

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*

## TCN News

**The biweekly TCN News is back!** This newsletter 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. [Click here](#) for a recent letter from TCN Chair Miranda Spitznagle (Indiana) with more about what's new with the TCN.

**Proposed Tobacco Control Network webinar topics for 2015** - The TCN Executive Leadership Committee is looking for your feedback on webinar topics for 2015. Please access a brief survey [here](#) to share your feedback, ideas and speaker suggestions. **We would like to get your feedback by March 9, 2015.**

**Circulating Help Your Peers request** - Wisconsin's state Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is assessing its Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) and Contract Administrator structure and would like to learn how other states operationalize these two infrastructure components. How many contracts or local coalitions do state staff oversee as contract managers? How does this staff structure function? Is TTA primarily given through these Contract Administrators, or by expert/specialized staff (e.g. policy, communication, etc.)? If you have any information to share,

## Upcoming events

[#FinishIt: Media Resources & Tools to Help Coalitions End Tobacco Use](#) - C-Change and Legacy.  
*March 5 | 3-4pm ET*

[S&E Coffee Break - Methods for Evaluating Your Coalition or Partnership, Part 2](#) – CDC/OSH Evaluation Team  
*March 10 | 3-3:30pm ET*

[National Public Health Week](#) - American Public Health Association.  
*April 6-12*

[Webinar: Exploring the Use of Electronic Health Records to Support Tobacco Cessation and Million Hearts](#) – Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) and the National Association of County & City Health Officials (NACCHO)  
*April 13 | 1-2:30 PM ET [new date]*

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*For a more comprehensive listing of upcoming state and national tobacco control and public health trainings and*

or can connect us with someone who would be able to respond, please send your responses to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).

## Partner Announcements

[E-cigarette workgroup and listserv](#) - *ASTHO*. ASTHO is convening states who are exploring options to address e-cigarettes in a workgroup. This workgroup's purpose is to help to advance state tobacco control efforts in this new and fast evolving area and to provide an opportunity to exchange information with colleagues engaging in similar work.

[Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee \(TPSAC\) meeting announced](#) - *FDA Center for Tobacco Products*. A meeting of the TPSAC has been scheduled for April 9-10, 2015 to discuss scientific issues related to the Swedish Match North America modified risk tobacco product (MRTP) applications currently under scientific review at FDA CTP. Interested parties may present data, information, or opinions, orally or in writing. Read more [here](#) about the meeting, [about MRTPs](#), or [about TPSAC](#).

[State System Expenditure Data Review by States](#) – *CDC/OSH*.

Attention Program Managers – You should have received a request from your project officer to review the accuracy of your state's 2012 and 2013 appropriation and expenditure funding data for release in the STATE System. Please contact your project officer by March 2 if you have any questions, concerns, identified data discrepancies, or are approving the data.

[Report: Understanding the U.S. illicit tobacco market: Characteristics, policy context, and lessons from international experiences](#) - *National Research Council (NRC) and the Institute of Medicine (IOM)*. The report discusses U.S. illicit trade with respect to both tobacco taxes and tobacco product regulation. Reinforces that the tobacco industry's claims regarding the illicit market are "inflated" and that federal and state governments have options to effectively address the problem.

events, visit the [Public Health Events Calendar](#), managed by the Emory Centers for Training and Technical Assistance.

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## Job listings

[Lead Evaluator / Evaluation Program Manager- Epidemiology Specialist II \(Job #07336\)](#)  
[State of Alaska Tobacco Prevention and Control Program](#)  
[Anchorage, AK](#)

[Coordinator, Tobacco Cessation Specialist](#)  
[American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest](#)  
[Springfield, IL](#)

[Associate Director, Global Health Advocacy Incubator Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids](#)  
[Washington, DC](#)

[Director of International Research](#)  
[Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids](#)  
[Washington, DC](#)

[Director, Tobacco Control and Advocacy](#)  
[American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest](#)  
[Indianapolis, IN](#)

[Director of Active Living, Chronic Disease Prevention](#)

[Smokefree Skies Anniversary resources](#) - *Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights*. On February 25, 1990, the "no-smoking" sign was permanently lit on U.S. domestic airline flights - for the health of flight attendants and passengers. ANR has developed resources and information to help celebrate the 25 year anniversary of this important public health achievement.

### State Success Stories

[Arizona targets teen tobacco use with comedy and online video](#) - *Arizona Department of Health Services*. Arizona's health department has taken an out-of-the-box approach to promote its anti-tobacco messaging to teens by using humorous online video clips shared on social media. "Voyage Trekkers," a parody of well-known sci-fi intuitions like "Star Trek" and "Star Wars," pokes fun at traditional "stiff" public service announcements in an effort to entertain and educate teens about the dangers of smoking.

### In the News

[California health officer declares e-cigarettes a health threat, urges tobacco-like regulation](#). In a [report](#) released by the California Department of Public Health, health officials declared that electronic cigarettes are a health threat and should be strictly regulated like tobacco products. California follows Oklahoma and Arkansas who have already issued advisories cautioning the use of e-cigarettes.

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[and Tobacco Control NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene City of New York New York, NY](#)

### 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. Click [here](#) to learn more about the TCN.

The TCN is managed by 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

## Research

[Smoking and mortality – Beyond established causes](#) – *New England Journal of Medicine*. An investigation of causes of excess mortality in smokers compared to nonsmokers found that an additional five diseases and 60,000 deaths a year in the United States are due to smoking. These new findings suggest that officials have substantially underestimated the effect of smoking on mortality in the United States.

[Vital signs: Disparities in nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke , United States, 1999–2012](#) – *MMWR*. An analysis of National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) data from 1999-2012 for secondhand smoke (SHS) exposure found while SHS exposure in the United States has been reduced, exposure remains higher among children, non-Hispanic blacks, those living in poverty and those who rent their housing.

[Proactive tobacco cessation outreach to smokers of low socioeconomic status: A randomized clinical trial](#) – *JAMA Internal Medicine*. A randomized control trial was used to evaluate a proactive tobacco cessation strategy targeted for low-SES smokers. The results showed the intervention program that included telephone-based motivational counseling, nicotine replacement therapy and access to community-based referrals to address sociocontextual mediators of tobacco use was associated with higher quit rates than the standard care group.

[Tobacco product prices before and after a statewide tobacco tax increase](#) (MN) – *Tobacco Control*. An analysis of tobacco product prices before and after a 2013 tobacco tax increase in Minnesota found the average price increase for cigarettes exceeded the increase in tax. These findings suggest the industry over-shifted the burden of the cigarette tax to consumers in Minnesota.

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