

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 episode of ASTHO's podcast, *Public Health Review*, [features](#) CDC Office on Smoking and Health Director Corrine Graffunder, Massachusetts Program Manager Patti Henley, and TCN Chair Luci Longoria discussing state and territorial tobacco cessation efforts.
- Nominations for the 2019-2020 TCN Executive Committee are currently being confirmed. A ballot will be circulated to program managers and Funders Alliance organization leads next week, and the new Executive Committee will be announced by the end of September.

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!

- **Donna Asbury (NH)** – 17 years.

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

[An Analysis of Menthol Cigarette Pricing in Boston, Massachusetts](#) – Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Sept. 16, 2:00-3:30 PM ET|No Registration Required

[2019 State of Black Health Community Forum](#) – NAATPN, Inc.
New Orleans, LA
Sept. 19|Registration Required

[Tobacco Retail Environment in Massachusetts](#) – Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Sept. 26, 2-3:30 PM ET|No Registration Required

[Flavored Tobacco Product Restrictions in Massachusetts: Impact on Availability and Youth Use](#) – Massachusetts Department of Public Health
Oct. 24, 2-3:30 PM ET|No Registration Required

[FDA Center for Tobacco Products Public Meeting on Deemed Tobacco Product Applications](#)
Silver Spring, MD
Oct. 28-29|Registration Required

Partner Announcements

- As of Sept. 11, **CDC** is [reporting](#) that over 450 potential cases of e-cigarette-associated pulmonary illness have been identified by 33 states and one U.S. territory, including six deaths across six states. CDC has still not identified a specific e-cigarette product or chemical compound in their investigation, but they do note that many patients report using vaping products containing the cannabis derivative THC.
 - A CDC press release [provides](#) additional details on what the agency is doing in response to the outbreak, and recommends that the public stop purchasing e-cigarette products off the street or modifying any e-cigarette product.
 - A CDC *MMWR* release [provides](#) detailed information about the first 200 cases reported by 25 states in July and August.
 - A CDC *MMWR* interim guidance [includes](#) in-depth findings and recommendations for clinicians and health department officials involved in the response.
- **FDA** [released](#) a statement describing their role in responding to the vaping-linked outbreak.
- **FDA** sent a warning letter to JUUL Labs [alleging](#) unauthorized marketing of their products as modified risk products, along with a letter requesting more information about the company's marketing practices.
- **WHO** [released](#) a statement encouraging governments worldwide to ban tobacco

[APHA Annual Meeting and Expo](#) –
American Public Health Association
Philadelphia, PA
Nov. 2-6|*Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

If you are aware of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please reach out to tcn@astho.org.

[Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Youth Tobacco Survey RFP \(OPASS 20-18471; Bid #: BPM015230\)](#)

Deadline: Sept. 16

The Maryland Department of Health Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control has issued an RFP for the administration of three upcoming cycles of the combined Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Youth Tobacco Survey. All questions regarding this solicitation should be directed to mdh.solicitationquestions@maryland.gov.

Job Listings

[Tobacco Prevention & Control Specialist Wisconsin Department of Health Services Madison, WI](#)

[Chief of the Evaluation Unit California Department of Public Health Sacramento, CA](#)

[Senior Policy Specialist California Department of Public Health Sacramento, CA](#)

[Tobacco Prevention & Cessation Quality Advisor Indiana Hospital Association Indianapolis, IN](#)

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.

advertising, promotion, and sponsorship at international exposition events.

State News

- **Michigan** Gov. Gretchen Whitmer [announced](#) an [executive order](#) banning the sale of all flavored e-cigarette products in the state for at least six months, citing youth vaping as a public health emergency.
- A **New York** Department of Health press release [identified](#) vitamin E acetate, a derivative of vitamin E, as a “key focus” of the state’s ongoing investigation of vaping-associated pulmonary illness.
- A report by the **Kentucky** state budget director [found](#) that cigarette sales decreased 10% after the state increased its cigarette tax from 60 cents to \$1.10 per pack, exceeding the national average of 6.1%.
- **Illinois** governor JB Pritzker [signed](#) a bill into law that prohibits smoking in vehicles with anyone under the age of 18.

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.



In the News

- The following news items relate to the ongoing outbreak of vaping-linked pulmonary illness:
 - Dana Meaney-Delman, the CDC incident manager for the agency’s response to this outbreak, [said](#) that people should not use e-cigarette

- products while the investigation is still ongoing.
- Sen. Dick Durbin (IL) [wrote](#) a letter to acting FDA Commissioner Ned Sharpless demanding that the commissioner take “decisive action” on teenage e-cigarette use or resign.
 - The following news items relate to the investigation and regulation of JUUL Labs:
 - Media outlets are [reporting](#) that the FTC is investigating the marketing practices of JUUL Labs.
 - Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL), chairman of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform’s Economic and Consumer Policy subcommittee, [accused](#) JUUL Labs of violating federal law by advertising its products as safer than cigarettes and as cessation aids.
 - JUUL Labs [faces](#) increasing government scrutiny, as six attorneys general have announced lawsuits or investigations and Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar pledged to use “regulatory and enforcement power” to address youth e-cigarette use.
 - Philip Morris International is in talks to [reunite](#) with Altria Group to consolidate development and manufacturing of emerging tobacco products. Altria originally split off from Philip Morris in 2008.

- According to a *New England Journal of Medicine* preliminary report of 53 vaping-linked pulmonary illness cases in Illinois and Wisconsin, the median patient age is 19 years old and 84% of patients [reported](#) using THC products in e-cigarette devices.
- An analysis of national representative survey data published in the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* [concluded](#) that between 2005 and 2016, depression and the use of alcohol and marijuana increased significantly among former cigarette smokers, which may increase the risk of relapse.
- A *Preventive Medicine Reports* analysis of nationally representative data [concluded](#) that four-in-five older adult smokers are interested in quitting, but fewer than half attempted to quit in the last year and only one-third of those who tried utilized evidence-based methods.
- An experiment on waterpipe tobacco use published in *Tobacco Control* [quantified](#) the physiological impacts of a 30-minute waterpipe session, and found that waterpipe use meets the NIH definition of a cytotoxic agent.

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