

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

- 2019 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Tobacco Control Network! CDC founded the initiative that would become the TCN to improve collaboration between state tobacco control programs, CDC, NCI, and national partners. Opportunities to share and celebrate tobacco control successes over the past 25 years will be announced in future editions of *TCN News*.
- 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.

*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

[Help Shape the Next Decade of Healthy People](#) – Healthy People 2030

Jan. 17|*Comment Deadline*

[Public Hearing on Eliminating Youth Electronic Cigarette and Other Tobacco Product Use: The Role for Drug Therapies](#) – FDA

Silver Spring, MD  
Jan. 18, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.  
EST|*Save the Date*

[Meeting of the Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee](#) – FDA

Silver Spring, MD  
Feb. 6-7|*Save the Date*

[Advancing Tobacco Control Practices To Prevent Initiation of Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults, Eliminate Exposure to Secondhand Smoke, and Identify and](#)

## Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

### Smoke-Free Air Law Tracking Platforms

**Deadline:** Jan. 21

The Tobacco Use Prevention program in Montana is evaluating options for electronic platforms that receive, track, and process public complaints for statewide smoke-free air laws. They would appreciate the input of other states regarding what platforms and vendors they use and their experience with those platforms while they evaluate their options. They have a [short five-minute survey](#). Thank you for your time!

*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.*

## Happy Anniversary!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN recognizes 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!

- **Carol Kramer (KS)** – 18 years.
- **Rhonda Williams (VT)** – 8 years.
- **Luci Longoria (OR)** – 6 years.
- **Candace Koshiba (PW)** – 5 years.

## Partner Announcements

- **U.S. Surgeon General** Jerome Adams (alumnus-IN) [announced](#) an [advisory](#) on e-cigarette use among youth, which includes information for parents, teachers, health professionals, and states

[Eliminate Tobacco-Related Disparities](#) – CDC  
Feb. 11|*Comment Deadline*

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

[Health Education Specialist Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Helena, MT](#)

**About the Tobacco Control Network**

and territories to address the youth e-cigarette epidemic. In an interview with *U.S. News & World Report*, **ASTHO** Chief Medical Officer Marcus Plescia [discussed](#) what the advisory and the e-cigarette epidemic means for state and local e-cigarette policy.

- An analysis of national survey data from the **Monitoring the Future** study [found](#) that the percentage of 12th graders who reported nicotine vaping in the past 30 days nearly doubled from 11 percent in 2017 to 21 percent in 2018, the largest ever measured increase for the current use of any substance.
- To kick off 2019 as the [Year of Cessation](#), **CDC** [launched](#) a new information page that contains strategies, resources, and success stories for smokers interested in quitting smoking in 2019.

## State News

- An announcement from the **Colorado** Department of Public Health and Environment [details](#) new opportunities for Colorado smokers to quit as part of a New Year's resolution.
- As a result of an **Illinois** appeals court ruling, Chicago will be [allowed](#) to raise taxes on non-cigarette tobacco products, including cigars, smokeless tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco.

## In the News

- Altria [purchased](#) a 35 percent share of JUUL Labs for \$13 billion, valuing the e-cigarette manufacturer at \$38 billion.

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.



Forward to Friend

- As the use of e-cigarettes rises rapidly among young people, stakeholders including physicians, parents, and federal officials are [scrambling](#) to find effective treatments to help adolescents addicted to nicotine.
- A *CNN* article [overviews](#) JUUL Labs' past use of social media influencers to market the company's distinctive e-cigarettes through Instagram and personal blogs.

## Research

- An analysis of National Youth Tobacco Survey data published in *MMWR* [indicates](#) that in 2017, 19.6 percent of high school students and 5.6 percent of middle school students were current tobacco product users, and that the majority of all youth tobacco users reported using at least two different tobacco products.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* experiment of young adult nonsmokers [concluded](#) that e-cigarette advertisements with a social enhancement theme were most successful at spreading health benefit and reduced harm messages relative to combustible cigarettes.
- An analysis of National Youth Tobacco Survey data published in *Tobacco Control* [found](#) that among youth who have ever used tobacco products the weighted median age of first tobacco ranges from 12.6 years old for cigarettes up to 14.1 years old for hookah and e-cigarettes.