

ESFI Awarded FEMA Grant to Develop Fire Safety Campaign for At-Risk Communities

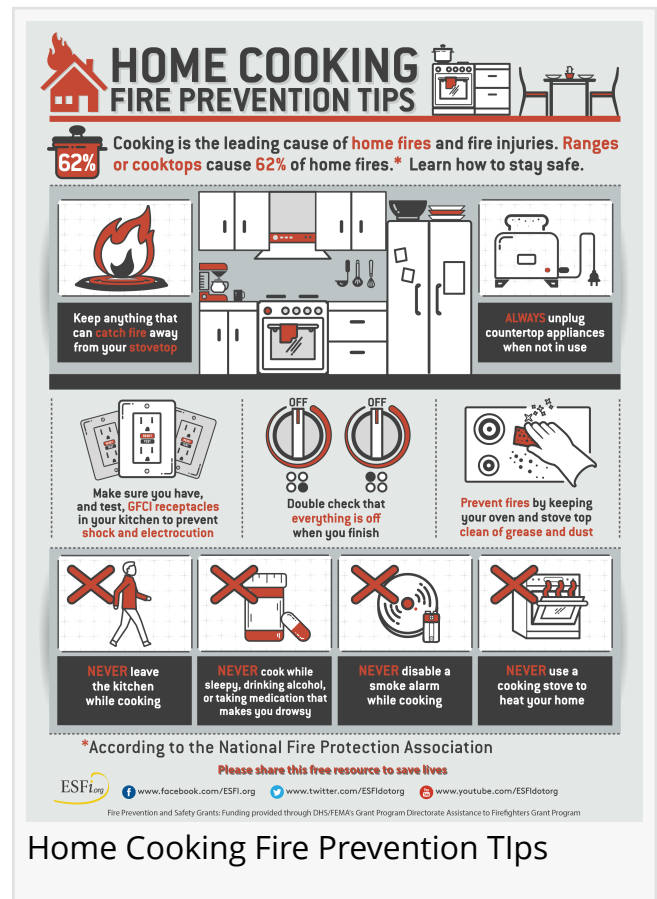
ESFI will use the funding to develop a multi-faceted home fire safety awareness campaign that targets at-risk communities.

ARLINGTON, VA, USA, September 12, 2022 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) was awarded a Fire Prevention & Safety Grant (FP&S) from the Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA) for fiscal year 2021. ESFI will use the funding to develop a multi-faceted home fire safety awareness campaign that targets at-risk communities, including older adults.

The goal of the program is to reduce the number of home fire-related injuries and deaths through community risk reduction. The program will focus on the leading causes of home fires: [cooking fires](#), [heating fires](#), and [electrical distribution fires](#). Program resources will include brochures, PSAs, ads, and more.

An analysis of data published by the NFPA illustrates the critical and widespread fire problem in the United States. Fire departments responded to 339,500 home structure fires in 2019. This accounted for "roughly 2,770 (75% of all deaths) civilian fire deaths and 12,200 (73% of all injuries) reported civilian fire injuries. Property damage was estimated at \$7.8 billion." Residential fires remain a pervasive and deadly problem.

"For 28 years, ESFI has implemented year-round national public education programs with a focus on preventing fires caused by cooking, heating, and electrical equipment," said ESFI President Brett Brenner. "In addition, ESFI tailors our community risk reduction resources to address emerging needs, including supporting new fire prevention technologies required in national codes. Raising awareness among the most at-risk populations is crucial to preventing home fires,



HOME COOKING FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and fire injuries. Ranges or cooktops cause 62% of home fires.* Learn how to stay safe.

62%

Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop

ALWAYS unplug countertop appliances when not in use

Make sure you have, and test, GFCI receptacles in your kitchen to prevent shock and electrocution

Double check that everything is off when you finish

Prevent fires by keeping your oven and stove top clean of grease and dust

NEVER leave the kitchen while cooking

NEVER cook while sleepy, drinking alcohol, or taking medication that makes you drowsy

NEVER disable a smoke alarm while cooking

NEVER use a cooking stove to heat your home

*According to the National Fire Protection Association

Please share this free resource to save lives

ESFi.org | www.facebook.com/ESFI.org | www.twitter.com/ESFI.org | www.youtube.com/ESFI.org

Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Funding provided through DHS/FEMA's Grant Program Directorate Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Home Cooking Fire Prevention Tips

fire deaths, and related injuries.”

This is the seventh time that ESFI has received a FEMA FP&S grant. Funding from previous grants allowed the foundation to develop and implement a comprehensive home fire safety awareness campaign to educate at-risk children, senior citizens, and their families nationwide about home fire hazards. As a result, ESFI directly impacted over 7.2 million people in the most at-risk communities. These home fire safety awareness programs equipped consumers with the knowledge to help prevent seasonal home fires throughout the year, focusing primarily on the leading causes of home fires.

ABOUT ESFI

ESFI is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting electrical safety at home and the workplace. For more information and to use ESFI’s free resources throughout your community, visit esfi.org.

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HOME HEATING FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

Heating equipment caused an estimated **56,000 home fires** and caused **470 deaths** between 2009 and 2013. * Learn how to stay safe.

- Keep anything that can burn at least **3 feet** from heat sources.
- NEVER** leave a space heater unattended. Turn off when leaving a room or sleeping.
- NEVER** plug a space heater into an extension cord.
- NEVER** use a cooking stove to heat your home or dry clothes.
- Place heaters on level, flat surfaces **ON THE GROUND**.
- Have a **qualified service professional** inspect your heating system **annually**.
- Install and maintain **carbon monoxide alarms**.
- Never use a space heater or any appliance with a **damaged cord**.

*According to the National Fire Protection Association

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Home Heating Fire Prevention Tips

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