

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

[View this email in your browser](#)



TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

New Podcast Available: 2016-2017 TCN Podcast Series

The podcast "Tobacco 21: National, State, and Local Perspectives" is [now available](#) for listening in the [Resources](#) content area of the TCN website. This second podcast of the TCN Podcast Series features Beverly May (Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids), Scott Hall (Kansas City Chamber of Commerce), and Lila Johnson (Hawaii State Department of Health), who discuss the current national landscape of the Tobacco 21 policy and provide lessons learned from state and municipal perspectives on the passing of Tobacco 21 legislation.

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

These are the current circulating Help Your Peers requests.

Retired State Police and Retail Inspections

Deadline: January 23, 2017

Do any states use retired state police to conduct tobacco retail inspections such as Synar? If so, Oregon would appreciate hearing any lessons learned or information that might be useful for state police to know as they move forward with recruiting and training youth inspectors and retired state troopers, as well as conducting inspections.

If you have any information to share or know someone who

*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

[Tobacco & Trade: An Update on Global Tobacco Trade Litigation](#) – Tobacco Control Legal Consortium
Jan. 18, 12-1 PM
ET|Registration Required

[Engaging Health Professionals and Strengthening Smoking Cessation Interventions: Success Stories from Family Physicians, Respiratory Therapists and Psychiatric Nurses](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center
Jan. 31, 1-2:30 PM
ET|Registration Required

Ask the Experts Virtual Session: Adult Smoking & Adverse Childhood Experiences in Multi-Unit Housing – ASTHO
Feb. 17, 2:30-4 PM ET|Save the Date

does, please reply to tcn@astho.org and we will connect you with the person who submitted the request.

Partner Announcements

[CDC Report Details Trends on E-Cigarette Use Among Middle and High School Students](#)

CDC

A CDC report published in the MMWR analyzed data from the 2015 National Youth Tobacco Survey to learn more about e-cigarette use patterns of American middle and high school students. The majority of e-cigarette users reported using rechargeable and refillable e-cigarettes, and 32.5 percent of youths reported using e-cigarettes for non-nicotine substances at least one time. The report concludes that comprehensive interventions are needed to prevent use of e-cigarettes and combustible tobacco products among youth in the United States.

[FDA Issues Industry Guidance on Plans for Cigar Warnings](#)

FDA

FDA released a guidance document to help those involved in the manufacturing, distribution, or sale of cigars to understand new cigar warning requirements being implemented as part of FDA's final deeming rule. This guidance reiterates that starting on May 10, 2018, cigars will be required to display one of six different warning statements on their packaging and in their advertisements. Applicable parties are required to submit a warning plan to FDA by May 10, 2017.

[FDA Takes Action on Applications Seeking to Market Modified Risk Tobacco Products](#)

FDA

While all tobacco products pose risks, the Modified Risk Tobacco Products (MRTP) pathway allows companies to submit applications to the FDA to evaluate whether a tobacco product may be sold or distributed for use to reduce harm or risk. In December, Swedish Match requested to remove a currently required warning stating that the products can cause gum disease, tooth loss, and oral cancer, which FDA denied. The company also requested to revise a currently required warning statement to say that the products

[10th Health Disparities Conference](#) – Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy, Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities Research and Education
New Orleans, LA
Mar. 16-18|*Registration Required*

[2017 National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#)
Austin, TX
Mar. 22-24|*Registration Required*

[The Society for Public Health Education \(SOPHE\) 68th Annual Conference](#)
Denver, CO
Mar. 30 – April 1|*Registration Required*

[National Council for Behavioral Health National Conference 2017](#)
Seattle, WA
Apr. 3-5|*Registration Required*

[Public Workshop on Battery Safety Concerns in Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems \(ENDS\)](#) – FDA
Silver Spring, MD
Apr. 19-20|*Registration Required*

[2017 NNPHI Annual Conference: Navigating Uncertainty, Spanning Boundaries, Improving Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes
New Orleans, LA
May 17-19|*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|*Save the Date*

present “substantially lower risks to health than cigarettes.” FDA found insufficient evidence to show that revising the warning would benefit the public’s health. FDA asked that Swedish Match request a meeting to discuss further evidence, indicating that they intend to amend their applications or withdraw the applications within 45 days.

