Read on for announcements from the <u>Tobacco Control Network</u> (TCN) and our partners.

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# **TCN News**

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

## **Circulating Help Your Peers Requests**

These are the current circulating Help Your Peers requests.

### Offering CME/CEU E-Learning Modules

Deadline: June 22, 2016

The New Hampshire Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program is interested in offering CME/CEU e-learning modules based on key informant interviews conducted with New Hampshire Community Health Center staff. They know that there are e-learning toolkits and e-learning modules offered by the University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (thanks to Rob Adsit). Are there lessons learned among states who have undertaken this type of activity? Any feedback is appreciated!

If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to <u>tcn@astho.org</u> and we will connect you with the person who submitted the request.

### **Partner Announcements**

CDC Releases "Stuck in Neutral: Stalled Progress in Statewide Comprehensive Smoke-Free Laws and Cigarette Excise Taxes—United States, 2000–2014."

CDC

CDC's Office on Smoking and Health released an article in Preventing Chronic Disease that analyzes the progress of state tobacco control policy between 2000-2014. Using CDC's state tracking and evaluation resources, analysts looked at the progress of smoke-free and price interventions 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**

Protecting Two Million People: A

Deep Dive into Smokefree Multi-Unit

Housing – Tobacco Control Training

Collaborative

June 22, 3-4:30 p.m.

EDT|Registration Required

Thirdhand Cigarette Smoke: A
Persistent Environmental
Containment – Smoking Cessation
Leadership Center
June 23, 2-3:30 p.m.
EDT|Registration Required

Conducting Policy Evaluations:
Tobacco Control Examples from
Oregon & Massachusetts— The
Evaluators' Network
June 23, 3-4:30 p.m.
EDT|Registration Required

2016 National Association of County and City Health Officials Annual Conference Phoenix, AZ July 19-21|Registration Required over time and across census regions. Though policy steadily advanced between 2000-2009, with 46 states and the District of Columbia increasing tobacco excise taxes, progress has stalled since 2010, with a marked decline in the amount of activity in smoke-free and price policies across states. The article points to the work that remains in tobacco control.

## American Lung Association (ALA) Publishes Resource on Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Coverage

ALA

ALA published "Approaches to Promoting Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Coverage: Promising Practices and Lessons Learned," which describes the importance of improving the utilization of tobacco cessation products and services among Medicaid clients. The document looks at five states—California, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Vermont, and Wisconsin—to explore best practices and lessons learned in how states can improve availability and demand of smoking cessation benefits as part of Medicaid.

### CDC Celebrates National Healthy Homes Month by Encouraging Smoke-Free Homes CDC

To honor National Healthy Homes Month this June, CDC released an article "Everyone Deserves a Smokefree Home." This article details the impacts and prevalence of secondhand smoke exposure, steps one can take to maintain a smokefree home, and also provides links to numerous resources for those interested in quitting or learning more about smoke-free homes and secondhand smoke.

# <u>Updated Tobacco-Free Policy Resources to Recognize 10-Year Anniversary of Surgeon General's Report on Secondhand Smoke</u>

Tobacco Control Legal Consortium

To commemorate the 10-year anniversary of the landmark 2006 Surgeon General's Report, The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke, Tobacco Control Legal Consortium released updated versions of their tobacco-free policy guides, Regulating Tobacco Use

Outdoors and Adopting Tobacco-free Policies on Campuses. The 2006 report concluded that there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure. The report has informed continued tobacco control and prevention efforts to reduce the burden of secondhand smoke exposure in the United

Working with Public Housing
Authorities: Addressing Smokefree
Multi-Unit Housing Implementation
Challenges – Tobacco Control
Training Collaborative
July 27, 3-4:30 p.m.
EDT|Registration Required

2017 National Conference on Tobacco or Health Austin, TX March 22-24, 2017 Save the Date

## **Funding Opportunities**

Truth Initiative Announces Grant
Opportunity for Smoke-Free
Community Colleges

Deadline: July 15

Truth Initiative is now accepting grant applications from community colleges to help them work towards comprehensive smoke-free policies. Community colleges that do not have a 100% smoke-free policy are eligible for a grant and technical assistance. Interested community colleges should apply by July 15 to receive a \$7,500 grant.

# Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Calls for Proposals for Research to Build Culture of Health

# Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Evidence for Action program has an ongoing call for proposals to address gaps in knowledge and test innovative programs, policies, and partnerships, in addition to evaluating measurements of health determinants and outcomes.

#### **Job Listings**

Manager, Tobacco Control Initiatives (Grant Funded) American Academy of Pediatrics Elk Grove Village, IL

Program Specialist V

States.

