Teaching and Technology: A Recipe for Fire Safe Cooking

Lt. Annie Pickett
City of Worcester Fire Department
Problem

- 2014: 559 unattended cooking fires
- 2015: 578 increase of 3.3% city wide

- 138 of reported unattended cooking fires were in 4 high rise WHA buildings (759 units/862 residents)
Overall Goal/Vision

• Build a robust partnership between the WFD and WHA

• Target the highest risk first
• Install TLC (Temperature Limiting Control) 100% of target units

• Develop a template for replication
FORMATIVE EVALUATION
24% (138) unattended cooking fires occurred in target buildings

4 WHA high rise buildings (759 units)

862 Residents
Risk Analysis

- 100% Older Adults
- 86% with a disability
- 100% low income
- 15% no income
3276 burners
819 units (60 from amendment)
100% in 4 target high rises
100% residents educated
OUTCOME EVALUATION
Early Results

2015
• 138 cooking fires
• Over $250,000 in property loss

January 2017 to present
• 0 stove top fires
• $0 property loss
## Cost Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project cost</th>
<th>Per person cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY15 - $181,787.00</td>
<td>$211.00 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY16 - $184,218.00</td>
<td>$162.00 per person</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$179,863.00 (if awarded)</td>
<td>$61.13 per person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Solutions

- 100% Engineered
- 100% In home Education
- 0 Stove top fires
- $0 property loss
• Promote proactive engineered solutions for electric ranges

• Create strong partnerships for accountability, expectations and long-term success

• Collect data and seek funding together

• Be prepared to address questions related to slightly increased cooking times
Resource

- https://www.pioneeringtech.com/resources/videos/

- NFPA Remembering When/Fire and fall safety