

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*

## **Program Manager Feature – Sharon Biggers (SC)**

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

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

The TCN has been invaluable for me as a program manager. The [Help Your Peers](#) listserv has been a fabulous resource in accessing timely information from other states. And I always read the [TCN News](#) to stay on top of issues and resources, as well as to learn about the many wonderful events and workshops available on a wide range of topics. Perhaps the most important to me, however, has been the networking opportunities, particularly during my time on the [Executive Committee](#) and while serving as a mentor for new Managers.

*To see the full interview with Sharon, 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**

Building Success: Adopting and Implementing an Effective Smoke-Free Housing Policy – Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Boston University School of Public Health  
[Feb. 14, 2-3 PM ET](#) or [Feb. 20, 1-2 PM ET](#) | *Registration Required*

[From Data to Policy Development: Tobacco Control Tools You Didn't Know You Needed](#) – Public Health Law Center  
Feb. 14, 3-4 PM  
ET | *Registration Required*

[Changing Our Language to Motivate People and Systems to Change](#) – Tobacco Control Training Collaborative  
Feb. 21, 3-4:30 PM

## TCN Announcements

- A recording of the Jan. 23 TCN webinar [How States Can Amplify Tobacco Industry Corrective Statements](#) is now available on YouTube and on the [Resources tab](#) of the TCN website.
- Nominate your state or territorial tobacco control program manager to be featured as a tobacco control leader on the TCN website and in a future TCN News by reaching out to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).
- Program managers and Funders Alliance leads are encouraged to join the [TCN Forum](#), a password-protected section of the TCN website, to engage in dialogue and share new resources with colleagues. Please see the [Forum guide](#) and [How-To video](#) for more information.

## Partner Announcements

- The **National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine** published a [comprehensive scientific review](#) of the available evidence on the public health consequences of e-cigarette use. **ASTHO** Chief Medical Officer Marcus Plescia drafted a [blog post](#) that summarizes the report's findings with regards to individual and population health, as well as implications for state health officials.
- The **American Lung Association** [published](#) the 2018 edition of its annual [State of Tobacco Control](#) report, which assigns grades to states on their implementation of key evidence-based tobacco control policies.
- A new **Truth Initiative** national advertising [campaign](#) titled "Worth More" focuses on the exploitation of lower-income communities by

ET|*Registration Required*

[Leveraging the New Hospital Community Benefit Toolkit to Promote Tobacco Cessation Across Community Providers](#) –  
American Lung Association  
Feb. 22, 3-4 PM  
ET|*Registration Required*

[Tobacco-Free College Program Grant Webinar](#) –  
Truth Initiative  
March 7, 3-4 PM  
ET|*Registration Required*

[The Virginia Conference on Youth Tobacco Use: Translating Research into Practice and Policy](#) – Virginia Youth Tobacco Projects Research Coalition  
Richmond, VA  
March 21-22|*Registration Required*

[13th National Reduce Tobacco Use Conference](#) – Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth  
Norfolk, VA  
April 10-11|*Registration Required*

[NatCon 2018 Conference](#) – National Council for Behavioral Health  
National Harbor, MD  
April 23-25|*Registration Required*

[Eliminate Tobacco Use Summit](#)– MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Houston, TX  
April 24-25|*Registration Required*

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

[State of Black Health National](#)

tobacco manufacturers.

- The **National Behavioral Health Network** published infographics and blog posts on supporting [smoke-free public housing](#), using peers to support [tobacco cessation services](#), as well as [funding peer specialists](#) to address tobacco use in populations with mental illness.
- **CDC** posted a [solicitation of nominations](#) for appointment to the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health. Nominations are due on Feb. 28.
- **MD Anderson Cancer Center** announced their new [EndTobacco Program](#), a renewed institutional commitment to end tobacco use through a variety of evidenced-based goals and policies.
- The **North American Quitline Consortium** is accepting nominations for its board of directors. Representatives will serve a three-year term starting in July. Nominations can be sent to [board@naquitline.org](mailto:board@naquitline.org). The deadline is Feb. 23.
- The 2018 call for applications for **FDA's Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship** is open. The deadline is March 1 at 5 p.m. ET.

## State News

- **Indiana** received federal approval to implement new policies in its [administration of state Medicaid](#), including a provision that Medicaid recipients who smoke will be subject to a 50 percent surcharge starting in 2019.
- **Oklahoma** governor Mary Fallin called for a [special legislative session](#) to discuss a proposed \$1.50 per pack cigarette tax increase, a 10 percent chewing tobacco and e-cigarette tax increase, and other

[Conference](#) – National African American Tobacco Prevention Network (NAAPTN)  
Atlanta, GA  
Sep. 11-13|*Save the Date*

[APHA 2018 Annual Meeting & Expo](#) – American Public Health Association  
San Diego, CA  
Nov. 10-14|*Save the Date*

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### Funding Opportunities

[2018 Tobacco-Free Grants for Minority-Serving Institutions, Community and Women's Colleges](#)

#### Deadline: April 10

Virtually all smokers start smoking before 26 years old. That's why over the past three years, Truth Initiative has awarded funding to 135 historically black colleges, universities, and community colleges to advocate for the adoption and implementation of a 100 percent smoke- or tobacco-free policy. Truth Initiative is accepting applications for its Tobacco-Free College Program, which now offers grants of up to \$20,000 to women's colleges, minority-serving academic institutions, and community colleges.

