

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 Announcements

- A health equity [blog post](#) on menthol cigarettes, featuring expert commentary from the National African American Tobacco Prevention Network's Delmonte Jefferson and the Truth Initiative Schroeder Institute's Shyanika Rose and Jessica Rath, is now available 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

- **FDA released** a request for comments on topics to be considered by the FDA Nicotine Steering Committee relating to therapeutic nicotine to

*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

[Policy, Systems, and Environmental \(PSE\) Change: A PSE Primer](#) – GW Cancer Center  
March 1, 2-3 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

[Ask the Experts: The](#)

encourage tobacco cessation.

- **ASTHO** [published](#) an overview of tobacco control legislative trends emerging in 2018 in its State Public Health blog.
- **American Cancer Society** [published](#) a policy statement on e-cigarettes stating that e-cigarette use is less harmful than cigarette use according to current evidence and that FDA should continue to regulate e-cigarettes.
- A [tobacco policy tool](#) developed by the **Cancer Intervention and Surveillance Modeling Network** provides modeled state and national effect estimates for cigarette tax increases, smoke-free air laws, tobacco control expenditures, and minimum age restrictions.
- The **American Academy of Pediatrics** is seeking [applications](#) for an April 26-27 training that will educate pediatric clinicians about messages, tools, and counseling protocols to screen and counsel patients and families about tobacco cessation and secondhand smoke exposure during clinical encounters.
- A story [published](#) by **Truth Initiative** highlights the disproportionate tobacco burdens experienced by LGBT communities in the United States.
- The **American Academy of Pediatrics** [published](#) a supplement in the journal *Pediatrics* titled “Tobacco and Secondhand Smoke in Children,” which includes twelve science articles and two commentary pieces.
- WHO issued a [public statement](#) condemning British American Tobacco for implying endorsement of their new glo heated tobacco product.

[Intersection of Tobacco and Opioids](#) – ASTHO  
April 2, 2-3:30 PM  
ET|*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 Conference](#) – National African  
American Tobacco Prevention  
Network (NAAPT)  
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

## State News

- **California** Tobacco Control Program researchers [published](#) a peer-reviewed evaluation of their 2016 statewide tobacco 21 law in *Tobacco Control*, which found that illegal sales to youth decoys decreased after the law took effect.
- According to a **Minnesota** Department of Health 2017 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey [data report](#), sustained e-cigarette use led to an increase in tobacco product prevalence among youth since 2014. A [data summary](#) and [factsheet](#) are also available.
- [Legislation](#) being considered in **Tennessee** would roll back the state's tobacco preemption clause, giving local municipalities more freedom to pass evidence-based tobacco control policies.
- ClearWay **Minnesota**, in collaboration with Truth Initiative and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, [released](#) a comprehensive report that provides recommendations on reducing commercial tobacco use among American Indian and Alaskan Native communities.
- National Behavioral Health Network released a [video](#) highlighting their Community of Practice collaboration with different stakeholders in **Kentucky**.
- Starting on March 1, **Colorado's** Denver International Airport will be [completely smokefree](#) as a result of its fourth and final indoor smoking bar closing its doors.

## In the News

- Ten U.S. senators [called](#) for FDA to reject Philip Morris International's modified risk application for its

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.

### **Job Listings**

[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](#)

iQOS heated tobacco products, citing comments made by members of the scientific advisory panel FDA convened to assess claims made in the application.

- The [popularity](#) of JUUL e-cigarettes continue to soar among youth and young adults, in contrast to declining cigarette smoking rates in those age groups.
- The family of Hall of Fame baseball player Tony Gwynn, who died of salivary gland cancer at age 54, will [go to trial](#) against U.S. Smokeless Tobacco Company in Sept. 2019 in a wrongful death lawsuit.
- An [article](#) published by *Vice* overviews internet personality DonnySmokes, a 21-year-old who makes a full-time living reviewing vaping products on YouTube.

## Research

- An [analysis](#) of nationally representative youth survey data published in *MMWR* found that middle school and high school students cited e-cigarette use by friends or family (39%), products available in appealing flavors (31%), and harm reduction compared to other tobacco products (17%) as the most common motivations for e-cigarette use.
- A *JAMA Pediatrics* [data analysis](#) concluded that never smokers were approximately twice as likely to report recent cigarette use at one-year follow up if they had used e-cigarettes, hookah, non-cigarette combustible products, or smokeless tobacco after the baseline assessment.
- A *Tobacco Control* [study](#) of tobacco industry documents found that the incorporation of American Indian culture in tobacco product marketing dates

[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 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.

back to at least the 1930s.

- A *Tobacco Control* casino [experiment](#) that consisted of nine series of sample collections over 15 months found that both secondhand and thirdhand tobacco smoke exposure decreased by 90 percent three months or fewer after the implementation of a smoke-free casino policy.
- A [randomized control trial](#) published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* found that proactive smoking cessation outreach was more effective among smokers with lower perceived smoking-related stigma, a group with lower motivation to quit, than smokers with higher perceived stigma.



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