

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 TCN website's [Resources Page](#) has been updated and now provides options to browse by subject-matter categories and date of publication.
- The TCN Mentoring Program is looking for mentors! TCN program managers are encouraged to complete the [intake form](#) and take part in this important peer-to-peer learning opportunity as a mentor. At least two years of program manager experience is required.

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:

- **Mandy Burkett (OH)** – 10 years.
- **Jenny Wong (CA)** – 8 years.
- **Barbara Fickel (PA)** – 4 years.
- **Christy Knight (AK)** – 3 years.
- **Sierra Phelps (SD)** – 3 years.
- **Courtlandt L. Fouche' (GA)** – 2 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

[Marijuana Use and Nicotine](#) —
Mayo Nicotine Dependence
Center
Webinar
Dec. 11, 1 – 2 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Motivational Interviewing for
Health Behavior Change](#) —
Mayo Nicotine Dependence
Center
Virtual Training Event
Dec. 12 – 13 | *Registration
Required*

[Comprehensive Plans, Zoning,
and the Intersection with
Commercial Tobacco
Regulation | Public Health Law
Center](#) — Public Health Law
Center
Webinar
Dec. 14, 2 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

- **Kirsten Skelly (RI)** – 2 years.
- **Heidi Glesmann (WA)** – 1 year.

Partner Announcements

- The following announcements are from **CDC**:
 - CDC's Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) released [Menthol Fact Sheets](#) for all 50 states and the District of Columbia. These fact sheets were developed to help OSH awardees and partners with their programmatic planning and educational efforts, given the significant risk menthol cigarettes pose to public health.
 - A recent *Preventing Chronic Disease* analysis of 2018 – 2019 Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey data found that the [percentage of adults who currently smoked cigarettes and were interested in quitting ranged from 68.2% in Alabama to 87.5% in Connecticut](#); made a past-year quit attempt ranged from 44.1% in Tennessee to 62.8% in Rhode Island; and reported recent successful cessation ranged from 4.6% in West Virginia and Wisconsin to 10.8% in South Dakota.
 - A recent analysis published in CDC's *Morbidity & Mortality Weekly Report* [highlights COPD prevalence data](#) among adults 75 years and older, those living in rural areas, as well as disparities based on residences.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA [issued warning letters to seven online retailers](#) for selling and/or distributing unauthorized e-cigarettes which are packaged to look like youth-appealing toys

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training and Certification](#) –
Mayo Nicotine Dependence Center
Virtual Training
Jan. 16 – 18, 2024
| *Registration Required*

[Virginia Conference on Youth Tobacco Use: New Challenges and Innovative Solutions](#) –
Virginia Youth Tobacco Projects Research Coalition
Richmond, Virginia
Apr. 15 – 16, 2024 | Save the Date

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) – Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth & Prevention Connections
Reston, Virginia
Sept. 30 – Oct. 2, 2024 | Save the Date

Upcoming Events

[Director of the Bureau of Tobacco Control](#)
New York State Department of Health
County: [Albany](#), [Erie](#), [New York](#), [Onondaga](#)

[Youth Initiative Coordinator \(Job ID: 71580\)](#)
Minnesota Department of Health
St. Paul, MN

[Health Education Specialist](#)
Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services
Helena, MT

[Public Health Program Coordinator](#)
Alpine County Administration
Markleeville, CA

[Youth Tobacco Prevention Program Manager](#)
CADCA
Alexandria, VA

and drink containers, including milk cartons, soft drink bottles, and slushies.

- FDA [filed for scientific review modified risk tobacco product \(MRTP\) application renewals](#) submitted by Swedish Match USA for the General Snus products.
- The following announcements are from **Public Health Law Center**:
 - In a [recent blog post](#), Public Health Law Center overviews how products such as flavor cards demonstrate the tobacco industry's determination to seize any opportunity to retain their customers and are just another tactic used to circumvent flavor bans.
 - The Public Health Law Center released a new resource that [overviews the nicotine-free generation endgame approach](#), highlights a few examples where this approach has been adopted or proposed around the world, and describes legal issues to keep in mind when considering a nicotine-free generation policy.
- The **National Behavioral Health Network** for Tobacco and Cancer Control released an infographic on [Menthol and Mental Health](#).
- As part of a newly funded NIH/FDA initiative, the **Rutgers Center of Excellence in Rapid Surveillance of Tobacco** is asking partners to share this [flyer](#) with schools. The goal is to have schools [share images of their confiscated products](#) to understand in real-time which products youth are using and inform national data collection and enforcement efforts.

State News

Funding Opportunities

[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 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.

[Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment or Prevention for alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs use and misuse in adult populations that experience health disparities](#) – NIH

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Disease Prevention and participating Institutes, Centers, and Offices are inviting applications for research projects that test innovative approaches to implementing Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment or Prevention (SBIRT/P) for alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs use and misuse in adult populations that experience health disparities.

This R01 funding opportunity will support clinical trial research that develops and prospectively tests

- Voters in **Colorado** approved Proposition II, [allowing the state to spend excess revenue from tobacco and nicotine products](#) on expanding access to the state's free preschool program.

In the News

- Eighty national public health groups, including ASTHO, the American Heart Association, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Preventative Medicine, [placed a full-page ad in a recent edition of the Washington Post](#) in support of a federal ban on menthol in cigarettes and all flavored cigars.
- New Zealand's [plan to repeal what would have been some of the world's toughest tobacco laws](#) has attracted widespread criticism from health experts. Among the raft of measures include a ban on selling tobacco to anyone born after January 1, 2009, a reduction of the amount of nicotine allowed in smoked tobacco products, and a 90% cut in the number of retailers able to sell tobacco.

Research

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of Instagram posts related to synthetic nicotine found that [nicotine pouches, electronic nicotine delivery systems, and flavored e-liquids were most commonly promoted](#), with 16.1% of posts containing embedded hyperlinks and 5.8% providing contact information for purported offline transactions.

implementation strategies that overcome barriers to SBIRT/P in diverse settings. Projects are strongly encouraged to include robust engagement with relevant health care and community partners and examine organizational and system contexts.

Deadline: Feb. 5, 2024

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.

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

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis which examined the role of disclosed and undisclosed industry support on tobacco harm reduction (THR) publications via social network analysis, concluded that [20% of authors were supported by industry with industry-sponsored authors having twice as many publications](#) and 1.25 times as many collaborators on publications.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis in which adult tobacco/nicotine users administered standardized puffs of 18 different e-cigarette solutions in randomized sequences, found that [adding synthetic coolant WS-23 to e-cigarettes produced higher liking](#), willingness to use again, smoothness, and coolness and lower disliking, bitterness, and harshness ratings.

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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