



TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

Program Manager Feature -- Barry Sharp (TX)

To celebrate state and territorial tobacco program managers as dynamic leaders in tobacco control, the TCN homepage is highlighting tobacco program managers in a series of rotating features. This will give the TCN membership and national tobacco partners an opportunity to learn more about the work of program managers. If you would like to nominate a program manager to be featured, please reach out to tcn@astho.org.

How have you leveraged the tools and the resources of the Tobacco Control Network in your state or territory?

Initially, before I became involved in the leadership of TCN, the greatest resources I had at my disposal were TCN News and Help Your Peers, where I read what was happening in other states so that I could learn and be inspired by the work of my colleagues so that when the opportunity came, I could replicate their successes to help the people of my state. This is where I learned about people who I saw as the heroes in tobacco control from what I saw happening in North and South Carolina, West Virginia, Minnesota, California, Florida, Mississippi, Massachusetts, Colorado and on and on. (If I didn't list your state, please forgive me, I could have listed them all.) And the more I got involved, the more I learned about what was going on. These folks went from being names to being my friends and colleagues whom I can call on and hopefully be able to return the favor to them someday.

To see the full interview with Barry Sharp, please visit the [homepage of the TCN website](#).

*The biweekly **TCN News** provides a concise digest of tobacco control announcements to the Tobacco Control Network's membership base of tobacco control program managers and additional staff from each state, territory, and D.C., as well as our valued partners.*

Upcoming Events

[Minnesota Tobacco Control Conference](#)

St. Paul, MN
Jan. 24-26|*Registration Required*

Ask the Experts Virtual Session on Adult Smoking and Adverse Childhood Experiences in Multi-Unit Housing – ASTHO
Feb. 17, 2:30-4 p.m. ET|*Save the Date*

[10th Health Disparities Conference](#)

– Xavier University of Louisiana
College of Pharmacy, Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education
New Orleans, LA
March 16-18, 2017|*Registration Required*

[2017 National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#)

Partner Announcements

[ASTHO Launches E-Cigarette Resource Library](#)

ASTHO

ASTHO has created the E-Cigarette Resource Library, a searchable database of information on e-cigarettes for state public health leaders to use when seeking resources on the topic. The library houses a collection of articles, media stories, factsheets, and other materials related to e-cigarettes. States and partners can search for e-cigarette information by category and resource type. ASTHO will continue to add to the library and welcomes individuals to [submit](#) resources for addition to the database.

[FDA Issues Warning Letters for Selling Flavored Cigarettes](#)

FDA

Four tobacco manufacturers received warning from FDA for selling flavored cigarettes that are labeled as little cigars or cigars, a violation of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The products in violation include the Swisher Sweets, Cheyenne, Prime Time, and Criss-Cross brands. Manufacturers have 15 working days to respond after receiving the warning letters. FDA expects many of the products to remain on the market while it works with manufacturers to achieve compliance with the law. Individuals can report potential tobacco-related violations by using FDA's [reporting form](#).

[FDA Releases Revised Guidance on Registration and Product Listing](#)

FDA

FDA issued the guidance document, "Registration and Product Listing for Owners and Operators of Domestic Tobacco Product Establishments." This document is a revision of guidance issued in July 2016. The guidance clarifies that for U.S. manufacturers of newly regulated tobacco products who manufactured those products prior to Aug. 8., FDA does not intend to enforce the submission deadline for registration and product listing provided that FDA receives applications on or before June 30, 2017. Companies that manufacture products after Aug. 8 must register and list their products immediately with FDA.

