

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*

## Celebrating TCN's 25th Anniversary

"TCN provides science-based, trustworthy information and the ability to network and learn from colleagues all across the country. I'm honored to have been a part of the organization and all it's done to improve health across the country." – Andrea Mowery (Alumna-ClearWay Minnesota), TCN Chair 2016-17

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

- [Slides](#) and a [recording](#) of the second of three tobacco preemption virtual sessions convened by TCN in partnership with the Public Health Law

*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

[Tobacco Prevention and Control Efforts in Rural America: Current Local Health Department Successes and Challenges](#) – NACCHO  
June 18, 2-3 PM  
ET|Registration Required

[Tobacco Free Policies and Interventions in behavioral Health Care Settings](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center  
June 18, 2-3:30 PM  
ET|Registration Required

[Quitting in the Age of Vaping: A Special Warner Series Webinar](#) – Truth Initiative  
June 19, 2-3:30 PM  
ET|Registration Required

[The Health Impact of Tobacco Use Among People with Disabilities](#) – University at Albany School of Public Health  
June 20, 9-10 AM  
ET|Registration Required

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!

- **Lisa Moore (CT)** – 20 years.
- **Antonio Cases (PR)** – 17 years.
- **Janis Mayer (NJ)** – 14 years.
- **Vicki Huntington (WI)** – 12 years.
- **Jacob Parsons (SD)** – 3 years.
- **Bradwell Batallones (CNMI)** – 2 years.
- **Julia Hitchingham (MI)** – 2 years

## Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

### E-Cigarette Surveys

**Deadline:** June 20

Idaho is wondering if any states have utilized a survey or questionnaire to better understand e-cigarette use among various age groups (e.g., youth under 18, 18-24 y/o, or 18+), or if anyone knows of verified surveys to understand e-cigarette use and perceptions of harm. Thank you!

*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.*

[Reaching Those Who are Smoking Most: Authentic Engagement to Reduce Cessation-Related Disparities](#) – Tobacco Control Training Collaborative  
June 26, 3-4 PM  
ET|*Registration Required*

[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*

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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 Manager – Tobacco Prevention and Control](#)  
[Idaho Department of Health and Welfare](#)  
[Boise, ID](#)

[Deputy Director of Tobacco Control – Policy Research](#)

## Partner Announcements

- On May 31, **WHO** recognized its annual World No Tobacco Day and [published](#) a report that discusses the global death and disease burdens relating to tobacco use to underscore the need for stronger tobacco control policies.
- A **Truth Initiative** article [reviews](#) federal regulatory, legal, and policy developments relating to addressing the epidemic of teen e-cigarette use.
- **FDA** [published](#) a public notice requesting that e-cigarette device and liquid manufacturers voluntarily allow FDA staff an opportunity to visit their facilities and learn more about the production of those products.

## State News

- Tobacco 21 legislation [passed](#) both chambers of the **Connecticut** legislature. Gov. Ned Lamont is expected to sign it into law.
- **Oregon** Health Authority [published](#) an evaluation report and corresponding [press release](#) of their state tobacco 21 law, which found that initiation of tobacco products decreased in both 13-17 year-olds and 18-20 year-olds since the policy took effect in Jan. 2018.
- WHO [recognized](#) the **Guam** Non-Communicable Disease Consortium Tobacco Control Action Team as one of the 2019 World No Tobacco Day awardees for their accomplishments in tobacco control.
- The **Minnesota** Health and Human Services budget signed by Gov. Tim Walz [includes](#) a provision that expands the state's comprehensive indoor air law to include e-cigarettes starting on

[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 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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Aug. 1.

- **Mark Levine (SHO-VT)** [described](#) new state policies such as tobacco 21 and tobacco product tax increases as having a "major public health impact for generations to come."
- Public health groups and watchdog groups [note](#) how the tobacco industry funded efforts in **California** state politics that ultimately derailed a statewide flavored tobacco products ban.
- **Massachusetts** Attorney General Maura Healey [sued](#) e-cigarette manufacturer Eonsmoke LLC, alleging violation of state law for failing to verify that all online purchasers of their products are 21 or over.

## In the News

- Sen. Dick Durbin (IL) [wrote](#) a [letter](#) to Acting FDA Commissioner Ned Sharpless that strongly criticizes the agency's approach to e-cigarette regulation, arguing that that not enough is being done to protect youth from those products.
- Over a 100 public health groups [wrote](#) a joint letter to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and Snap Inc., encouraging them to dedicate more effort to restrict tobacco advertisements on their platforms.
- According to a study [published](#) in *JAMA Pediatrics*, 45 percent of followers of JUUL lab's Twitter account on April 2018 were estimated to be between 13 and 17 years old.
- According to people familiar with the matter, JUUL Labs is [considering](#) opening its own retail locations in the United States that would permit consumers

21 and older to enter.

- While attending the CNBC Healthy Returns conference, former FDA commissioner Scott Gottlieb [shared](#) that he feels FDA “struck the wrong balance” on e-cigarette regulations during his leadership, referencing the epidemic of youth use of those products.
- Several research scientists [recount](#) stories of turning down lucrative funding offers from JUUL Labs out of concern that it could hurt their reputation.

## Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of data from 2002 to 2016 [concluded](#) that cigarette smoking prevalence in that time period did not decline for Medicare insureds or American Indians/Alaska Natives, and that inequities in cigarette smoking grew in many respects.
  - A randomized control trial published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* that compared nicotine gum and placebo among non-daily intermittent smokers [concluded](#) that nicotine gum did not significantly improve the likelihood of short- or long-term abstinence compared to placebo.
  - A *Tobacco Control* analysis of 2016 and 2017 youth data [found](#) that 46.6 percent of students in grades 6-12 reported secondhand smoke exposure in the past 30 days, and that 18.3 percent reported secondhand e-cigarette vapor exposure in the past 30 days.
  - A study of patients who survived a first-ever stroke published in *Journal of the American Heart Association* [found](#) a dose-response relationship
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between smoking frequency and the risk of stroke recurrence.

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