

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network](#) (TCN) and our partners.

[View this email in your browser](#)



TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

TCN Announcements

- On Feb. 6 and 7, the TCN Executive Committee convened in-person for the first of two TCN business meetings scheduled for this term to strategize around the Network's priorities for the 2023 – 2024 term.



- An [Events](#) page is now available on the TCN Website. The page is listed as a drop-down menu on the About tab and can also be navigated via the [Home](#) and [Partners](#) pages. Please share

*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

[Mindfulness Training for Smokers](#) – Duke-UNC Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training Program
Durham, NC
Feb. 22 – 23 | *Registration Required*

[Comprehensive Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) – Duke-UNC Virtual Training Event
March 18 – 26, 2024
| *Registration Required*

[Products on the Shelves: An Overview of the Tobacco & Nicotine Products Available Today](#) – MCHES of the MaineHealth Center for Tobacco Independence Webinar
Mar. 27, 12 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

events to tcn@astho.org.

- The TCN Mentoring Program is looking for mentors! TCN program managers are encouraged to take part in this important peer-to-peer learning opportunity as a mentor. At least two years of program manager experience is required. Please email tcn@astho.org to request an intake form.

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)** – 12 years
- **Candace Koshiba (PW)** – 7 years.
- **Emily Carlson (AZ)** – 5 years.
- **Tanya Wells (VT)** – 4 years.
- **Heidi Glesmann (WA)** – 2 years.
- **Mica Moeller (WY)** – 2 years.

Partner Announcements

- The **African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council** held a Menthol Funeral on January 18, 2024, in Washington, D.C. View event highlights [here](#).
- The **National Association of Chronic Disease Directors** [announced the winners of this year's esteemed Impact Awards](#), highlighted during the Association's Annual Business Meeting. Congratulations to current program manager, Grace Bordallo, and former program manager,

[Virginia Conference on Youth Tobacco Use: New Challenges and Innovative Solutions](#) –

Virginia Youth Tobacco Projects Research Coalition
Richmond, Virginia
Apr. 15 – 16 | Save the Date

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) –

Virgina Foundation for Healthy Youth & Prevention Connections
Reston, Virginia
Sept. 30 – Oct. 2 | Save the Date

Job Opportunities

[Project Manager, Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery](#)

CAI

New York, NY (preferred), may also be based in any of CAI's other offices

Funding Opportunities

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

Elizabeth Guerrero, with the Guam Bureau of Non-Communicable Disease for being awarded the Health Equity Champion Award!

- **CDC Office on Smoking & Health** [released an article which introduces readers to the seven new people](#) in the 2024 *Tips* campaign. The first flight of ads launched on February 5 and will run through September 22 on national broadcast and cable TV, and on digital and social media channels. The ads can be found and requested for use in the [Media Campaign Resource Center](#).
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative [shares helpful tips and proven-effective tools](#) for young people to quit vaping.
 - Truth Initiative [released a fact sheet overviewing prevalence of smoking](#) among Hispanic or Latino individuals in the United States based on data from the 2022 Census.
 - A recent Truth Initiative resource [presents a quarterly breakdown](#) on the current state of U.S. jurisdictions with policies on flavored tobacco products.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA's Center for Tobacco Products and NIH's National Institute on Drug Abuse [announced the continuation of the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health \(PATH\) Study](#) through the award of a contract to Westat. The continuation of the PATH Study, through this third contract, provides further opportunities for researchers to use study data to advance knowledge about tobacco use and its impact on health.
 - FDA issued [marketing denial orders](#) to Fontem US LLC., for four blu Disposable and one myblu brand e-cigarette products. The denied products include a closed

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

menthol e-liquid and several flavored disposable e-cigarettes.