[HUD’s Rule to Restrict Smoking in Public Housing: An Overview](#)

Tobacco Control Legal Consortium

On Nov. 30, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced a final rule to restrict smoking in public housing. Tobacco Control Legal Consortium created a useful factsheet providing an overview of the rule’s smoking restrictions. In the overview, questions surrounding the final rule are discussed, providing insight on implementation and next steps.

[Materials from Public Workshops Now Available](#)

FDA

FDA has released materials from public workshops that provide new resources on tobacco products. The [first workshop](#) focused on the premarket tobacco products application for electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS). This seminar intended to improve understanding of general scientific principles relevant to ENDS as well as administrative information in order to assist persons considering submitting applications for ENDS tobacco products as amended by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. The [second workshop](#) focused on risk assessment, which provided an open discussion regarding available data, approaches to inform the risk assessment of tobacco products, and strategies to support tobacco regulatory science. Both of these workshops occurred in late 2016, however transcripts can be found on the respective workshop webpages linked above.

[Infographic: How a Cigarette is Engineered](#)

FDA

FDA has made a new downloadable infographic available which outlines how cigarettes are engineered. The infographic delves into the design and content of cigarettes and how tobacco companies continue to make them attractive, addictive, and deadly. This infographic can be

Funding Opportunities

[Technical Assistance for Local Health Departments to Support, Leverage & Extend CDC’s Tips From Former Smokers™ Campaign in Partnership with Healthcare Providers](#)

Deadline: Jan. 20, 11:59 PM ET

NACCHO (National Association of City and County Health Officials) is pleased to offer a funding opportunity for local health departments to increase smoking cessation rates by supporting, leveraging, and extending the Tips from Former Smokers (Tips)™ campaign resources in healthcare provider practices.

[American Cancer Society Center for Tobacco Control Announces Second Round of Applications for Tobacco-free Generation Campus Initiative \(TFGCI\) Grant Program](#)

Deadline: Feb. 28, 5 PM ET

Funding is available to public or private, non-profit, and higher education institutions in the United States, accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency. In addition to grants, ACS will also provide technical assistance and other resources to applicants and grantees.

Job Listings

[Senior Evaluator Professional Data Analysis, Inc. Minneapolis, MN](#)

About the Tobacco Control Network

used with a variety of audiences with its well developed and simplistic design.

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.

[CalPERS Votes to Broaden Ban on Tobacco \(CA\)](#) – *Reuters*. On Dec. 19, the California Public Employees Retirement Systems (CalPERS) voted to broaden its restrictions on tobacco investments, opposing a recommendation by the pension fund's staff to reinvest in the controversial asset. Staff recommended that the board remove its 16-year ban on tobacco investments in light of an increasing demand to improve investment returns and pay benefits. However, the board voted to remain divested and to expand the ban to externally managed portfolios and affiliated funds. State Treasurer John Chiang announced in a statement that the board had "not only successfully fought back misguided efforts to lift CalPERS's 16-year-old ban," but also now prevented outside partners from making such investments.

[US Virgin Islands Cracking Down on Smoking in Public Places \(USVI\)](#) – *The Associated Press*. In light of the recent holiday and carnival season, the U.S. Virgin Islands put forth a strong effort to implement the smoking ban approved in 2011 that prohibits smoking inside public places and within 20 feet of those areas. On Dec. 23, the government announced that it would start dispatching health authorities to businesses and anyone caught breaking the law will face fines ranging from \$200 to \$500. They also said businesses without "No Smoking" signs will be fined at least \$1,000.

[North Carolina's Supreme Court Sets Up to Settle 800K Tobacco Farmer Claims \(NC\)](#) – *The Associated Press*. North Carolina's Supreme Court is developing a lawsuit to settle

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 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

claims by 800,000 past and present tobacco farmers in five Southeastern states for \$340 million. The decade-long lawsuit involves money collected by the Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corp. Tobacco growers across North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, and Virginia paid into the cooperative over six decades dating back to the mid-1940s. On Dec. 21, the state Supreme Court pointed out the impracticality for courts to handle hundreds of thousands of individual lawsuits in the fight over the reserve funds held by a North Carolina-based tobacco marketing cooperative and plans on settling claims in one case.

