

Millions of people are protected from secondhand tobacco smoke and e-cigarette vapor in a wide variety of workplaces, including bars and casinos—venues we would have never imagined in 1976.

Despite tremendous success supporting nonsmokers’ rights to breathe clean, healthy, smokefree air, nearly 40% of the population is still exposed to secondhand smoke.

New threats like legalized recreational marijuana and the push for social clubs that permit indoor, on-site marijuana smoking and vaping could roll back our hard-won efforts to clear the air of all forms of indoor air pollution.

In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic changes everything, thrusting public health policies that address shared air and respiratory health into the spotlight like never before.

ANRF education efforts provide Sovereign Tribal leadership with resources to make healthy choices for their casinos.

Hundreds of Tribal casinos go smokefree.

2000s
LOCAL LEADS THE WAY

2007
50% COVERED

2018
GAME CHANGING MESSAGES

ANR exposes the front group National Smoker’s Alliance as astroturf, paid for by the tobacco industry.

After 30 years of work, half of those in the U.S. are covered by 100% smokefree protections.

The first website is launched dedicated to Protecting Local Control by preventing preemption of smokefree laws (2004).

Despite opposition, thousands of towns and cities pass smokefree policies with ANR’s model policy language.

ANR Foundation’s Database emerges as critical tool for research to assist with advocacy.

Passage of smokefree policy gains momentum at local and state level as ANR continues assisting grassroots organizations and coalitions, public health partners, and individuals, with model ordinance language and advocacy, including identifying casinos as a workplace and classifying new products, like e-cigarettes, as tobacco products that should not be used in smokefree environments.

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First-ever national Smokefree Gaming Symposium is hosted in May 2011 at a smokefree Marriott property in Las Vegas, NV.

In 2017, after 11 years of appeals to the RICO case, the tobacco industry remedy ads finally run.

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