[PAR-17-218 – U.S. Tobacco Control Policies to Reduce Health Disparities \(R21\)](#)

#### Deadline: June 15, 2020

NIH published an open-funding opportunity announcement (FOA) to support observational or intervention research focused on reducing health disparities in tobacco use in the United States. The FOA is intended to stimulate scientific inquiry focused on innovative tobacco control policies.

legislative options to help offset the state's revenue shortfall.

- The Senate Health and Welfare Committee in the **Kentucky** state legislature [voted](#) in support of a \$1 per pack cigarette tax increase. Smoke Free Tomorrow, a coalition of Kentucky businesses, and other health groups advocate for such a policy change.
- Two state legislators in **Illinois** co-sponsored [legislation](#) to raise the statewide tobacco purchase age to 21.

## In the News

- On Jan. 24-25, a [scientific advisory panel](#) convened by the FDA Center for Tobacco Products largely dismissed claims presented by Philip Morris International (PMI) that its iQOS vaporized tobacco products represent a reduced population harm and disease risk compared to combustible cigarettes. FDA will take these findings into account when considering whether to approve PMI's [application](#) to market iQOS products as modified risk products in the United States. Following the hearing, Sen. Dick Durbin (IL) and Sen. Richard Blumenthal (CT) [released statements](#) expressing concern over the clinical trial data provided by PMI in their application and presentation.
- An NPR summary [overviews](#) how disparities in cigarette use persist among American adults and disproportionately impact underserved groups such as those with lower income, LGBTQ individuals, African Americans, and those of Native American descent.
- E-cigarette retailers in five states filed three [federal lawsuits](#) against FDA, alleging FDA's [final deeming rule](#) unfairly regulates e-cigarettes in the same way

## Job Listings

[Tobacco Prevention and Control Policy and Technical Assistance Coordinator](#)  
[Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)  
[Madison, WI](#)

[Advertising Specialist](#)  
[UC Davis Medical Center](#)  
[Sacramento, CA](#)

[Program Associate, Youth Advocacy](#)  
[Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids](#)  
[Washington, D.C.](#)

[Senior Community Activism Manager](#)  
[Truth Initiative](#)  
[Washington, D.C.](#)

[Advocacy Manager](#)  
[American Lung Association in California](#)  
[Chico or Redding, CA](#)

[Advocacy Manager](#)  
[American Lung Association in California](#)  
[Fresno or Bakersfield, CA](#)

### 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](#)

as combustible tobacco products.

- A [clinical study](#) published in *Frontiers in Physiology* [found](#) that non-nicotine flavored e-cigarette vapors have toxic effects when exposed to white blood cells. Cinnamon, vanilla, and buttery flavors were among the most toxic.
- A leading tobacco industry analyst [projects](#) that R.J. Reynolds cigarette brand Newport will continue to see a larger than expected market share increase as compared to Philip Morris's top-selling Marlboro brand. Both manufacturers have raised list prices by 10 cents.
- The Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company [filed suit](#) against Get Wrecked Juices LLC, alleging infringement on Wrigley's Starburst and Skittles trademarks in the marketing of candy-flavored e-liquids.

## Research

- An *MMWR* [article](#) published by CDC found that adult tobacco use rates continue to vary significantly by state, with self-reported current use of any tobacco product, including e-cigarettes, ranging from 10.2 percent (California) to 27.7 percent (Wyoming).
- An [analysis](#) of 2009-14 individual-level data published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* concluded that the passage of minimum legal sale age e-cigarette laws at the state level was associated with a 16 percent reduction in the prevalence of youth combustible cigarette use.
- A *Journal of the American Heart Association* [analysis](#) of Jackson Heart Study data found that high intensity smoking exceeding one pack per day is associated with a 79 percent increased incidence of type 2 diabetes among black

[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.



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participants compared to never smokers.

- A *Tobacco Control* [experiment](#) of 2,149 adult smokers in the United States concluded that pictorial cigarette pack warnings increased message reactance and quit intentions but not perceived risk as compared to text-only warnings.
- A two-year clinical [evaluation](#) of an electronic vaping product published in *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology* found that e-cigarette use among smokers of combustible cigarettes was associated with reduced desire to smoke and reduced exposure to cigarette smoking constituents.
- A *British Medical Journal* [systematic review](#) of 141 cohort studies concluded that smoking one cigarette per day is associated with a 48 percent greater pooled relative risk for developing coronary heart disease—approximately half the risk of those who reported smoking 20 cigarettes per day.

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