### New Infographic Includes Information on Importance of Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing

CDC

In honor of the 10-year anniversary of the Surgeon General's Report on secondhand smoke, CDC developed "Going Smokefree Matters: Multiunit Housing" to raise awareness about the impacts of secondhand smoke exposure and the benefits of smoke-free multi-unit housing policies. This comprehensive infographic overviews key findings from the Surgeon General's report, presents other key statistics on secondhand smoke exposure, and describes how smoke-free multi-unit housing policies can improve health and save money.

### **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 ton @astho.org.

New "Seen Enough Tobacco" Campaign Launched in New York (NY) – Tobacco Free New York State. Tobacco Free New York State launched the Seen Enough Tobacco campaign, which highlights the point of sale tobacco advertising that youth are exposed to in New York and its impact on youth tobacco use. The campaign includes a website, print advertisements, video advertisements, an infographic, and other resources.

New Tobacco Purchase Age Takes Effect in California (CA)— Associated Press. On June 9, legislation that increases the purchase age of all tobacco products, including ecigarettes, from 18 to 21 took effect in California. The nation's most populous state joined Hawaii and over 100 local municipalities nationwide in raising the purchase age of tobacco. California's law makes it a misdemeanor for anyone to sell or give tobacco products to someone under 21 years of age.

<u>Texas Department of State Health</u> <u>Services</u> Austin, TX

Senior Research Implementation Science Fors Marsh Group Arlington, VA

Senior Evaluator – Experience in Tobacco Control Preferred Professional Data Analysts, Inc. Minneapolis, MN

Research Public Health Analyst –
PhD
Center for Health Policy Science and
Tobacco Research
Washington, D.C.

### 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 peer group of the <u>Association of State and</u> <u>Territorial Health</u> <u>Officials</u>(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.

### In the News

Smokeless Tobacco Use Still Common in the Air Force
According to Air Force Surgeon General – Air Force Times.
Surgeon General of the Air Force, Lt. Gen. Dr. Mark Ediger,
made comments indicating that too many members of the Air
Force still use smokeless tobacco. "We've seen a significant
reduction in smoking among airmen over the past two years,"
Ediger said. "What we have not seen is a reduction in the use
of smokeless tobacco... so that's where we're focusing a lot
of our prevention efforts now." An estimated 7.4 percent of
airmen used smokeless tobacco in 2015. The Air Force has
implemented restrictions on where tobacco can be used, but
it has not banned tobacco use.

### Research

Electronic Cigarette Use Among Working Adults — United States, 2014 – MMWR. Key Findings: Researchers explored data from the 2014 National Health Interview Survey to better understand which groups of working adults use e-cigarettes in the United States. This analysis found that 3.8 percent of all working adults (5.5 million people) were current e-cigarette users in 2014, including 16.2 percent of current cigarette smokers. Adults working in industries relating to food service and food preparation were the most likely group to use e-cigarettes. These findings will allow health departments to partner with businesses and trade associations to help deliver smoke-free messaging.

Longitudinal Trends in Tobacco Availability, Tobacco
Advertising, and Ownership Changes of Food Stores, Albany,
New York, 2003–2015 – Preventing Chronic Disease. Key
Findings: Researchers tracked 12-year trends in tobacco
retailing in Albany, NY, by collecting data from eligible food
stores between 2003 and 2015. This survey of food stores
found that the proportion of stores selling tobacco peaked at
83.8 percent in 2009 before declining to 74.5% in 2015. In
2015, 63.7% of these retailers sold e-cigarettes. Only onethird of stores that sold tobacco in 2003 sold tobacco under
the same owner in 2015. The study's authors conclude that a
restriction on tobacco retailer licenses to new store owners
could be an effective way to reduce tobacco retailing and
advertising.



Smoking Behavior and Healthcare Expenditure in the United States, 1992–2009: Panel Data Estimates – PLOS

Medicine. Key Findings: In this study, researchers sought to quantify the impact of how reductions in smoking rates lead to lower per capita healthcare expenditures at the state level. An analysis of annual data from all 50 states and the District of Columbia between 1992 and 2009 found that a 1 percent reduction in smoking prevalence and packs smoked per current smoker were associated with a 0.118 percent reduction in per capita healthcare expenditures. This means that a 10 percent decrease in smoking in every state would be associated with a \$63 billion reduction in nationwide healthcare costs. Researchers conclude that state and national tobacco control measures are viable policy options to reduce healthcare costs.

Geographic Density and Proximity of Vape Shops to Colleges in the USA – Tobacco Control. Key Findings:Using online directories, researchers identified 9,945 e-cigarette retailers in the United States and assessed the location and density of vape shops in relation to college campuses. The average distance between a vape shop and the nearest college was found to be 1.8 miles. Colleges were significantly less likely to have vape shops within one mile of campus if they had a smoke-free campus policy, were a public institution, had oncampus housing, and were located in a rural area. These findings underscore the need for regulations on e-cigarette sales and advertising to youth and young adults.

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