

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 Newsby* 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

- **FDA** Commissioner Scott Gottlieb [announced](#) new proposed tobacco regulatory actions, including:
 - A restriction on the sale of most flavored e-cigarette products in retailers that are not age-restricted to adults
 - Strengthening of online age-verification measures for the sale of most flavored e-cigarettes
 - A ban on menthol as a flavoring in combustible tobacco products

*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

- In recognition of the **American Cancer Society's** [Great American Smokeout](#) on Nov. 15:
 - **ASTHO** Chief Medical Officer Marcus Plescia [authored](#) a blog post discussing the public health importance of smoking cessation and discussing what states can do to support cessation among those who want to quit.
 - **CDC** [published](#) a feature providing tips to smokers interested in quitting.
- **FDA** [partnered](#) with Scholastic to distribute an infographic and other educational materials to thousands of high school educators and administrators nationwide, encouraging them to talk to students about the health risks of e-cigarette use.
- The **Public Health Law Center** [updated](#) their resources detailing state e-cigarette regulations, including complete listings of laws that define and tax e-cigarettes at the state level.
- **NCI** [published](#) a GIS story detailing the impact of tobacco use on lung cancer through maps and data.

State News

- Ballot initiatives to increase tobacco taxes in **Montana** and **South Dakota** both [failed](#), with 45.7 percent and 44.9 percent of voters supporting these measures, respectively. According to Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, tobacco companies [spent](#) a combined \$24 million in opposition of these initiatives.
- A *Tobacco Control* study of San Francisco, **California** corner store owners [found](#) that retailers reported customers purchasing fewer cigarettes and switching to new

[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

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

products as a result of a \$2 per pack cigarette tax increase implemented statewide in 2017.

In the News

- Fontem Ventures, the division of Imperial Brands that produces blu e-cigarette products, will [raise](#) the purchase age for its products online to 21 while continuing to sell all of its flavors online and in retail stores.
- JUUL Labs [announced](#) that they will raise the online purchase age of its products to 21 and will temporarily stop selling some of their flavored products in over 90,000 U.S. retailers.

Research

- New CDC data [published](#) in *MMWR* found that 20.8 percent of high school students and 4.9 percent of middle school students reported current e-cigarette use in 2018, which represents a 78 percent and 48 percent increase compared to 2017.
- A study published in the *Journal of the American Heart Association* [found](#) that physicians referred only 16 percent of artery disease patients who were current smokers to smoking cessation services.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of cigarette smoking and mental disorder data from 2012-13 [concluded](#) that tobacco use rates remain higher among those with mental health disorders compared to the general adult population, and quit attempt rates remain significantly lower.

[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 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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