

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 Resource of the Month

The [Welcome to the Tobacco Control Network video](#) provides an overview of the purpose, priorities, and resources of the Tobacco Control Network, an [ASTHO peer network](#) that serves the needs of state and territorial tobacco control program managers and their staff. Since its launch in August 2018, this video is also provided to all new members that join the TCN mailing list. The video is available via direct YouTube link and is also embedded on the [homepage](#) of the TCN website.

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

Cancer Center Cessation Protocol

Deadline: March 28

Has anyone ever worked with cancer centers to implement a cessation protocol that would connect to their state quitline?

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

*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

[Taxing E-Cigarettes: Applying a Proven Public Health Tool to Emerging Tobacco Products](#) –

Public Health Law Center
March 28, 1-2 PM
EDT|*Registration Required*

[Annual Tobacco Documents Workshop](#) – UCSF Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education
San Francisco, CA
May 10|*Registration Required*

[No Menthol Sunday: One Step Ahead](#) – NAATPN
May 19|*Save the Date*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes
Minneapolis
Aug. 27-29|*Registration Required*

- FDA made a number of announcements relating to their regulation of tobacco products:
 - Commissioner Scott
Gottlieb [announced](#) that FDA will propose new policies prohibiting the sale of most e-cigarette flavors (exempting mint, menthol, and tobacco flavors) in retailers that are open to customers under age 18 and that these products will have to submit premarket applications by August 8, 2021.
 - Following Gottlieb's announcement, FDA [published](#) a new draft guidance outlining regulation for the aforementioned flavored tobacco products, with public comments [requested](#) through April 15.
 - A statement from Commissioner Gottlieb [outlines](#) FDA's budget for FY2020 and notes an increase of \$100 million in tobacco users fees of deemed products such as e-cigarettes.
 - Updated Modified Risk Tobacco Product application materials from R.J. Reynolds for their Camel Snus products are now [available](#).
- **ASTHO** [published](#) a series of Healthy Heart, Healthy Brain communications materials tailored for American Indian and Alaska Native Communities. Requests for printed materials and questions can be directed to [Kelsey Donnellan](#) and [Talyah Sands](#).
- A new scientific statement from **AHA** published in *Circulation* [outlines](#) growing evidence that water pipe smoking has adverse short-term and long-term cardiovascular impacts.
- **CDC** research published in *Public Health Reports* [found](#) that 75 percent of U.S. adults support smoke-free casino policies, a figure that remains consistent independently of how often adults attend casinos.
- **New Americans for Nonsmokers Rights** webpages [provide](#) recommendations for

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 of Tobacco Control – Policy Research Vital Strategies New York City, NY](#)

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

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

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)

convening smoke-free meetings and [overview](#) an industry tactic to pursue weak tobacco 21 policies that also preempt local authority in some cases.

- A new **Healthy People 2020** infographic [highlights](#) the disparity between metropolitan and non-metropolitan smoking and discusses progress on Health People 2020 targets pertaining to adult and adolescent cigarette smoking rates.
- **Truth Initiative** [published](#) an overview that makes the case for tobacco-free pharmacies through voluntarily corporate policies and state and local laws.

State News

- Tobacco 21 bills have moved forward in [New York](#) and [Pennsylvania](#).
- **Hawaii** is [considering](#) a ban on the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol flavored cigarettes and e-cigarettes.
- Legislators in San Francisco, **California** [proposed](#) a bill that would prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes within the city.

In the News

- Ned Sharpless, current head of the NIH, will [serve](#) as acting commissioner of FDA following Scott Gottlieb's announced resignation. HHS Secretary Alex Azar said the search for a permanent replacement is underway.
- A federal judge [ruled](#) that FDA is required to have graphic warnings for cigarette packs and

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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advertising prepared by March 15, 2020.

- Opponents to FDA oversight of e-cigarettes and other tobacco products, including tobacco companies, are likely to [lobby](#) the White House and Congress in an effort to subvert proposed regulations.

Research

- A *Public Health Reports* analysis of adolescent, young adult, and adult tobacco use data [found](#) that adolescent and young adults preferred fruit and candy e-cigarette flavor types, and had severalfold greater odds of using those e-cigarette flavors than adults.
- An analysis of sudden unexpected infant death (SUID) data published in *Pediatrics* [concluded](#) that the odds of SUID increased linearly as maternal cigarette smoking intensity increased.
- Self-reported data from a smoking cessation trial published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [indicates](#) that cigarette smokers who began using e-cigarettes decreased their use of cigarettes but increased their nicotine dependence.
- A long-term study on smoking cessation and rheumatoid arthritis (RA) published in *Arthritis Care & Research* [found](#) that current smoking increases the likelihood of developing RA, and that increased duration of smoking cessation reduces RA risk.

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