[New Report on Smoking and Video Games](#)

Truth Initiative

In a new report, "Played: Smoking and Video Games," Truth Initiative overviews research and informant interviews on tobacco imagery in video games. According to the report, tobacco use is prevalent in youth-focused video games and is likely present to

Austin, TX
March 22-24,
2017|*Registration Required*

[The Society for Public Health Education \(SOPHE\) 68th Annual Conference](#)

Denver, CO
March 30 – April 1,
2017|*Registration Required*

[National Council for Behavioral Health National Conference 2017](#)

Seattle, WA
April 3-5, 2017|*Registration Required*

[2017 NNPPI Annual Conference: Navigating Uncertainty, Spanning Boundaries, Improving Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes

New Orleans, LA
May 17-19|*Registration Required*

[NACCHO Annual 2017 – Public Health Revolution: Bridging Clinical Medicine and Population Health](#) –

National Association of City and County Health Officials
Pittsburg, PA
July 11-13|*Save the Date*

Funding Opportunities

[American Cancer Society Center for Tobacco Control Announces Second Round of Applications for Tobacco-free Generation Campus Initiative \(TFGCI\) Grant Program](#)

Deadline: Feb. 28, 2017, 5 PM ET

Funding is available to public or private, non-profit, and higher education institutions in the United States, accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting

promote youth smoking. Content descriptions of video games often fail to mention tobacco use—a missed opportunity to protect youth. The report culminates in a call to action for the gaming industry, parents and adults, public health advocates and researchers, and policymakers to take steps to reduce the risk of influencing youth tobacco use through video games.

[CDC Releases National Youth Tobacco Survey Data](#)

CDC

CDC's Office on Smoking and Health and FDA's Center for Tobacco Products released National Youth Tobacco Survey datasets as well as the availability of the accompanying questionnaire, methodology report, and codebook. The datasets are available for public use and are designed for states to compare their estimates of prevalence of youth tobacco use with national data. Additionally, this survey provides national data on long-term, intermediate, and short-term indicators, which are key to the design, implementation, and evaluation of comprehensive tobacco prevention and control programs.

[Tobacco 21 Included in Solutions to Help Cities Thrive](#)

de Beaumont Foundation

The de Beaumont Foundation's CityHealth project announced a new package of nine proven policies designed to impact the health of residents of America's cities. CityHealth's new package represents a proactive agenda of actions leaders can take to make their cities the best places to live, work, and do business. Each of the proposed solutions is supported by evidence, falls under city jurisdiction, must be addressed through policy change, and has a track record of bipartisan support. [Tobacco 21](#) is included as one of the policies in the package. Release of the policy package is the first of several steps designed to spark a national conversation about using policy to create healthier lives and strengthen communities.

State News

The Tobacco Control Network uses this section to reflect the great work occurring across states and territories in tobacco control. We encourage you to share useful tobacco control tools, programs, and resources your state has developed, as well as recent legislative achievements. If you would like to share your work, or nominate someone else to be recognized, please contact tcn@astho.org.

["The Dangers of Other Tobacco Products" Module \(VA\)](#) — *The*

agency. In addition to grants, ACS will also provide technical assistance and other resources to applicants and grantees.

Job Listings

[Federal Funding Coordinator](#)
[Utah Department of Health](#)
[Salt Lake County, UT](#)

[Senior Evaluator](#)
[Professional Data Analysis, Inc.](#)
[Minneapolis, MN](#)

About the Tobacco Control Network

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-based expertise to tobacco prevention and control at the state and national levels.

The TCN is a network of tobacco program managers and staff from state and territorial health departments as well as Funder's Alliance organizations, and a peer group of the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

About ASTHO

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit association representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO members, the

Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth. The Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth developed “The Dangers of Other Tobacco Products” module to provide prevention education to youth in middle and high school. The module can be used as a stand-alone presentation or it can be added to an existing educational curriculum to augment information about tobacco use prevention in a classroom setting. Pre- and post-test surveys were conducted with hundreds of youth in Virginia, which showed significant increases in knowledge related to students’ understanding of the addictive qualities and dangers of other tobacco products.

