Model code NFPA 72 requires newly constructed homes to have hardwired, interconnected smoke alarms on each floor, in hallways and inside of all sleeping areas. However, more than 84 million homes – most built prior to 1993 – only have isolated battery- or electric-powered smoke alarms. Millions more do not have an alarm inside of bedrooms. Simply put, residents without a sufficient number of working smoke alarms are under protected and therefore at increased risk.

According to the IAFC, it is critical to ensure that there are working UL-listed smoke alarms on every floor of the home, in hallways, in living areas, inside bedrooms and outside of sleeping areas. This diagram illustrates the optimum locations of smoke alarms in the home.