

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*

## Congratulations New Program Managers!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN recognizes newly hired state and territorial tobacco program managers. Congratulations to the following program managers:

- **Sarah Cattie (DE)**
- **Sarah Motts (NV)**
- **Mark Boldt (VA)**

We regularly update the [TCN Member Directory](#) with state and island jurisdiction staff contacts for the tobacco control agencies funded by CDC's Office on Smoking and Health. To update your contact information in the directory, email [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).

## 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:

- **Amanda Mortensen (NE)** – 8 years.
- **James Kerrigan (WV)** – 8 years.
- **Megan Moran (TX)** – 1 year.

*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 Use and Cessation: Opportunities to Drive Improvements in Behavioral Health Care](#) – NAADAC Webinar  
August 9, 3 – 4:30 p.m. ET  
| *Registration Required*

[Connecting Families to Tobacco Cessation Resources: A Pediatrician's Journey to Establishing Institutional Electronic Referrals](#) – American Academy of Pediatrics Webinar  
Aug. 10, 2 – 3 p.m. ET  
| *Registration Required*

[State of Black Health National Conference](#) – The Center for Black Health & Equity  
San Juan, Puerto Rico  
Sept. 6 – 8 | *Registration Required*

## Help Your Peers Request

### Using JUUL Settlement Funds

**Deadline:** August 14

NH is interested in how other states are using JUUL Settlement funds. Thank you for your assistance!

## Partner Announcements

- According to a recent **CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report**, the number of cases of [vape product-related poisonings has doubled since 2018](#), with the majority of cases being in kids under the age of five.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
  - FDA [issued warning letters to three distributors](#)—ABS Distributions, Inc.; EC Supply, Inc.; and Easy Wholesale, LLC— for selling and/or distributing multiple unauthorized e-cigarette products including Elf Bar/EB Design, Esco Bars, and Puff Max.
  - Accidental exposure to nicotine-containing e-liquids can [cause injury and even death in children](#), making it important to keep these products away from kids and be prepared in case of accidental ingestion or other emergencies due to unintended exposure.
  - The FDA Center for Tobacco Products [announced that the center will host a virtual listening session](#) on Aug. 22,. During this listening session, CTP is requesting feedback on the development of a new five-year strategic plan for the center, including proposed strategic goals. The public can also submit electronic or written comments to the [Federal Register notice](#) by Aug. 29.

[Clear the Vapor Conference](#) –  
Parents Against Vaping e-  
cigarettes  
Virtual Conference  
Oct. 24 | *Save the Date*

## Funding Opportunities

### [Tobacco/Vape-Free College Grant](#) – Truth Initiative

This program is offering up to \$20,000 to colleges and universities to support the adoption and implementation of a 100% tobacco- and vape-free campus policy. All colleges and universities that do not already have a 100% tobacco/vape-free policy are eligible to apply.

Colleges that have smoke- or tobacco-free policies that do not include e-cigarettes may still apply. To combat the vaping public health crisis, Truth Initiative is offering grants of up to \$10,000 to colleges to strengthen their 100% smoke or tobacco-free policies by adding e-cigarettes. Register for an informational webinar on [August 22](#) at 3 p.m. ET to learn more about the Tobacco/Vape-Free College Grant Program.

**Deadline:** Oct. 12, 5 p.m. ET

### [Public Health Communication Messaging about the Continuum of Risk for Tobacco Products](#) – NIH

This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) invites applications for a Cooperative Agreement (U01) that will utilize health communication research to better understand the impact that messaging about the continuum of risk for tobacco products may have on various segments of the population. Applications should

- Comments on the [“Requirements for Tobacco Product Manufacturing Practice”](#) proposed rule must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. ET on September 6. The proposed rule, if finalized, lays out FDA’s requirements for tobacco product manufacturers regarding the manufacture, design, packing, and storage of tobacco products.
- **ChangeLab Solutions** released [Policy Process Evaluation for Equity](#), an online tool with information intended to inspire conversation and new considerations among changemakers who are developing evaluation provisions and plans in policies to promote health equity.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
  - A growing body of Truth Initiative research, much of it focused on misinformation surrounding nicotine, [suggests that the tobacco industry is using social media platforms popular with young people to advertise tobacco products](#), control tobacco-related conversations, evade flavored tobacco restrictions, and spread misinformation about nicotine.
  - Truth Initiative’s latest Impact Series, “Gamechanger: Shifting from tobacco control to ending the industry’s influence for good,” [discussed the potential of the endgame movement and strategies](#) to move to a time when commercial tobacco and nicotine are no longer used.
  - The EX Program highlights that [cigarette smoking is a main driver of the differences in survival rates](#) between people with HIV and people without HIV.
  - In a recent blog, EX program discusses [how to combat the lethal combination](#) of loneliness and smoking.

consider effects on audiences for whom the messaging could potentially be useful (i.e., adults who use combustible products) and on those for whom the messaging could have negative consequences (e.g., youth).

**Deadline:** Dec. 6, 5 p.m. local time of applicant organization.

*If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please send those to us at [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

## Job Listings

### [Narrative Coordinator, TPCP](#)

Wisconsin DHS & UW  
Population Health Institute  
Remote

### [Tobacco Disparities and Health Equity Coordinator](#)

Wisconsin Department of  
Health Services  
Madison, WI

## 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](#)

- **ALA** recently [released a new podcast episode featuring advice from Delaney McMath from the Colorado Department of Health](#) on working in tobacco control, specifically on cessation coverage.

## State News

- The **Oklahoma** House [voted to override Governor Kevin Stitt's veto of a bill](#) that extends agreements on selling tobacco for another year, now allowing any tribe with an existing agreement on tobacco sales to extend the terms of that agreement until Dec. 31, 2024.

## In the News

- *Reuters* [reports that in JUUL Labs' latest premarket tobacco product application submitted to the FDA](#) on July 18, Juul Labs said it was seeking to sell tobacco-flavored pods at a nicotine concentration of less than 2%.
- A new World Health Organization report highlights that 5.6 billion people, [71% of the world's population, are now protected with at least one tobacco control measure](#) to help save lives from deadly tobacco—five times more than in 2007.

## Research

- A recent study published in the *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* examining variations in cigarette smoking status, home smoking and vaping rules, and

[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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attitudes toward smoking rules [found that although most multiunit housing \(MUH\) residents who currently smoked lived in privately rented \(66.9%\) or privately owned \(17.6%\) housing](#), a substantial proportion (15.5%) lived in publicly sponsored housing.

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of Population Assessment on Tobacco and Health Study data concluded that, upon adjusting for sociodemographic variables, [respondents who received a coupon were found to be more likely to initiate established cigarette smoking](#) at follow-up.
- An RCT published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* found that [varenicline resulted in the highest Week 12 abstinence rates across all pharmacotherapies](#) and compared to placebo in all comorbidity subgroups: cardiac, respiratory, vascular, and diabetes. This was maintained at Week 24 for those with cardiac, vascular, and diabetes comorbidities.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis using data from Truth Initiative's flavor policy database and NielsenIQ retailer scanners for California, Illinois, Massachusetts, and New York found that a [25% increase in the percentage of the population covered by a flavored cigar sales restriction](#) was associated with a decrease in per capita all cigar sales of 15%–19%.

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