[Registration Open for Community Health Promotion Summit in Kansas \(KS\)](#) — *Wichita State University.* The Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Bureau of Health Promotion will hold its annual Community Health Promotion Summit on Jan. 25-27, 2017, in Manhattan, KS. The summit theme is addressing health equity to prevent tobacco use and chronic disease with pre-summit workshops on wasted food and reducing youth access to tobacco products. A limited number of [scholarships](#) for travel expenses are available to organizations and communities applying for Chronic Disease Risk Reduction funds for the first time.

chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.



In the News

[First “Less Harmful” Market Alternative Cigarette Filed for U.S. Approval](#) — *Reuters.* Philip Morris International, Inc. filed a much-awaited U.S. application to market a new type of cigarette, which the company claims has less than 10 percent of the harmful chemicals found in cigarette smoke. The device electronically heats tobacco to produce a vapor without burning, making the product “less harmful” according to Philip Morris. If approved, it would give the company’s alternative cigarette, the iQOS device, a significant marketing advantage over alternatives to tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes, which are not allowed to make such a claim.

[Even One Cigarette a Day Will Not Keep Early Death Away](#) — *Reuters.* A new study conducted by the National Cancer Institute reinforces that there is no safe level of cigarette smoking. Smokers in the study who consistently smoked less than one cigarette per day were more likely to die than never smokers. Researchers encourage physicians to intervene with patients who report any level of current tobacco use. As a motivating message, the sooner individuals quit smoking, the greater the health benefits in extending life.

Research

[State Medicaid Expansion Tobacco Cessation Coverage and Number of Adult Smokers Enrolled in Expansion Coverage — United States, 2016](#) – *MMWR*. **Key Findings:** This article provides an update on states' coverage of tobacco cessation treatments under the expansion of Medicaid, which serves a population that smokes at a much higher rate (27.8%) than adults with private insurance (11.1%). As of July 1, all 32 states with Medicaid expansion cover some form of tobacco cessation treatments, with nine states covering all nine approved treatments as part of Medicaid. Study authors write that states with expanded Medicaid can encourage use of tobacco cessation treatments by covering more treatments or by reducing barriers to coverage, such as copayments and prior authorization.

[Consumption of Combustible and Smokeless Tobacco — United States, 2000–2015](#) – *MMWR*. **Key Findings:** Researchers analyzed federal tax data from 2000 to 2015 to determine the total consumption of combustible and smokeless tobacco products in the United States. During this time, per capita consumption of all combustible products decreased by 43.7 percent, while per capita consumption of smokeless products increased by 4.2 percent. Study authors highlight the importance of comprehensive tobacco prevention strategies that acknowledge the diversity of tobacco products consumed in the United States.

[Public Understanding of Cigarette Smoke Constituents: Three US Surveys](#) – *Tobacco Control*. **Key Findings:** Researchers conducted phone surveys of adolescents and adults and an online survey of adults to measure perceptions of harm in cigarette smoke constituents. Across these surveys, between 43 and 72 percent of respondents incorrectly reported that harmful chemicals in cigarette smoke are primarily additives and are not inherent in tobacco. Ammonia, arsenic, formaldehyde, hydrogen cyanide, lead, and uranium were the constituents most likely to deter survey respondents from smoking. These findings could inform media campaigns that aim to discourage cigarette smoking.

[Misperceptions of Harm among Natural American Spirit Smokers: Results from Wave 1 of the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health \(PATH\) Study \(2013–2014\)](#) – *Tobacco Control*. **Key Findings:** An analysis of data from the first wave of the PATH study, a nationally representative study of American adults, indicated that 2.3 percent of American smokers smoke Natural American Spirit (NAS) as their usual brand. Researchers found that almost 64

percent of NAS smokers believe their brand is less harmful than other cigarettes compared to 8.3 percent of smokers of other brands. Researchers call for corrective messaging and enforcement against NAS's use of "natural," "organic," and "additive-free" as marketing terms to address inaccurate perceptions of harm reduction.

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