

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 Action Items

- 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).
- See what's new on the TCN Forum! Program managers and Funders Alliance can 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

- A summary of 2015 BRFSS health behavior and health outcome data [published](#) by CDC researchers in *MMWR* indicates that from 2013-2015, the current cigarette smoking rate in the United States declined from 19.3 percent to 17.7 percent.
- **FDA** [published](#) an article discussing potential public health risks and benefits of flavoring in tobacco products in reference to FDA's request for [public comments](#) on tobacco flavors.

*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.*

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Upcoming Events  
[Evaluating Statewide Coalition Health and Impact: Developing a Continuum of Measures and Indicators](#) – Tobacco Control Training Collaborative  
Aug. 1, 3-4:30 PM  
ET|*Registration Required*

[State of Black Health National Conference](#) – National African American Tobacco Prevention Network  
Atlanta, GA  
Sept. 11-13|*Registration Required*

[2018 National Conference on Health Communication, Marketing, and Media](#) – CDC, National Public Health Information Coalition, and The Society for Health Communication  
Atlanta, GA  
Sept. 11-13|*Registration Required*

- The **American Lung Association** and **Mental Health America** jointly [announced](#) the founding of a new project to help public housing residents with behavioral health issues quit smoking in anticipation of the HUD smoke-free rule taking effect on July 31.

## Happy Anniversary!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN will recognize anniversaries of state and territorial tobacco program managers to thank them for their leadership in tobacco control and public health more broadly. Thank you and congratulations to the following program managers!

- **Kathleen Arnold Lewis (USVI)** – 4 years.
- **Frances Limtiaco (WA)** – 3 years.
- **Bonita McGee (DC)** – 3 years.
- **Corby Goade (ID)** – 2 years.
- **Farrah Lesa (AS)** – 1 year.

## Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

### Dual Treatment of Tobacco and Marijuana in Youth

**Extended Deadline:** July 17

As a state with legalized use of marijuana for medical and recreational use, Colorado is seeing additional challenges with tobacco cessation due to dual use. Evidence-based treatment for tobacco cessation among youth is minimal. Co-use with marijuana makes it even more challenging.

### Medical Marijuana Policies and Ordinances

**Deadline:** July 23

Oklahoma recently passed a state ballot initiative legalizing medical marijuana and they are interested in learning more about voluntary policies and ordinances that other states

[Public Meeting of the FDA Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee](#) – FDA Center for Tobacco Products  
Silver Spring, MD  
Sept. 13-14|*Save the Date*

[Oral Health Effects of Tobacco Products: Science and Regulatory Policy](#) – American Association for Dental Research  
Bethesda, MD  
Sept. 14|*Registration Required*

[Tenth Annual C. Everett Koop Conference: It's Not Just Cigarettes Anymore](#) – C. Everett Koop Institute at Dartmouth  
Lebanon, NH  
Sept. 28, 2018|*Save the Date*

[Public Health Law Conference 2018](#) – The Network for Public Health Law and the American Society of Law, Medicine, and Ethics  
Phoenix, AZ  
Oct. 4-6|*Registration Required*

[9th National Summit on Smokeless Tobacco Prevention](#) – Health Education Council  
Sacramento, CA  
Oct. 16-18|*Registration Required*

[APHA 2018 Annual Meeting & Expo](#) – American Public Health Association  
San Diego, CA  
Nov. 10-14|*Registration Required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes  
Minneapolis, MN  
Aug. 27-29, 2019|*Save the Date*

have produced. Oklahoma currently does not have a comprehensive clean indoor air law.

*If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org) and we will forward your response to the person who submitted the request.*

## State News

- A study published in *Preventing Chronic Disease* [discussed](#) the process of developing and implementing smoke-free housing policies among early adopter public housing authorities in **North Carolina** and **Georgia**.
- On July 1, a cigarette tax increase from \$1.03 to \$2.03 [took](#) effect in **Oklahoma** and an increase from \$0.60 to \$1.10 went into effect in **Kentucky**.

## In the News

- Tobacco companies are [required](#) to issue mandated corrective statements on their websites in connection to a 2006 federal court ruling that found cigarette manufacturers guilty of misleading the public about their products.
- Fourteen senators [signed](#) a letter to FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb requesting more information on FDA tobacco regulatory decisions and processes, such as the delay on regulating certain tobacco products and their rulemaking process with regards to tobacco products.
- The World Trade Organization [ruled](#) that an Australia policy requiring plain packaging of tobacco products does not violate international trade regulations, a decision that may encourage

Funding Opportunities  
[American Cancer Society Tobacco-Free Generation Campus Initiative](#)

**Deadline: Aug. 15**

The American Cancer Society, under the direction of its Center for Tobacco Control, launched the Tobacco-Free Generation Campus Initiative, which provides grants to accelerate and expand the adoption and implementation of 100 percent smoke- and tobacco-free policies on college and university campuses across the nation.

[2018 Tobacco-Free Grants for Minority-Serving Institutions, Community and Women's Colleges](#)

**Deadline: Sept. 13**

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 to adopt a 100 percent tobacco-free college policy.

[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

[Director, Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program \(Job Code 5913\)](#)  
[University of California Oakland, CA](#)

more nations to implement this policy.

- Juul Labs Inc. [announced](#) that they will no longer feature models on its social media accounts. The company is also dedicating an internal team to remove inappropriate content relating to their products from social media platforms.
- Researchers at Boston University [discovered](#) a possible link between flavorings in e-cigarettes and damage to cardiovascular health.

## Research

- A *Pediatrics* analysis of 2016 National Youth Tobacco Survey data [found](#) that 10.5 percent of U.S. middle- and high-school youth report having ever smoked hookah in their lifetimes. In addition, it is reported that the home environment is where youth hookah smoking most frequently takes place.
- A *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* study of longitudinal smoking cessation data [calls](#) into question the efficacy of nicotine replacement therapy and prescription pharmacotherapy in encouraging tobacco abstinence at one-year follow-up.
- An analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study data published in *Tobacco Control* [concluded](#) that receiving a tobacco coupon by direct mail or email was associated with smoking initiation among non-smokers, increased smoking frequency among non-daily smokers, and smoking relapse among former smokers.

### 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.



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