

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

- The final installment of TCN's four-part virtual deskside briefing series, which features Brian King from the CDC Office of Smoking and Health and Anna Arkin from the Minnesota Department of Health discussing how to best communicate the latest science on tobacco use and COVID-19, is 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!

- **Miranda Spitznagle (IN)** – 9 years.
- **Patti Henley (MA)** – 8 years.
- **Emily Carlson (AZ)** – 2 years.

## Partner 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

[The Youth Vaping Epidemic: From Science to Public Policy](#) – The New York Academy of Science  
Virtual Conference  
Feb. 10, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET  
| *Registration required*

[Million Hearts® Hospitals and Health Systems Recognition: Cross-Program Collaboration](#) – CDC  
Webinar  
Feb. 10, 3-4:30 p.m. ET  
| *Registration required*

[Vaping: Fact Versus Fiction](#) – The New York Academy of Science  
Webinar  
Feb. 10, 7-8:30 p.m. ET  
| *Registration required*

[State of Black Health Conference](#) – The Center for Black Health & Equity

- **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** [published](#) its annual Broken Promises to our Children report, a state-by-state examination of tobacco settlement and tobacco tax allocations, which argues that state lawmakers don't allocate enough tobacco-related funds to tobacco control and cessation programs.
- The 19<sup>th</sup> annual State of Tobacco Control report published by **ALA** [awards](#) letter grades to each state for its policies in the areas of tobacco prevention and cessation funding, smokefree air, tobacco taxes, access to cessation services, and flavored tobacco products.
- A **CDC** analysis of state Medicaid coverage published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [concluded](#) that 9.4% of Medicaid fee-for-service enrollees nationwide who are smokers and attempted to quit in the past year filed claims for cessation medication, with figures ranging from 0.2% to 32.9% in different states.
- The **U.S. Preventive Services Task Force** [issued](#) new evidence-based [recommendations](#) for tobacco cessation in adults, including pregnant adults, awarding an "A" grade (indicating an evidence-based recommendation) for primary care clinicians to screen for tobacco use and connect patients to proven cessation methods, and awarding an "I" grade (indicating that more evidence on the benefits and harms is needed) on whether e-cigarettes help adults quit smoking.
- **Truth Initiative** [announced](#) a new campaign called [Quit Together](#), in which TikTok influencers who are e-cigarette users share their experiences of quitting vaping with their followers in real time.
- The **North American Quitline Consortium** announced that it is accepting nominations for its 2022 Board of Directors, which can be submitted to [board@naquitline.org](mailto:board@naquitline.org) by Feb.

Virtual Conference  
March 2-3 | *Registration required*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program](#) – Duke and University of North Carolina  
Virtual Training  
March 16-18 | *Registration required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes  
New Orleans  
June 28-30, 2022 | *Save the date*

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### Funding Opportunities

[Tobacco Prevention and Control-Related Public Health Law Technical Assistance](#)  
CDC  
Deadline: March 31

### Job Listings

[Director of Tobacco Control & Prevention and Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco Free Living](#)  
Louisiana Public Health Institute  
New Orleans

[Special Project Coordinator/Manager](#)  
African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council  
Remote Position

[Tobacco Cessation and Prevention Epidemiologist](#)  
Louisiana Department of Health  
New Orleans or Baton Rouge

**About the Tobacco Control Network**

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- On Jan. 29, [FDA sent](#) nine additional warning letters advising the manufacturers of unauthorized e-cigarette products to stop selling their products in the U.S. market as they failed to submit the required premarket tobacco product application.

## State News

- The **California** Secretary of State's office [announced](#) that a recall effort of the state's flavored tobacco product prohibition accumulated enough signatures to put enforcement of the law on hold, and to put the policy before the state's voters in a referendum that will appear on the November 2022 ballot.
- An analysis of 2011-2017 **Massachusetts** Youth Health Survey data published in *Tobacco Control* [found](#) that counties with greater implementation of a flavored tobacco product restriction were associated with significantly less cigarette smoking and e-cigarette use among Massachusetts youth.

## In the News

- A letter signed by 23 state and territorial attorneys general [urges](#) FDA to prohibit menthol as a characterizing flavor in cigarettes to benefit public health.

## Research

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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- A *JAMA Internal Medicine* analysis of over 7,000 confirmed positive COVID-19 patients [found](#) that patients with more than 30 pack-years had 2.25 times greater odds of hospitalization and 1.89 greater odds of death compared to never smokers.
- An experiment on e-cigarette reduced risk messages published in *Tobacco Control* [concluded](#) that reduced risk messages increased e-cigarette appeal for 33.5% of current cigarette smokers, and were less effective overall than dissuasive addiction warnings.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health Study data from 2014-2018 [concluded](#) that among e-cigarette users, daily e-cigarette use and use of non-tobacco flavors were negatively associated with cigarette smoking, but positively associated with ongoing e-cigarette use at a 24-month follow-up.

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