- FDA [issued warning letters](#) to 14 online retailers for selling unauthorized e-cigarette products which cite the sale of disposable e-cigarette products marketed under the brand names such as Elf Bar/EB Design, Lava Plus, Funky Republic/Funky Lands, Lost Mary, Cali Bars, Cali Plus, and Kangvape.
 - FDA has issued complaints for [civil money penalties \(CMPs\) against 21 brick and mortar retailers](#) for the sale of unauthorized Esco Bars e-cigarettes, a popular youth-appealing brand. FDA previously issued each retailer a warning letter for their sale of unauthorized tobacco products. However, follow-up inspections revealed that the retailers had failed to correct the violations, and the agency is now seeking the maximum penalty amount of \$20,678 from each retailer.
 - To help advance health equity and facilitate the reduction of tobacco-related health disparities for all people, FDA recently launched a [Spanish-language version](#) of the Vaping Prevention and Education Resource Center.
- The **Indian Health Services** and the **National Cancer Institute** launched [SmokefreeNATIVE](#), a new, free evidence-based text-messaging tool for American Indian and Alaska Native adults and adolescents who want to quit smoking commercial tobacco. This [social media toolkit](#) can help you promote the new service.
 - The following announcements are from **Geographic Health Equity Alliance**:
 - The Geographic Health Equity Alliance [published an article on the tobacco industry's history of targeting rural areas](#) by offering discounts and special sales, tailored advertising, sponsoring
-

cultural events such as rodeos, and placing commercial tobacco products in discount stores.

- **The National Coalition Institute**, a **CADCA** initiative sponsored by the Office of National Drug Control Policy, [hosted a Research into Action webinar](#) featuring Veronica Chaitan from **The Center for Public Health Systems Science Brown School at Washington University** in St. Louis, in which Veronica discussed the existing tobacco retail environment in 30 major U.S. cities and the effect of retail reduction policies.
- In a recent scientific letter, "[Place Based Inequities in Cigarette Smoking Across the US](#)", researchers characterized inequities in cigarette smoking in 500 of the largest U.S. cities.
- **Emory Centers for Public Health Training and Technical Assistance** released [a 30-minute online course which focuses on practical strategies to eliminate obstacles to proven tobacco cessation methods](#), with an emphasis on populations with low socioeconomic status characteristics. This course equips learners with the tools to assist individuals in quitting tobacco regardless of where they are in the behavior change process.

State News

- **Ohio** lawmakers [voted to override Governor Mike DeWine's veto of a bill that would prevent local governments](#) across the Buckeye State from banning flavored vape and tobacco products. Starting April 23, cities will no longer be able to regulate tobacco sales in city jurisdiction.

- The **Hawaii** County council [passed a bill which prohibits the sale of all flavored tobacco products](#) if and when a state law that preempts localities from regulating or restricting the sale and use of tobacco products is overturned or suspended.
- The Cumberland County Board of Commissioners in **North Carolina** unanimously [passed new restrictions on vape and hemp shops](#) as part of what Chairman Glenn Adams has described as efforts to address nicotine consumption among youth.

In the News

- A *CNN* article reports on the Liberty Policy Foundation [launching a mid-six-figure ad campaign in South Carolina and other states to test the impact](#) of opposing the proposed FDA menthol cigarette ban on President Biden's Black voter support.

Research

- An analysis of 84 children who lived with those who smoke, published in the *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology*, found that [nearly half of children's home surfaces had detectable NNK and 100% had detectable nicotine](#). Children with household incomes \leq \$15,000 also had higher surface NNK levels, compared to children with household incomes $>$ \$15,000.
- A randomized controlled within-subject-design analysis, published in *Psychopharmacology*, concluded that [short bouts of indoor or outdoor exercise can help reduce cigarette cravings](#) and increase well-being in those who smoke but are

temporarily abstinent.

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of adults who smoke cigarettes and [viewed an On! brochure and an image of an opened nicotine pouch](#), identified the [following central themes](#): (1) participants perceived the concealability, flavors, and packaging of On! as appealing to youth and young adults; (2) participants perceived nicotine pouches as a product that would supplement rather than replace tobacco use; and (3) the product raised health concerns, which decreased interest in trying nicotine pouches.

Feel free to [forward this communication](#) or encourage others to [subscribe directly](#).

This message was intended for << Test Email Address >>. If you believe this has been sent to you in error, please [unsubscribe](#) or [update your subscription preferences](#).

Our address:

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

