

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

- TCN [updated](#) the information on its Interactive State Tobacco Policy Map, which allows users to assess how states and territories have implemented multiple tobacco control policies of interest simultaneously. For more information on how to use the policy map, [refer](#) to the user guide.
- Program managers are invited to ask questions and share insights on their ongoing NOFO applications by participating in the NOFO discussion space on the [TCN Forum](#). Information is also [available](#) on CDC's new NOFO website. Reach out to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org) with any questions about the forum.

## 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!

- **Gail Devito (IL)** – 10 years.
- **Cheley Grigsby (AK)** – 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

[Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program Informational Webinar](#) – Truth Initiative Webinar  
March 12, 3-4 PM ET  
| *Registration Required*

[11th Annual National Tribal Public Health Summit](#) – National Indian Health Board  
Omaha, NE  
March 17-19 | *Registration required*

[Public Comment Opportunity: Achieving Health Equity in the Advancement of Tobacco Control Practices](#) – CDC  
March 23 | *Comment deadline*

[Lung Cancer Screening: The Who-What-When-Where-Why](#) – American Cancer Society  
Webinar  
March 25, 1-2 p.m. ET

## Help Your Peers Requests

### Hospital Discharge Quit Kits

**Deadline:** Mar. 11

Vermont is interested in learning more about states' work with or knowledge of hospitals providing a two week quit kit upon a patient's discharge when they're screened as a tobacco user.

Vermont has a major hospital interested in starting an e-referral protocol and setting up a "default" internal referral system. The protocol would not require the involvement of the hospitalist and would give tobacco users a free quit kit upon hospital discharge. At first, the request was for the Vermont tobacco program to pay for the NRT. However, this would not be sustainable and there are a number of other hospitals in Vermont who may be interested in adopting a similar protocol once it's demonstrated to work. In years past, the Vermont program was able to support in-hospital tobacco treatment specialists and NRT (not upon discharge, however). A few hospitals still have access to a bedside tobacco treatment specialist but it's limited and not paid through the tobacco control program.

### Evidence-Based Resources for Elementary School Students

**Deadline:** Mar. 15

There have been inquiries in Knox County, Tennessee for resources for elementary students concerning any prevention curricula on vaping and tobacco. Knox County has a longstanding partnership with Coordinated Approach to Child Health (CATCH) and the CATCH My Breath Program, which includes evidence-based vaping prevention programming specific for grades 5-12, but are there any evidence-based resources for children younger than 5th grade?

### NRT to the Homeless and Emergent Home Populations

**Deadline:** Mar. 19

Do any states provide nicotine replacement therapy or other cessation products to the homeless and emergent home

| *Registration required*

### [Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program Informational Webinar](#)

– Truth Initiative  
Webinar

March 25, 3-4 PM ET

| *Registration Required*

### [Eliminate Tobacco Use Mid-Atlantic Summit](#)

– University of Virginia

Charlottesville, VA

April 13-14 | *Registration*

*required*

### [The 14th Reduce Tobacco Use Conference](#)

– Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth  
Alexandria, VA

April 19-21 | *Registration*

*required*

### [Request for Information on Vaping Products Associated with Lung Injuries](#)

– FDA  
Webinar

April 20 | *Comment deadline*

### [Increasing Lung Cancer Screening Uptake in Eligible Adults: Do We Know What Works?](#)

– American Cancer Society  
Webinar

April 29, 1-2 p.m. ET

| *Registration required*

### [Annual Tobacco Documents Workshop](#)

– University of California, San Francisco  
Center for Tobacco Control  
Research and Education  
San Francisco, CA

May 1 | *Registration Required*

### [Nicotine Dependence Conference & National Summit on Smokeless Tobacco Prevention 2020](#)

– Mayo Clinic  
Rochester, MN

May 18-20 | *Registration*

*required*

### [2020 NNPHI Annual](#)

populations? South Dakota is looking at providing more comprehensive services through their QuitLine to better serve the homeless population. Any and all information would be beneficial.

