

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 Announcements

- A new set of TCN policy scans and sharable infographics that provide in-depth information on limiting tobacco retailer density near youth-oriented locations, strengthening clean indoor air acts to include mental health and substance abuse treatment settings, and the impact of recreational marijuana legalization on clean air policy are now available on the [Resources tab](#) and the [State Policy tab](#) of the TCN website.
- **Resource of the Month:** The TCN Tobacco State Success Story archive, available on the [Resources tab](#) of the TCN website, explores how state health departments and partner organizations have achieved tremendous tobacco control successes at the state and local levels. Each success story highlights steps taken, results, and lessons learned to serve as case studies for state health departments interested in taking similar action in their own states.

## Partner Announcements

- A new **CDC** Tips from Former Smokers webpage [includes](#) tips and videos on utilizing

*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

[Talking About Tobacco-Related Disparities: New Communications Research](#) –

Frameworks Institute and ChangeLab Solutions

April 30, 1-2:30 PM

ET|*Registration Required*

[Using Campaigns and Social Media to Address Commercial Tobacco Use](#) – National Native Network

May 1, 3-4 PM ET|*Registration Required*

[The E-Cigarette Dilemma: A Public Health Perspective](#) –

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

May 7, 12-1 PM ET|*Save the Date*

[Annual Tobacco Documents Workshop](#) – UCSF Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education

telephone quitlines to help quit smoking.

- **FDA** made the following announcements pertaining to their regulation of tobacco products:
  - FDA [announced](#) that it has received a series of reports that e-cigarette users, mostly youth and young adults, are experiencing seizures as a result of e-cigarette use.
  - The public comment period for Swedish Match's modified risk tobacco product applications for their line of snus products is [open](#) until May 13.
  - A webinar on tobacco product recalls is now [available](#) on FDA's YouTube channel.
- **North American Quitline Consortium** will convene a pair of concurrent workshops in Minneapolis on Aug. 26, the day before the National Conference on Tobacco or Health, focusing on [evolving approaches to quitline management](#) and [improving reach and treatment for priority populations](#).
- **ChangeLab Solutions** [published](#) a comprehensive toolkit, accompanied by a webinar and other sharable content, on achieving health equity through law and policy.
- A new **Truth Initiative** advertisement campaign [educates](#) viewers on the dangers of flavored e-cigarettes. Reach out to [Rebecca Carle](#) for more information on how to use this advertisement and other media assets free of charge.
- An **NCI** recommendation on smoke-free homes is now [recognized](#) as a research-tested intervention program to prevent cancer in a variety of settings.
- A recording and slides from a **Counter Tobacco** webinar looking at Colorado as a case study of reversing tobacco preemption is

San Francisco  
May 10|*Registration Required*

[Youth Tobacco Cessation: Science and Treatment Strategies Public Scientific Workshop](#) – FDA Center for Tobacco Products  
Silver Spring, MD  
May 15, 9 AM – 5 PM  
ET|*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*

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### **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 Program Specialist – Project Filter](#)  
[Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#)  
[Boise, ID](#)

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

[Project Coordinator](#)

now [available](#).

- The **University of Michigan Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation** [released](#) a white paper, a policy brief, and a webinar discussing the importance of tobacco 21 policy and current research gaps on that policy.

## State News

- [Illinois](#), [Washington](#) state, [Arkansas](#), and [Delaware](#) all signed into law bills that will raise the tobacco purchase age to 21.
- ALA [published](#) a statement commending [Colorado](#) for repealing tobacco preemption, allowing cities and counties to once again pass their own tobacco control laws without restriction.
- A 20 percent sales tax on vaping products will take [effect](#) in [New York](#) on Dec. 1.

## In the News

- Frank Pallone [announced](#) a comprehensive tobacco control bill in the U.S. House of Representatives—which would include Tobacco 21, flavor prohibitions, online sales prohibitions, and several other regulations—and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell [announced](#) an intention to introduce a federal tobacco 21 bill in the Senate.
- A dozen senators [sent](#) a letter to JUUL Labs requesting more information on their marketing practices and the sale of a minority stake of their company to Altria.

[Smoking Cessation Leadership Center San Francisco, 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.

- Pharmacy chain Rite Aid [announced](#) that it will cease sales of e-cigarette products in all of its over 2,400 stores in the next 90 days due to concerns of youth consumption of these products.
- Amidst strong stock performance resulting from a focus on emerging tobacco products, Philip Morris International [launched](#) “The Year of Unsmoke” campaign to encourage cigarette smokers to switch to other products such as IQOS.
- JUUL Labs [launched](#) a new online tool that the company says will collect reports of underage JUUL possession and allow the company to identify how young people are obtaining the products.



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## Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of adult substance use data [concluded](#) that among cannabis users, cigarette smoking quit ratios (i.e., the proportion of former smokers compared to ever-smokers) were less than half of non-cannabis users.
- An analysis of youth tobacco data published in the *American Journal of Public Health* [found](#) that between 2008 and 2016, rural adolescent cigarette smoking rates declined slower than urban rates, increasing an already existing disparity.
- A *Chemical Research in Toxicology* laboratory experiment [concluded](#) the concentration of nicotine and some flavor additives of JUUL e-cigarette pods are sufficiently high to cause damage to living cells.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* systematic review [concluded](#) that healthcare professionals hold diverse views on the safety of e-cigarettes, the potentially for e-cigarette use as a gateway to

smoking cigarettes, and the efficacy of e-cigarettes as smoking cessation aids.

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