In the News

[Teens May Need More Than Just Cautionary Warnings on Cigars](#) – *HealthDay News*. According to a new study, warnings on cigars may need to be improved to dissuade young people from smoking them. According to researchers, teens may still believe that risks of cigars can be mitigated by not inhaling or inhaling less. Researchers surveyed more than 1,100 U.S. teens ages 13 to 17 by phone and found that only 53 percent believed that the statement "Cigar smoking can cause cancers of the mouth and throat, even if you do not inhale" was "very believable." Half of the respondents said "Cigars are not a safe alternative to cigarettes" was "very believable."

[Smoking in Pregnancy Increases Kidney Damage in Children](#) – *Reuters Health*. A recent study suggests that women who smoke during pregnancy may be more likely to have children with kidney damage than mothers who steer clear of cigarettes. Smoking during pregnancy has long been linked to preterm and underweight babies and a wide range of birth defects. The study offers fresh evidence that the kidneys are among the organs at risk for damage. In the study, children whose mothers smoked while pregnant were 24 percent more likely to show signs of kidney damage in their urine tests by age three. Urine tests showed elevated protein levels in 1.7 percent of children born to smokers, 1.6 percent of kids whose mothers were former smokers and 1.3 percent of children born to women who never smoked.

Research

[Use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems among Adults with Mental Health Conditions, 2015](#) – *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*. **Key**

Findings: Researchers analyzed nationally representative data from the 2015 Tobacco Products and Risk Perceptions Survey to assess connections between the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) and U.S. adults with mental health conditions (MHC). Survey participants with MHC were twice as likely to be current ENDS users as adults without MHC, and were more likely to use ENDS as part of a past attempt to quit smoking. Authors conclude that the potential of ENDS as a smoking cessation aid in this population must be balanced with the risks of ENDS use.

[A Longitudinal Study of Persistent Smoking Among HIV-Positive Gay and Bisexual Men in Primary Relationships](#) – *Addictive Behaviors*. **Key**

Findings: Researchers conducted five surveys over two years with a sample of 377 HIV-positive gay and bisexual men and their same-sex partners to better understand smoking characteristics of this population. They found that 28.1 percent of participants reported current smoking, with over 90 percent of men remaining smokers or non-smokers over the course of the entire study. Having a partner who smoked and having lower income were both correlated with increased odds of being a smoker. Additional research is needed to better understand how to encourage smoking cessation among people living with HIV and their partners.

[Electronic Cigarette Use and Uptake of Cigarette Smoking: A Longitudinal Examination of U.S. College Students](#) – *Addictive Behaviors*. **Key Findings:**

Researchers surveyed 3,757 college students in 2014 and again in 2015 to assess longitudinal trends of e-cigarette use in college students and its connection to cigarette smoking. E-cigarette use at baseline was associated with trying cigarettes between baseline and follow-up, and also with being a regular cigarette smoker at follow-up. Being male and reporting marijuana use made students more likely to try e-cigarettes during the study period. Authors conclude that efforts to reduce young adults' access to e-cigarettes might also prevent cigarette use.

[The Association of Cigarette Smoking With Depression and Anxiety: A Systematic Review](#) – *Nicotine & Tobacco*

Research. Key Findings: A systematic review of 148 studies was conducted to summarize the journal literature on the association between smoking and mental illness. While study conclusions varied greatly, almost half of all studies found that baseline depression and/or anxiety was positively correlated with later smoking, and over one third of studies found that smoking was associated with later depression and/or anxiety. Despite these findings, few studies found a bi-directional causal relationship between smoking and depression and/or anxiety. Future studies should employ different methodologies that allow for the assessment of causal relationships.

Feel free to [forward this communication](#) or encourage others to [subscribe directly](#).

This message was intended for << Test Email Address >>. If you believe this has been sent to you in error, please [unsubscribe](#) or [update your subscription preferences](#).

Our address:

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

The MailChimp logo is displayed in a white, cursive font within a grey rectangular box.