

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network](#) (TCN) and our partners.

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# TCN News

*News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network*

## Call for Members -- TCN Emerging Issues Workgroup

TCN is forming an Emerging Issues Workgroup that will meet monthly to discuss how state and territorial tobacco control stakeholders can best collaborate to address emerging challenges in tobacco control. Topics of discussion will include emerging products, industry tactics, and threats to clean air policy. The next Emerging Issues Workgroup meeting will take place on **Thursday, July 20 from 4-5 PM ET**. Subsequent meetings will be held at this same time on the third Thursday of each month. TCN members interested in taking part can reach out to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).

## Partner Announcements

### [Key Recommendations for State Health Departments and Smoke-Free Housing](#)

ASTHO

ASTHO published "Key Recommendations: The Role of State Health Agencies in Smoke-Free Housing." The compilation of recommendations was informed by a six-state virtual learning community convened from October 2016 through February 2017. The recommendations identify elements of successful smoke-free housing programs led by state health agencies informed by the challenges, lessons learned, and best practices shared by participating learning community states.

[Report on Trends in Smokeless Tobacco Use and Initiation](#)

*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

[Medicaid-Public Health Partnership to Improve Health and Control Costs: Early Lessons from the CDC's 6|18 Initiative](#) – Center of Health Care Strategies, Inc.  
June 28, 1-2:30 p.m.  
ET|Registration Required

[Intended Consequences of the Predatory Marketing of Menthol Cigarettes: A Community Under Siege](#) – African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council  
June 29, 12:30-2 p.m.  
ET|Registration Required

[Policy & Practice for LGBT Tobacco-Free Living](#) – LGBT HealthLink  
July 12, 2-3 p.m.  
ET|Registration Required

[Mid-Year Training Institute: Engineering Healthy](#)

## **SAMHSA**

A new SAMHSA report examines smokeless tobacco use and initiation from 2002 to 2014 using responses from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Researchers report that the overall use of smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco and snuff) has remained mostly unchanged since 2002. There was, however, a decline in smokeless tobacco initiation between 2006 and 2014 among males, adolescents, and young adults. The report finds importance in this decline as smokeless tobacco use is often linked to subsequent cigarette initiation.

## **[Statement from FDA Commissioner on 2016 National Youth Tobacco Survey Results](#)**

### **FDA**

FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb released a statement after findings from the 2016 National Youth Tobacco Survey revealed a decline in youth tobacco product use between 2015 and 2016. The statement reiterates that while the results are encouraging, youth tobacco use and initiation still exist and the downward trend must continue. FDA plans to build on their existing work to prevent youth tobacco use through science-based awareness campaigns, such as [The Real Cost](#) campaign, and warnings to retailers for selling tobacco products to minors.

## **[Research on Tobacco Cessation Services Offered in Substance Abuse Treatment Centers](#)**

### **Truth Initiative**

Truth Initiative researchers published a [study](#) that analyzed data from the National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (from 2006 to 2012) to assess changes in the provision of smoking cessation services within U.S. substance abuse treatment facilities. According to the study, the prevalence of facilities that offer cessation services has increased over time, from 13 to 65 percent. Researchers examined facility- or state-level factors that could explain the changes. Strong correlations to providing cessation services in such facilities included the cigarette tax rate, accepting government insurance, government ownership, higher facility admissions, and alignment with CDC-recommended tobacco prevention spending.

## **[Free Youth Advocacy Training Program](#)**

**[Communities](#)** – Community Anti-Drug Coalition of America (CADCA)  
Atlanta, GA  
July 23-27|*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|*Registration Required*

**[Creating the Healthiest Nation: Climate Changes Health: APHA 2017 Annual Meeting & Expo](#)** – American Public Health Association  
Atlanta, GA  
Nov. 4-8|*Registration Required*

**[Agents of Change Summit 2018: The Science and Technology of Behavior Change](#)** – Rescue: The Behavior Change Agency  
San Diego, CA  
Feb. 12-13, 2018|*Registration Required*

**[Clearing the Air: An Institute for Policy Advocacy, XI](#)** – American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation  
Ridgedale, MO  
May 1-3, 2018|*Registration Required*

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## **Funding Opportunities**

*If you know of any tobacco-related funding opportunities that may appeal to a state and territorial tobacco control audience, please reach out to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

**[Tobacco Centers of Regulatory Science \(TCORS\) for Research Relevant to the Family Smoking Prevention](#)**

### *Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids*

Taking Down Tobacco, a new comprehensive youth advocacy training program from the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and the CVS Health Foundation, is now available. Geared toward middle- and high-school students, the program offers beginner and advanced online and in-person trainings on topics such as basic information on tobacco, how to train youth and how to deliver the course in communities, communicating with the media and decisionmakers, and creating advocacy events.

### [Recent Graham Decision a Tobacco Control Win](#)

*Public Health Law Center*

A blog post from the Public Health Law Center describes the outcome and public health impact of a long-term legal battle of the Graham family, who sought compensation for the late Faye Graham who died of tobacco-related lung cancer. In May, the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned an earlier ruling that Congressional inaction in banning the sale of cigarettes preempted a state from doing so. The decision is an important victory for the tobacco control movement as it disrupts the ability of the tobacco industry to prevent state and local actions through claims of federal preemption.

