

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

25th Anniversary Spotlight – State Successes

To celebrate TCN's 25th anniversary in 2019, ASTHO staff are collecting tobacco control success stories and examples of how TCN has provided assistance to state and territorial health department staff. These stories will inform a blog post to highlight TCN's 25th anniversary and its role in the tobacco control movement over the past quarter century. These entries can be previously written stories for events that happened within the 25-year period. Please submit any examples or stories of how TCN has provided information to support your health department staff and any tobacco control success stories to tcn@astho.org.

TCN Announcements

- **Resource of the Month:** TCN's [2016 Policy Recommendations Guide](#) can help state and territorial tobacco control programs establish policy priorities, educate legislators, and share tobacco control best practices with public health stakeholders. Be sure to check out this [how-to video](#) for more information.
- Be on the lookout for additional information on added features to the password-protected [TCN Forum](#) that will allow workgroups and other TCN members apart from program managers to have

*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

[Advancing Smoking Cessation in California's Medicaid Population: The Medi-Cal Incentives to Quit Smoking \(MIQS\) Project](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center
March 12, 2-3:30 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

[Kicking Butts Online](#) – Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids
March 13, 3-4 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

[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

access to a password-protected discussion and file sharing space. More to come soon!

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

Cultural Competency Youth Speaker

Deadline: Feb. 27

Arizona is looking for a recommendation for a youth conference speaker to address cultural competency within tobacco prevention/education. Has anyone had a speaker that they felt really connected with youth 12-18 years of age and was able to convey the subject matter in a way that youth could understand and relate? Arizona appreciates any feedback you can give.

Materials for Kindergarten Through 8th Grade

Deadline: March 12

Do any tobacco prevention and control programs have materials for kindergarten through 8th grade that they can share?

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.

Partner Announcements

- A **CDC** and **FDA** analysis of National Youth Tobacco Survey data published in *MMWR* [concluded](#) that 27.1 percent of high school students and 7.2 percent of middle school students were current users of any tobacco product in 2018, with 1.5 million additional youth e-cigarette users in 2018 compared to 2017. A CDC video [summarizes](#) the findings of this report and their youth tobacco use webpage [includes](#)

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

[Project Coordinator Smoking Cessation Leadership Center San Francisco, CA](#)

[Manager, Clinical Services University of Arizona Health Sciences Tucson, AZ](#)

[Research Manager Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Washington, DC](#)

[Tobacco Regulatory Science Fellowship FDA Silver Spring, MD](#)

[Nicotine Policy Specialist Minnesota Department of Human Services Minneapolis, MN](#)

About the Tobacco Control Network

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-

factsheets and other resources that reflect these latest findings.

- **ASTHO** [published](#) a press release featuring remarks from ASTHO Chief Medical Officer Marcus Plescia on the need to support comprehensive state and territorial tobacco control programs to combat the youth e-cigarette epidemic.
- **ASTHO** [designed](#) a comprehensive infographic that looks at different tobacco 21 policies implemented at the state and territorial level, overviewing effective strategies for passing these policies.
- **Truth Initiative** [updated](#) its “This is Quitting” cessation mobile app and its BecomeAnEX cessation plan and community to include content to help young people stop using JUUL products and other e-cigarettes.
- **FDA** [published](#) a new draft guidance on investigational tobacco products, and is inviting public comments to be submitted to the [Federal Register](#) until April 22.
- The **National Native Network** [released](#) a podcast that explores tobacco industry appropriation of American Indian culture and traditional tobacco use in the sale of their commercial tobacco products.
- The **American Nonsmokers’ Rights Foundation** [published](#) an updated map on states with some form of smoke-free air law preemption in place.

State News

- The **Minnesota** Department of Health [updated](#) their School E-Cigarette Toolkit with new data and resources from national stakeholders including FDA and Truth Initiative.

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

- A *Tobacco Control* study on the impact of local policies that restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products in **Massachusetts** [found](#) that shortly after the implementation of such a policy, flavored product availability decreased between 27.2 and 50.9 percent.
- Several states are considering new tobacco control policies:
 - [Florida](#) is considering a bill to regulate e-cigarette products in the same way as combustible tobacco.
 - [Maryland](#), [Virginia](#), and [Utah](#) are considering Tobacco 21 bills.
 - The [Hawaii](#) proposal to ban the sale of tobacco products to all people under 100 failed to advance out of committee.
- **ClearWay Minnesota** [published](#) a comprehensive case study report that explores how Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth

In the News

- Federal Communications Chair Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel [published](#) an op-ed calling for a prohibition on e-cigarette advertisements on television to reduce nicotine addiction.
 - *Pediatrics* [published](#) a revised policy statement on e-cigarettes and similar devices, informed by the latest journal literature research.
 - The Swedish Match tobacco manufacturer [launched](#) a new tobacco-free pouch product in the United States similar to its snus products that do contain tobacco.
 - Philip Morris International chief Andre Calantzopoulos [shared](#) that future electronic products produced by the tobacco manufacturer
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could technology that tracks vaping and activity habits for the purpose of justifying lower life insurance premiums than combustible tobacco users.

Research

- A *Tobacco Control* [analysis](#) of county-level data from 1996 to 2012 found that a one-dollar increase in per pack cigarette taxes was associated with a long-term life expectancy increase of one year, with a six-month increase taking hold after 10 years of policy implementation.
- A laboratory study of JUUL vapor published in *Tobacco Control* [found](#) that JUUL products have a high concentration of nicotine, but are lower in formaldehyde and total aldehyde than other e-cigarettes and combustible cigarettes.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of 2017 nationally representative survey data [concluded](#) that 45.3 percent of adult smokers believe that organic tobacco products are less harmful, along with 47.1 percent of adult smokers who believe additive-free tobacco products are less harmful.
- A *Tobacco Control* [investigation](#) identified 14 JUUL-compatible pod products and 39 JUUL knock-off devices that offer nicotine concentrations equal to or higher than JUUL products.

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