

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

- Program managers and Funders Alliance leads are strongly encouraged to take the TCN member survey disseminated via email yesterday, Jan. 14, at approximately noon ET. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete, and your input will help inform the Executive Committee on how to best support state and territorial tobacco control programs now and into the future.

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!

- **Carol Cramer (KS)** – 19 years.
- **Rhonda Williams (VT)** – 9 years.
- **Luci Longoria (OR)** – 7 years.
- **Candace Koshiba (PW)** – 6 years.
- **Braden Ainsworth (UT)** – 3 years.
- **Kerri Verden (KY)** – 3 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

[Federal Tobacco 21 and the FDA Flavors Guidance](#) – Public Health Law Center
Jan. 22, 2-3 p.m. ET
| *Registration required*

[Public Advisory Committee Meeting of the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee](#) – FDA Center for Tobacco Products
Silver Spring, MD
Feb. 14, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. ET
| *Save the date*

[Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco 26th Annual Meeting](#) – Society for Research on Nicotine & Tobacco
New Orleans, LA
March 11-14 | *Registration required*

[11th Annual National Tribal Public Health Summit](#) – National Indian Health Board
Omaha, NE

Help Your Peers Requests

Cessation Programs for Pregnant Women

Deadline: Jan. 24

Kentucky wants to learn what programs states are using for pregnancy cessation. They are looking to figure out the best route for Kentucky (using an established program, creating a Kentucky-specific program, etc.). Any help is appreciated.

If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to tcn@astho.org and we will pass your insights along to the person who submitted the request and to other TCN members interested in learning more.

Partner Announcements

- **FDA's Center for Tobacco Products** recently made the following announcements:
 - FDA [published](#) an enforcement policy that will remove some flavored e-cigarette products from the shelves by Feb. 6. Under this policy, cartridge-based products (e.g., JUUL) with flavorings other than tobacco and menthol will be prohibited, but all flavored e-liquids and disposable e-cigarette products will be allowed to stay on the shelves.
 - In cooperating with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, FDA [seized](#) 44 websites that had been illicitly selling THC vaping products as part of FDA's response to the e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury (EVALI) outbreak.
 - FDA [announced](#) that it approved the sale of two new reduced nicotine cigarette products produced by 22nd Century Group Inc. through the premarket tobacco product application pathway. FDA's Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee will [meet](#) on Feb. 14 to discuss

March 17-19 | *Registration required*

[The 14th Reduce Tobacco Use Conference](#) – Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth
Alexandria, VA
April 19-21 | *Registration required*

[Nicotine Dependence Conference & National Summit on Smokeless Tobacco Prevention 2020](#) – Mayo Clinic
Rochester, MN
May 18-20 | *Registration required*

[State of Black Health Conference](#) – National African American Tobacco Prevention Network
Charlotte, NC
Sept. 1-3 | *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.

Job Listings

[Director of Programs](#)
Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth
Richmond, VA

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 modified risk applications filed for these products.
- FDA [released](#) complete materials from its Oct. 28-29, 2019 public meeting on deemed tobacco product applications.
 - **CDC's Office on Smoking and Health** recently made the following announcements:
 - CDC [published](#) an updated Best Practices User Guide on youth engagement in tobacco prevention in control, which it developed in collaboration with the Washington University in St. Louis Center for Public Health Systems Science.
 - In celebration of 2020 as a new year and a new decade, CDC [published](#) an article that encourages smokers to quit and provides smoking cessation resources.
 - CDC [released](#) data for the 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey, which is available for download along with data from past years.
 - **CDC reports** that, as of Jan. 9, it has identified 2,602 cases of EVALI in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and two U.S. territories, including 57 associated deaths across 27 states and Washington, D.C. CDC notes that vitamin E acetate appears to be associated with EVALI, but that there may be more than one cause of the outbreak.
 - A CDC *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [updated](#) the interim guidance for healthcare professions caring for patients with EVALI to reduce disease-associated morbidity and mortality.
 - A CDC *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [provides](#) information on EVALI-related rehospitalizations and post-discharge deaths.
 - **Truth Initiative** [announced](#) that applications for its 2020 young adult ambassadors program are due by Jan. 17. The organization also issued press releases following federal actions on [tobacco](#)

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.



[21](#) and [flavored e-cigarettes](#).

- Resources from **Public Health Law Center** address the new federal [tobacco 21 policy](#), the new federal [flavor restriction](#), and the safe disposal of [e-cigarette waste](#) for schools and other stakeholders.
- The **National Native Network** [shared](#) a Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium smoke-free messaging campaign in Tlingit language using Tips from Former Smokers campaign materials that feature Michael, an Alaska Native.
- **CVS Health Foundation**, in partnership with Discovery Education and Catch My Breath, [announced](#) the Be Vape Free educational initiative aimed at teachers, parents, and guardians of young people.
- In anticipation of the Academy Awards, **Smokefree Movies** [created](#) an online resource kit for stakeholders to recognize Feb. 2-9 as a week of action on tobacco imagery in films and television programs.

State News

- **Massachusetts** Attorney General Maura Healey [sued](#) eight online e-cigarette retailers for shipping flavored tobacco products to state consumers in violation of the state's new law prohibiting the sale of all flavored tobacco products.
- **Arizona** Attorney General Mark Brnovich [sued](#) JUUL Labs and Eonsmoke, alleging that both companies illegally marketed their products to youth.
- A brief published by the **Virginia** Foundation for Healthy Youth [outlines](#) how tobacco retail licensing

policies can help reduce youth access to tobacco products.

- The **Michigan** Supreme Court [ruled](#) that it won't expedite Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's appeal of a lower court ruling that temporarily blocked Gov. Whitmer's flavored e-cigarette products sales ban.

In the News

- The federal age to purchase all tobacco products [increased](#) from 18 to 21 after President Trump signed a spending package that included a tobacco 21 provision that does not exempt military members or anyone else under age 21.
- *National Public Radio* reporting [describes](#) why the tobacco industry has supported tobacco 21 policy in recent months, and why public health stakeholders fear the new federal policy on its own will not meaningfully address the youth e-cigarette epidemic.
- According to survey data from the American Academy of Family Physicians, 60 percent of young people [report](#) vaping to reduce stress, and one-third of young people report vaping to socialize.
- A study [published](#) in *Tobacco Control* [identified](#) 21 vaping-related entities offering a total of 40 scholarships to U.S. high school and college students.

Research

- A longitudinal analysis of National Youth Tobacco Survey data published in the *American Journal of Public Health* [found](#) that in 2018, 28.6 percent of e-
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cigarette users initiated at age 14 or younger, an increase over 2014, when only 8.8 percent of users did so. The researchers note that this trend is not observed across cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco.

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of an ongoing trial of smokers with serious mental illness [concluded](#) that 43 percent of such smokers did not report making a quit attempt in the past year, and that more quit attempts were correlated with lower nicotine dependence and carbon monoxide levels.
- A *Tobacco Control* data analysis of young adults ages 18 to 24 [concluded](#) that sexual minority women of color and black heterosexual women and men have elevated levels of tobacco advertisement exposure, a factor tied to tobacco product initiation.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of national survey data from parents of 11- to 18-year-olds [found](#) that more than 75 percent of parents supported a ban on flavored e-cigarette sales, with a larger proportion of parents supporting other policies designed to make e-cigarettes less appealing and accessible to youth.

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Our address:

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