## 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](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

### [Minnesota Governor Wants Legislature to Undo Tobacco](#)

[Tax Reduction \(MN\)](#) – *Twin Cities Pioneer Press*. Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton is asking state legislators to remove two-tobacco related provisions from the tax bill he signed into law last month. One provision would freeze cigarette taxes at the current rate instead of having them automatically increase with inflation, while another would lower the tax on premium cigars. Gov. Dayton is calling for a special legislative session to undo these tax breaks.

### [and Tobacco Control Act \(U54\)](#)

#### **Deadline: July 19**

The TCORS program objective is to conduct programs of multidisciplinary research to inform the manufacture, distribution, and marketing of tobacco products related to the Center for Tobacco Products' regulatory authority.

#### **Job Listings**

[Director, Statewide Health Improvement Initiatives Minnesota Department of Health Saint Paul, MN](#)

[Research Data Scientist California Department of Public Health Sacramento, CA](#)

[Community Outreach Specialist Truth Initiative Indianapolis, IN](#)

[Youth Activism Specialist Truth Initiative Washington, DC](#)

[Epidemiologist 2 Tennessee Department of Health Nashville, TN](#)

[Program Director 2 Tennessee Department of Health Nashville, TN](#)

[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

[Lawsuit Calls New Oklahoma Cigarette Fee Unconstitutional \(OK\)](#) – *U.S. News and World Report*. In a recent lawsuit,

cigarette companies and three Oklahoma residents are asking their state Supreme Court to prevent a new \$1.50 fee on a pack of cigarettes, alleging it to be an unconstitutional tax. The fee is expected to generate about \$258 million, the majority of which would be dedicated to the newly created Health Care Enhancement Fund. The lawsuit finds issue with its label of fee, rather than tax, and how it did not follow state constitution requirements regarding revenue-raising bills.

## In the News

[The Rich Stopped Smoking, the Poor Did Not](#) – *The*

*Washington Post*. Smoking rates for Americans who are poor, uneducated, or rural residents remain high, despite historically low smoking rates for the rest of the country. Insights from rural residents, social justice advocates, and volunteers are highlighted in this recent article.

[Reynolds' Final Selling Price Rises to \\$54.5 Billion](#) –

*Winston-Salem Journal*. According to a British American Tobacco regulatory filing, the final selling price for Reynolds American Inc. will be 10.3 percent higher for shareholders than previously disclosed. Reynolds' board of directors accepted British American Tobacco's offer to purchase the portion of Reynolds that British American Tobacco did not already own in January. The shareholders of both companies will vote on the bid on July 19.

[Snus Linked to Asthma and Sleep Problems](#) – *Reuters*.

According to a [study](#) based on the responses of more than 16,000 never-smokers in Sweden in 2008, snus users were 50 percent more likely to have asthma and 37 to 59 percent more likely to snore and have trouble falling asleep compared to non-users. Researchers suggest that snus users may experience inflammation in the upper part of the airways, but acknowledge that these associations do not prove that snus causes asthma.

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 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.



Forward to Friend

## Research

[Tobacco Use Among Middle and High School Students — United States, 2011–2016](#) – *MMWR*. **Key Findings:** A CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), which analyzed data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS), has found that the use of any tobacco product among middle school and high school youth declined between 2015 and 2016. Additionally, this MMWR found that for the first time, e-cigarette use declined among both high school and middle school aged Americans between 2015 and 2016. Study authors conclude that sustained evidence-based tobacco control efforts are warranted, given that an estimated 3.9 million youths currently use tobacco products.

[Attitudes Toward Tobacco 21 Among U.S. Youth](#) – *Pediatrics*. **Key Findings:** Researchers analyzed data from the 2015 NYTS to better understand youth support of Tobacco 21 policy, and how it correlates with the intention to initiate or quit tobacco use. Across all youth respondents, 63.9 percent indicated support of Tobacco 21 legislation, with support higher among middle school students, girls, and those not currently using cigarettes or e-cigarettes. Support of Tobacco 21 was correlated with a lower intention to initiate cigarette use among non-smokers, and a higher intention to quit tobacco use in the next 12 months among current users. Researchers conclude that educational initiatives on the harms of smoking and nicotine addiction could increase policy support among young people.

[Electronic Cigarettes as an Introductory Tobacco Product Among Eighth and 11th Grade Tobacco Users — Oregon, 2015](#) – *MMWR*. **Key Findings:** Data from Oregon Healthy Teens 2015, a cross-sectional survey of eighth and 11<sup>th</sup> grade Oregon students, was analyzed to assess the relationship between tobacco users' introductory tobacco product and subsequent tobacco use habits. Survey data indicates that e-cigarettes were the most common introductory product in both age groups, and that these tobacco users were second most likely to report ever having used cigarettes – those who reported cigarettes as their introductory product were most likely. These findings reinforce the important of youth tobacco interventions that prevent all forms of tobacco product use.

[Electronic Cigarette Use Among US Adults in the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health \(PATH\) Study, 2013–2014](#) – *Tobacco Control*. **Key Findings:**

2013-2014 PATH study data was analyzed to better understand the frequency of use among adult e-cigarette smokers. Of the 5.5 percent of adults who reported current e-cigarette use, 42.2 percent reported use in two or fewer of the past 30 days, 36.5 percent reported use two or more times over the past 30 days, and 21.3 percent of users reported daily use over that time span. Cigarette smokers who switched to e-cigarettes in the previous year were 3.2 times more likely to be daily e-cigarette users. Future studies could explore longitudinal data instead of cross-sectional survey data to get a better understanding of how past cigarette use impacts the frequency of e-cigarette use.

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