

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network](#) (TCN) and our partners.

[View this email in your browser](#)



TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

Celebrating TCN's 25th Anniversary

"Tobacco control has proven time and time again that it is one of the most impactful public health accomplishments ever. We get results through coordinated, multi-faceted policy approaches informed by data and science... This is why the Tobacco Control Network is crucial to our success. States and territories are on the front lines of prevention efforts." – Luci Longoria (OR), TCN Chair 2018-19

Join us in celebrating 25 amazing years of the TCN by reading more excerpts from TCN leaders and accessing other 25th anniversary resources on the [TCN website](#).



TCN Announcements

*The twice monthly **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

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

[Using Campaigns and Social Media to Address Commercial Tobacco Use](#) – National Native Network and Indian Health Service
July 10, 3-4 PM
ET|*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

- TCN [launched](#) a new webpage dedicated to the 25th anniversary of TCN supporting state and territorial tobacco control programs. The webpage includes a 25th anniversary [signature banner](#), an overview of [key TCN milestones](#) from the past 25 years, and other resources, and will continue to be updated throughout 2019.
- [Slides](#) and a [recording](#) of the first of three tobacco preemption virtual sessions convened by TCN in partnership with the Public Health Law Center, exploring the importance of preemption and local authority, are now available on the [Resources tab](#) of the TCN website.

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!

- **April Roeseler (CA)** – 19 years.
- **Joe D'efumia (WY)** – 11 years.
- **Harlan Juster (NY)** – 6 years.
- **Ari Skilling (FSM)** – 2 years.

Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

Combining YRBS and YTS Questionnaires

Deadline: May 24

For the first time in many years, both Nebraska's YRBS and YTS projects fell below the minimum threshold of a 60% combined response rate, thus limiting the usefulness of the

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](#)

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

results due to a lack of weighting and trending. The workgroup in Nebraska is looking at what we can change for future administrations of the projects, and ways to manage participant burden and declining school participation. We'd like to hear more about one possible solution some states have undertaken, the combination of the YRBS and YTS questionnaires.

If you do both YTS and YRBS, have you combined the two into one instrument?

If YES:

- a. What was your primary reason for combining them?
- b. Did the combined survey satisfy the reason in #1?
- c. Did you find it easier to get schools to participate with a combined questionnaire?
- d. Did the student response rate change with the new combined questionnaire?
- e. What is the approximate number of questions on the combined questionnaire?
- f. Is there content from YTS that is lost from combining the questionnaires yet is needed for your program?

If NO:

- a. Have you considered combining YTS and YRBS questionnaires?
- b. Why did you decide not to combine them?
- c. Are you finding it difficult to get schools to participate?
- d. What have you done to improve school participation? Did it work?

Thank you for your feedback.

Vape Detectors in Schools

Deadline: May 28

South Dakota is hearing from local communities, schools, and coalitions that they would like to purchase "vape detectors" to put in school bathrooms to help address the vaping epidemic. They are curious if other states have had similar requests, and if anyone has actually worked with localities to purchase/install the vape detectors.

- How are the detectors being used?

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



- What type of enforcement/policy was implemented?
- How did communities/schools pay for the detectors?
- Do you know of any national organizations that would possibly fund the devices?

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

- **FDA** [announced](#) that Philip Morris is allowed to sell its IQOS tobacco heating system products in the United States after approving its pre-market tobacco product application. Philip Morris' modified risk tobacco product application for its IQOS products is still pending.
- **CDC's Office on Smoking and Health** [developed](#) an informational presentation and supplemental materials to help adults educate youth aged 11-18 on the health risks of e-cigarette use.
- A coalition of **eight national public health groups** [wrote](#) a [letter](#) to The Walt Disney Company encouraging them to require that Vice Media, an organization Disney partly owns, end its business relationship with Philip Morris International.

State News

- Tobacco 21 legislation [passed](#) both houses of the **Vermont** legislature and is expected to be signed by Gov. Phil Scott.
-

- **Florida** Gov. Ron DeSantis [signed](#) a bill that will prohibit e-cigarette use in enclosed indoor workplaces, with some exceptions. The Florida Legislature won't [pass](#) a tobacco 21 bill after the Senate approved the measure.
- The **Colorado** Senate [voted](#) down a bill backed by Gov. Jared Polis that would have tripled tobacco taxes to \$2.59 per pack and establish a 62 percent tax on other tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.

In the News

- Walgreens [announced](#) that they will no longer sell tobacco products to consumers under age 21. Walmart then [announced](#) a similar policy that also includes no longer carrying sweet-flavored e-cigarette products.
 - JUUL Labs lobbying efforts at the state level are [advocating](#) for policy positions contrary to the company's stated priority of keeping their products away from underage consumers, such as the opposition of flavored tobacco product bans.
 - Public health advocates are [concerned](#) that federal tobacco 21 legislation announced by Sen. Mitch McConnell might contain provisions favored by the tobacco industry.
 - A Philip Morris International subsidiary will [begin](#) selling life insurance in the UK, with plans to expand to other countries, and will offer premium discounts to cigarette smokers who quit or switch to other tobacco products.
 - JUUL Labs [plans](#) to design a mobile app that aims to assist combustible tobacco users switch to JUUL products.
-

Research

- A *JAMA Internal Medicine* analysis of nationally representative data [concluded](#) that social disadvantages such as unemployment, low income, and lacking a high school diploma are highly related to smoking prevalence, with more disadvantages leading to higher smoking rates.
- CDC research published in *Tobacco Control* [found](#) that 7.9 percent of adults have ever used e-cigarettes shaped like USB devices, including 45.9 percent of all adults that report using any e-cigarette products.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of national data [concluded](#) that cigar use is significantly more prevalent among non-Hispanic black individuals than other racial/ethnic groups, and that cigar use increased between 2002 and 2016 in non-Hispanic black women.

Feel free to [forward this communication](#) or encourage others to [subscribe directly](#).

This message was intended for << Test Email Address >>. If you believe this has been sent to you in error, please [unsubscribe](#) or [update your subscription preferences](#).

Our address:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, 2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450, Arlington, VA 22202
TCN@astho.org

