

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

Letter from the Chair

Dear TCN Members,

We are excited to share that we have launched our [new website](#)! This new website contains an updated state directory with contact information for each staff member, current job positions in tobacco control and copies to past TCN News issues. The next step will be to develop a password protected section for us to access information that is available only to TCN members. Please check out the new website and let us know your thoughts!

Please mark your calendars to join us on **Wednesday, August 19th at 5:30 PM** during the Grantee Meeting in Atlanta for a reception to learn more about the Tobacco Control Network (TCN) and meet fellow members, the new TCN chair and executive committee members. We will share information about the products from TCN and how they can help you in your work. Please join us to network with your state program colleagues, OSH staff, national partners, and other national networks. We look forward to seeing you there!

Best,

*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

[Webinar: Tobacco Use in the LGBT Community: Preconceptions, Challenges & Experiences](#) – LGBT Health Link
June 30, 2015 | 2:00 pm EDT

[Biomarkers of Tobacco Exposure: A Public Workshop](#) – FDA
Aug 3-4, 2015 | Register by July 10th

[NAQC Conference: The Future of Quitlines, Refining and Redefining Our Practices for Success](#)– North America Quitline Consortium

Miranda Spitznagle
TCN Chair

Partner Announcements

[Using Retailer AVCs as a Tool in Tobacco Control](#) – TCLC. The Tobacco Control Legal Consortium published a fact sheet on the potential for multi-state tobacco regulation using Assurance of Voluntary Compliance (AVCs). Tobacco advertising can be limited through AVCs which are legal agreements between an attorney general and a retailer such as a supermarket, pharmacy or gas station.

State News

[Hawaii Raises Smoking Age from 18 to 21.](#) (HI) Governor David Ige signed a bill making Hawaii the first state to prohibit the sale of tobacco products to anyone under 21 effective January 1, 2016. The Institute of Medicine recently published a report indicating that raising the minimum legal age to 21 could reduce smoking initiation of young adults. This new policy has the potential to significantly decrease smoking rates in Hawaii since 86% of current adult smokers in the state started before the age of 21.

[New York's Smoking Rates Reduced to Lowest Levels in Recorded History.](#) (NY) New data shows the adult smoking rate in NY is at 14.5%, considerably lower than the national average of 17.8%. In addition, the smoking rate for high school students is at 7.3%, showing an improvement of 42% in the last four years. New York State Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker said, "Thanks to New York State's aggressive and multi-faceted cessation efforts, our smoking rates have shrunk to their lowest levels in recorded history."

[Building Excellence in Evaluation: Examples in Chronic Disease Prevention in Alabama.](#) (AL) Alabama will host a

Aug 17- 18, 2015 | *Register by August 10*

[2015 National Conference on Tackling Tobacco Use in Vulnerable Populations](#) – Danyain Institute
October 5-6, 2015 | Register by August 3rd

[Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) – Rutgers, Center for Tobacco studies & The Division of Addiction Psychiatry
Oct 5-9, 2015 | Registration Required

[12th National Reduce Tobacco Use Conference](#) - Virginia
Foundation for Healthy Youth and Prevention Connections
April 25-26, 2016 | Registration Required

Funding Opportunities

[Grants for Smoke/Tobacco-Free Community College Policies.](#) **Deadline: August 6, 2015.** Legacy is providing a grant of \$5,000 per year to community colleges to support their efforts in creating and implementing 100% smoke free or 100% tobacco free policies.

[Tobacco Regulatory Science Small Grant Program for New Investigators.](#) **First Deadline: Augusts 20, 2015.** The National Institute of Health is providing grants to new tobacco regulatory investigators to inform the

satellite conference on the creation and evaluation of chronic disease prevention programs on July 14th. More details about the event are available [here](#).

In the News

[Half of Cancer Mortalities Associated with Tobacco Use](#) – *Reuters*.

New research published in JAMA Internal Medicine is confirming the link between cancer and tobacco use and the importance for effective smoking cessation tools for cancer patients. A new [study](#) conducted by the American Cancer Society found that approximately 50% of deaths of the 12 cancers most commonly associated with smoking, such as lung and esophageal, are directly linked to smoking. A second [study](#) concluded that lung cancer patients provided with tobacco cessation resources are 40% more successful at quitting.

[Pregnant Women are Unaware of the Potential Risks of Using E-cigarettes](#). - *Reuters*. A small survey found that 57% of pregnant participants were not aware that e-cigarettes contain nicotine, and 43% believed e-cigarettes are safer for their fetus than traditional tobacco products. Despite the limitations of this study it indicates the need to increase awareness of the potential health risks associated with e-cigarette use during pregnancy

Research

[Is There a Relationship Between the Concentration of Same-Sex Couples and Tobacco Retailer Density?](#) – *Oxford*. **Key Findings:** A higher density of tobacco retailers were found in communities with more same-sex couples. Communities with higher rates of same-sex couples also had higher rates of low income and minority residents.

[Use of Tobacco Tax Stamps to Prevent and Reduce Illicit Tobacco Trade](#) – *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report*. **Key Findings:**

regulation of tobacco manufacturing, marketing, and distribution. Future grant deadlines are: February 23, 2016, July 20, 2016, and February 23, 2017, by 5:00 PM local time.

Job listings

[Youth and Young Adult Policy Manager](#)
[The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living \(TFL\) New Orleans, LA](#)

[Industry Documents Digital Library Manager](#)
[University of California, San Francisco](#)
[San Francisco, CA](#)

[Associate Health Program Adviser, California Tobacco Control Program](#)
[California Department of Public Health](#)
[Sacramento, CA](#)

[Health Program Specialist II, California Tobacco Control Program](#)
[California Department of Public Health](#)
[Sacramento, CA](#)

[Health Program Specialist I, California Tobacco Control Program](#)
[California Department of Public Health](#)
[Sacramento, CA](#)

About the Tobacco Control Network

Currently no states have a comprehensive tobacco tax resulting in illicit tobacco trade and lost state revenue. Comprehensive tobacco taxes including high-tech tax stamps, stamping all tobacco products and agreements with tribes could help enforce tobacco sale regulations.

[The Impact of Prenatal Tobacco Smoking on Risk of Diabetes Mellitus in Middle-Aged Women](#)- *Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease*. **Key Findings:** A prospective study showed smoking during early pregnancy is associated with higher rates of diabetes mellitus and type two diabetes in adult daughters.

[Global Statistics on Addictive Behaviors: 2014 Status Report](#) – *Addiction*. **Key Findings:** A comprehensive report on the prevalence and harms of drugs in the world, found that alcohol and tobacco are the most prevalent and harmful addictions. Data indicates 22.5% of the world or about 1 billion people smoke tobacco, and 11% of male deaths and 6% of female deaths are due to tobacco use.

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.

Staff support is provided to the TCN 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 dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.



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Our address:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, 2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450, Arlington, VA 22202
TCN@astho.org

