

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

- Updated adult tobacco use data from **CDC** published in *MMWR* [indicate](#) that in 2017, 14 percent of American adults smoke cigarettes, with 19.3 percent using any tobacco product.
- There are several updates from the **FDA** Center for Tobacco Products:
 - **FDA** Commissioner Scott Gottlieb [released](#) a statement providing an update on FDA's work with e-cigarette

*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

[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*

[Eliminating Youth Electronic Cigarette and Other Tobacco Product Use: The Role for Drug Therapies; Public Hearing](#) – FDA
Dec. 5, 9 AM–5 PM EST|*Save the Date*
Silver Spring, MD

- manufacturers to reduce youth access to their products.
 - **FDA [announced](#)** a public hearing and request for comments on efforts to reduce youth e-cigarette use and encourage youth e-cigarette cessation through a posting on the Federal Register.
 - **FDA [updated](#)** their webpage that lists opportunities for public comment on tobacco regulatory matters.
- Throughout the month of November, a **CDC** Facebook event will be [sharing](#) 30 days of smoke-free tips and encouragement for those interested in quitting.
- The **American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation** [launched](#) the "Smokefree Music Cities" campaign that highlights musicians advocating for smokefree music venues, including bars, restaurants, and gaming facilities.
- The **GW Cancer Center** [published](#) a Lung Cancer Awareness Month Social Media Toolkit to help public health stakeholders spread lung cancer awareness in November.
- **Building Success**, a project of the Harvard T.H. Chan and Boston University schools of public health, [launched](#) a new website that provides resources on smokefree housing implementation with a variety of stakeholders.

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!

[Where We Stand 20 Years After the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement: Legacy and Loose Ends](#) – Public Health Law Center
Dec. 6, 1-2 PM
EST|*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*

[NatCon19](#) – National Council for Behavioral Health
Nashville
March 25-27|*Registration Required*

[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

[Deputy Director \(Administrative\)](#)
[FDA Center for Tobacco Products](#)

- **Jayne Flowers (VA)** – 9 years.
- **Valerie Howard (MO)** – 2 years.

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

Vaping and Discipline in Schools

Deadline: Nov. 15

New Hampshire is looking for information from other states as to what is working as a promising practice when it comes to expulsion of adolescents because of vaping. Have state tobacco control programs been working with their Department of Education colleagues or local school boards to develop plans that would not require suspension? All thoughts are welcomed.

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

State News

- Campaign reports [indicate](#) that the lobbying arms of Philip Morris USA and RJ Reynolds contributed \$6.5 million opposing the **South Dakota** ballot initiative that would increase cigarette taxes by \$1.53 per pack.
- **Virginia** state legislators are [considering](#) a proposal drafted by Altria Group to update the state's tax policies on tobacco products, which may include an excise tax exemption for heated tobacco products like iQOS.
- **Rhode Island** participants in CDC's 6|18 Initiative [published](#) a poster outlining their goals,

[Silver Spring, MD](#)

[Deputy Director \(Scientific\)](#)
[FDA Center for Tobacco](#)
[Products](#)
[Silver Spring, MD](#)

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

[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 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

results, and lessons learned relating to the expansion of tobacco cessation treatment availability to state Medicaid recipients.

In the News

- A *Buzzfeed News* report [describes](#) that JUUL Labs has offered several school districts as much as \$20,000 to adopt a now discontinued anti-vaping curriculum developed by the company that has been scrutinized by research scientists.
- Amid FDA scrutiny of e-cigarette manufacturers, Altria Group [announced](#) that they would cease selling their pod e-cigarette products and that they would support federal policy to increase the purchase age of combustible tobacco and e-cigarettes to 21.
- A story in *Business Insider* [summarizes](#) the currently available research on JUUL use among youth, concluding that teens are unknowingly being exposed to nicotine and heavy metals.
- Vitamin vaping, a rising trend in which electronic vaping devices are [utilized](#) to inhale vaporized vitamins and other nutrients into one's lungs, has drawn the criticism of scientists who question the products' safety and efficacy.

Research

- Researchers from CDC [published](#) an *MMWR* surveillance summary that details the approximately 3.3 million tobacco-associated cancer cases reported in the United States between 2010 and 2014.

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

- A study of pictorial cigarette warnings published in *Tobacco Control* concluded that warnings depicting diseased and damaged body parts were most effective across all measured outcomes in a sample of current adult smokers.
- A survey published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* [concluded](#) that adult aided recall of the Tips from Former Smokers and The Real Cost national advertising campaigns was strong (65.5% and 71.6% respectively), and that black adolescents were more likely than white adolescents to recall the Fresh Empire campaign.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* survey of adult cigarette smokers [found](#) that only 5.5 percent of participants were aware that sugar is added to cigarettes, and only 3.8 percent accurately indicated that added sugar increases the toxins found in cigarette smoke.
- A *Journal of Adolescent Health* analysis of JUUL Labs' Twitter account [estimated](#) that one-quarter of Twitter users sharing JUUL Labs tweets are adolescents.

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