

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



- On Nov. 29-30, the 2018-19 TCN Executive Committee convened in Denver with CDC Office on Smoking and Health leadership, as well as ASTHO staff, for the first of two planned in-person business meetings this term. The Executive Committee discussed how they plan to support state and territorial tobacco control programs in 2019.
- 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.

*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

[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

Program Manager Feature – Nicole Aune (MT)

To celebrate state and territorial tobacco program managers as dynamic leaders in tobacco control, the TCN homepage is highlighting tobacco program managers in a series of rotating features. This gives the TCN membership and national tobacco partners an opportunity to learn more about the work of program managers. If you would like to nominate a program manager to be featured, please reach out to tcn@astho.org.

What are you most proud of your state accomplishing in tobacco control?

In 2005, the Montana State Legislature passed the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act (MCIAA), requiring all enclosed public places and workplaces, including work vehicles, restaurants, and bars, to be smokefree. The MCIAA also requires businesses to prominently place smokefree signs on all public entrances and does not include preemption language. According to a 2017 study published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, [Montana had the highest percentage](#) of indoor workers covered by smokefree workplace policies in the nation.

Visit the [TCN homepage](#) to see the full program manager feature.

Partner Announcements

- A CDC posting in the *Federal Register* [requests](#) public comments by Feb. 11, 2019 to help inform the agency's approach to tobacco prevention and control.
- CDC researchers [published](#) an analysis of secondhand smoke exposure data in *MMWR*, concluding that 25.2 percent of U.S. nonsmokers were exposed to secondhand smoke in 2014, with demographic factors such as age, education, and

[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

[Epidemiology Specialist I/II \(Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Evaluator\)](#)
[Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Anchorage, AK](#)

[Truth Ambassadors Truth Initiative Washington, DC](#)

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

race/ethnicity impacting one's likelihood of secondhand smoke exposure.

- **FDA** Center for Tobacco Products [sent](#) a warning letter to Electric Lotus LLC for distributing e-liquid products that appeal to consumers under age 18.
- **HHS** is [accepting](#) public comments on proposed objectives for Healthy People 2030 through Jan. 17, 2019.
- On Nov. 26, **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** President Matthew Myers [released](#) a statement commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Master Settlement Agreement between tobacco companies and a majority of states, overviewing the successes of tobacco control over the past 20 years.
- **CDC** [published](#) an in-depth factsheet outlining tobacco use and cessation among individuals with behavioral health conditions.
- **Quit and Stay Quit Monday** [published](#) a series of evidence-based resources that help encourage smokers to make quit attempts on Mondays.

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

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!

- **Erin Boles Welsh (RI)** – 6 years.
- **Mandy Burkett (OH)** – 5 years.
- **Christin Kirchenbauer (OK)** – 1 year.

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

Alternatives to Suspension in School

Deadline: Dec. 17

What programs are schools using as an alternative to suspension after being caught with tobacco on campus besides ASPIRE?

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

- **Oregon** Gov. Kate Brown [announced](#) she would pursue a cigarette tax increase as proposed by the Oregon Health Authority, but not an alcohol tax increase.
- The **Oklahoma** Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust, in cooperation with almost 40 state partners, [announced](#) a six objective plan to reduce adult smoking by half over the next ten years.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* survey of nearly 800 **New York City** tobacco retailers [found](#) that the availability of 99-cent cigarillos was higher in neighborhoods with more black residents and more low-income residents, and that the availability of e-cigarettes was higher in neighborhoods with more white residents.
- April Roeseler, tobacco control program manager with the **California** Department of Public Health, [co-authored](#) a paper in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* describing a five-year, \$10 million grant to improve smoking cessation among California's Medicaid population.

In the News

- Stemming from the 2006 RICO Act ruling in federal court that resulted in corrective statement television and newspaper advertisements, cigarette manufacturers have started [distributing](#) corrective statement “onserts” attached to cigarette packs for six two-week periods over the next two years.
- A *New Republic* story [overviews](#) how FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb’s announcement on the proposed rule banning menthol cigarettes impacts black smokers differently than smokers of other racial and ethnic groups.
- North Carolina Sen. Richard Burr and Sen. Thom Tillis both [expressed](#) opposition to elements of the announced FDA plan to more tightly regulate e-cigarettes and menthol cigarettes.

Research

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of survey data from nearly 13,000 high school students [found](#) that e-cigarette use was associated with intention to lose weight among girls and intention to gain weight among boys.
 - An analysis of nationally representative data published in *Tobacco Control* [concluded](#) that the recent increase in youth e-cigarette use is likely to have a negligible effect on subsequent cigarette smoking, given that cigarette smoking continues to decline in youth and young adults.
 - A systematic review published in *Frontiers in Psychiatry* [concluded](#) that people with schizophrenia report using smoking to manage stress and social relationships, and that smokers with schizophrenia are less likely to receive cessation support from a healthcare providers than
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smokers without schizophrenia.

- *An Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research* analysis of National Survey on Drug Use and Health data from 2002 to 2016 [found](#) that cigarette use continues to be twice as common among those with alcohol use disorders (AUDs) than those without, and is more common in those with more severe AUDs.

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Our address:

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