*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 pass your insights along to the person who submitted the request and to other TCN members interested in learning more.*

## Partner Announcements

- In recognition of February as American Heart Month, **ASTHO** [published](#) a blog post summarizing the findings of the Surgeon General's [report on cessation](#) and their impact on heart health at the population level.
- The following announcements come from the **FDA Center for Tobacco Products**:
  - FDA [published](#) a new Tobacco 21 resources page, including a [webinar](#) that provides guidance on how retailers should be complying with the new law.
  - FDA [announced](#) new civil penalty amounts for violations of the Tobacco Control Act after adjusting previous amounts for inflation.
- The **CDC Office on Smoking and Health** published the following research articles:
  - An *Addiction* analysis of survey data from 11 states and the District of Columbia [concluded](#) that 27.4% of adults reported secondhand marijuana smoke exposure in the past week, with 52.4% of adults believing that such exposure is harmful.
  - An analysis of survey data published in *Preventive Medicine* [concluded](#) that the favorability of Tobacco 21 policies did not

[Conference](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes  
New Orleans, LA  
May 19-21 | *Registration required*

[Tobacco Cessation and Lung Cancer Screening](#) – American Cancer Society  
Webinar  
June 3, 1-2 p.m. ET  
| *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](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

### Job Listings

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

[Research Scientist III \(Epidemiologist\)](#)  
California Department of Public Health  
Sacramento, CA

[Western Regional Director](#)  
Preventing Tobacco Addiction Foundation (Tobacco 21)  
Remote Employment

[Manager of the Center of Excellence for Health Systems Improvement](#)  
CAI (Cicatelli Associates Inc.)  
New York City, NY

significantly change from 2014 to 2017, hovering around three-quarters of U.S. adults.

- A *Preventing Chronic Disease* analysis of National Youth Tobacco Survey data [found](#) that moving to an electronic administration of the survey aligns with the preferences of students and improved survey administration.
- The following announcements come from **Truth Initiative**:
  - Truth Initiative [announced](#) their Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program, offering grants of up to \$20,000 to help to minority-serving institutions, community colleges, and women's colleges adopt and implement tobacco/vape-free policies.
  - A comprehensive Truth Initiative report [details](#) how the tobacco industry is continuing to expand profits by developing new products, improving industry reputation among the public, and working with lawmakers to oppose regulatory policies.
- **NAATPN, Inc.** [announced](#) a new grant with Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to engage African American communities in the South and Midwest in tobacco control advocacy efforts.
- The **Public Health Law Center** [updated](#) their listing of e-cigarette regulations in all 50 states.
- The **National Association of Chronic Disease Directors** [published](#) a white paper overviewing the investments needed in tobacco prevention and other chronic disease priority areas to ensure a healthy nation.
- A recent **Vital Talks** virtual event [features](#) Matthew Myers, president and CEO of Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and Dr. Joanna Cohen, director of the Institute for Global Tobacco Control at the

### 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.



Forward to Friend

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, discussing e-cigarettes as both a threat to public health and a harmful reduction strategy.

- The **Public Health National Center for Innovations** and the **de Beaumont Foundation** are [requesting](#) feedback on the [proposed 10 Essential Public Health Services](#) by Apr. 2.

## State News

- **ClearWay Minnesota** [published](#) a case study discussing how Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and Falcon Heights are implementing the menthol tobacco restrictions passed into law in those jurisdictions.
- A *Tobacco Control* study of local flavored tobacco product restrictions implemented in **Massachusetts** [found](#) that retailer compliance with these policies was high, regardless of the sociodemographic makeup of the communities where the policies were in place.

## In the News

- The House of Representatives [passed](#) the Reversing the Youth Tobacco Epidemic Act of 2019, which would prohibit the manufacture and sale of flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, and would ban the online sale of e-cigarette products.
    - Representative Yvette Clark (NY) [published](#) an op-ed in *The Hill* sharing her opposition to the bill over concern that prohibiting menthol cigarettes would lead to increased targeting of
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African American smokers by law enforcement, a sentiment shared by other lawmakers and national advocacy groups.

- A new article in [Benefit News](#) highlights the need for employers to implement vaping workplace policies.

## Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health study data [found](#) that e-cigarette users had 67% greater odds of reporting wheezing and other respiratory symptoms compared to those who didn't report tobacco use, but 32% lower odds compared to combustible tobacco smokers.
- An analysis of American Indian adult smokers published in *Tobacco Control* [concluded](#) that e-cigarette use did not have a statistically significant impact on smoking cessation or the number of cigarettes smoked per day between baseline and an 18-month follow-up.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* survey analysis [concluded](#) that 12% of surveyed young adults (mean age 21.6) were aware of heated tobacco products, and 5% reported lifetime use of those products.
- A survey analysis published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [found](#) that 93% of high school students who reported e-cigarette use reported other substance use as well, most frequently alcohol.

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