

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.
- 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

- **HHS** Secretary Alex Azar and **FDA** Commissioner Scott Gottlieb [co-authored](#) an op-ed in *The Washington Post* discussing the importance of limiting e-cigarette use among youth to prevent nicotine addiction at the population level.
- **FDA** [sent](#) warning letters to 21 e-cigarette manufacturers for violating the pre-market review exemption that went into effect in 2016 and [issued](#) a warning letter to HelloCig Electronic Technology Co. for the sale of e-liquids containing

*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

[ASTHOConnects: Tobacco Exposure and Impacts on Early Brain Development](#) – ASTHO
Oct. 24, 3-4 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

[The E-Cigarette Experiment: Are Young People Paying the Price?](#) – Truth Initiative
Washington, D.C.
Nov. 1, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

[Improving Smoking Cessation Interventions Among People Living with HIV](#) – NCI
Nov. 6, 11 AM – 12 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

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

prescription drugs that treat erectile dysfunction.

- **Counter Tobacco** [announced](#) that they are accepting submissions for their annual Point-of-Sale Tobacco Photo Contest until Nov. 5.
- [Updated](#) tobacco control policy maps from the **American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation** are now available, which include policy information up to date as of Oct. 1.
- A comprehensive report from the **North American Quitline Consortium** [provides](#) information on the adoption of tobacco quitlines best practices at the state level.

State News

- The **Oklahoma** Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust [announced](#) the [Tobacco Stops with Me](#) campaign to improve awareness of the burdens of tobacco use in Oklahoma and how the state's tobacco policies compare to other states.
- An American Lung Association case study [highlights](#) **South Carolina's** work as part of CDC's [6|18 Initiative](#) to improve access to tobacco cessation treatments among Medicaid beneficiaries.

In the News

- Several stories pertaining to JUUL Labs have been in the news:
 - JUUL Labs [filed](#) suit against 18 competitors, alleging patent infringement from the sale of copycat devices.

[Gala and Coordinating Center Workshop](#) – The African American Statewide Coordinating Center Workshop and the African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council
Berkeley, CA
Dec. 2-3|*Registration Required*

[11th Annual Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health](#) – NIH and AcademyHealth
Washington, D.C.
Dec. 3-5|*Registration Required*

[Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco Annual Meeting](#) – Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco
San Francisco
Feb. 20-23, 2019|*Save the Date*

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

Funding Opportunities

[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

- Silicon Valley investors have [criticized](#) JUUL Labs due to the popularity of their products with minors, while investing in start-ups selling other nicotine products and cannabis products.
 - *Yahoo Finance* [reports](#) that JUUL Labs is the fastest company to surpass a \$10 billion valuation after its initial round of venture capital funding, taking only seven months to do so.
 - According to *The Hill*, JUUL Labs [hired](#) several former federal officials and regulators as lobbyists in the Washington, D.C. area following the surprise FDA seizure of company documents.
- Unnamed sources have [shared](#) that Altria, the parent company of Philip Morris USA, is in talks to acquire a minority ownership stake of a Canadian cannabis producer, with an intention of eventually owning a majority of the company.
 - According to a recent survey, 43 percent of American adults [believe](#) that e-cigarettes are more harmful than traditional cigarettes, with 42 percent viewing e-cigarettes as an effective way to quit smoking.

Research

- An analysis of state tobacco taxes and cigarette smoking prevalence data from 2001-2015 published in *PLOS One* [concluded](#) that increased taxes are associated with reduced cigarette smoking prevalence, with low-income individuals and young adults 18-24 being the most strongly influenced by tax increases.
- An *Addiction Research & Theory* qualitative analysis of smokers and ex-smokers with drug misuse histories [uncovered](#) several missed

[Health Communications Specialist
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[Policy Analyst
Utah Department of Health
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[Deputy Director \(Administrative\)
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[Deputy Director \(Scientific\)
FDA Center for Tobacco Products
Silver Spring, MD](#)

[Program Content Manager
National Network of Public Health Institutes
Washington, D.C.](#)

[Evaluator \(Half-Time\)
National LGBT Cancer Network
Providence, RI](#)

[Director, Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program \(Requisition #20180236\)
University of California
Oakland, 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

opportunities to deliver smoking cessation interventions as part of substance abuse treatment, such as lack of encouragement to quit smoking on the part of substance misuse staff.

- A *JAMA Internal Medicine* study of tobacco and marijuana product imagery in hip hop music videos from 2013-2017 [found](#) that the prevalence of such imagery varied from 40.2 to 50.7 percent each year, and that the appearance of brands increased over time.

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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