

TCN Newsletter for December 11, 2024

TCN Announcements

- Due to the year-end holidays, there will not be a second TCN newsletter released for the month of December. Be on the lookout for the next TCN newsletter to be released on Wednesday, January 8, 2025. We wish all TCN members happy holidays!
- **TCN Office Hours Event: Framing Tobacco Disparities and Health Equity (Part-Two)**
On **Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 3-4 p.m. ET**, Dr. Julie Sweetland with FrameWorks Institute will return to present on how to build effective policy narratives in any political environment for specific policies that reduce disparities in tobacco-related health burdens, including menthol restrictions, smoke-free behavioral health settings, and tobacco retail licensing. Attendees will have opportunities to learn how to shape conversations around tobacco disparities for successful outcomes, review available resources, ask questions, and participate in the discussion. This TCN Office Hours event will be the second session of a two-part series on framing tobacco disparities and health equity. Registration for this event is required. [Please register here.](#)

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)** – 11 years
- **Jenny Wong (CA)** – 9 years
- **Candace Koshiba (PW)** – 8 years
- **Barbara Fickel (PA)** – 5 years
- **Christy Knight (AK)** – 4 years
- **Sierra Phelps (SD)** – 4 years
- **Courtlandt L. Fouche (GA)** – 3 years
- **Kirsten Skelly (RI)** – 3 years

Partner Announcements

- **CDC's Leadership and Sustainability School** is a nine-month cohort program from late March 2025 through September 2025 that offers a combination of training and networking opportunities grounded in evidence-based practices, promising strategies, and health equity. To review eligibility requirements and apply, please view the [application](#).

- Produced in partnership between **Truth Initiative** and the **CDC Foundation**, [Monitoring E-Cigarette Trends in the United States: Urgent Action Needed to Protect Kids from Flavored E-Cigarettes](#), looks at the dangerous rise of youth-appealing flavored e-cigarettes and how states can protect young people from the risks associated with e-cigarette use.
- **FrameWorks Institute**, in collaboration with longtime partners at [Constructive](#), launched a [new website](#), designed to make it easier for you to find what you're looking for—whether that be resources, opportunities to connect, or general information on the science of framing.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA's Center for Tobacco Products Director, Dr. Brian King, authored a new FDA Voices blog titled "[Youth Tobacco Product Use Continues to Decline as FDA Actions Build Momentum.](#)"
 - FDA announced the issuance of warning letters to [115 brick-and-mortar retailers for selling unauthorized e-cigarette products](#), which cite the sale of disposable e-cigarette products marketed under popular brand names, including Geek Bar Pulse, Geek Bar Skyview, Geek Bar Platinum, and Elf Bar.
 - FDA announced the agency is seeking fines against [two brick and mortar retailers and 16 online retailers](#) who have continued to break the law.
 - In response to continued public interest, the comment period for the October 21, 2024, [public meeting](#), "Advancing Smoking Cessation: FDA and NIH Priorities," has re-opened on Regulations.gov. All interested parties are welcome to [submit comments to the public docket](#) by Dec. 20.
- **Geographic Health Equity Alliance** published an article [discussing the surge of illegal e-cigarettes](#) flooding the market and how public health organizations can respond.
- On its [recent podcast](#), **North Carolinians for a Tobacco-Free Generation** was joined by David Willard to highlight the significance of building partnerships with youth organizations and emphasize the need for consistent messaging and creative strategies to foster a tobacco-free generation.

State News

- The Columbus City Attorney's office in **Ohio** [filed a lawsuit against a smoke shop](#), accusing the store of illegally selling tobacco to teens and violating the city's flavored tobacco ban.
- The new *WRAL* documentary, "[Gen V: Teen Vaping in North Carolina](#)," investigates the alarming rise of teen vaping across the state.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis which evaluated adolescents' use of flavored tobacco before and after enactment of the **California** ban on retail sale of most flavored tobacco products, found that [the prevalence of flavored product use declined for cigarettes](#) (2022: 72%; 2023: 57.2%), cigars (2022: 87.2%; 2023: 67.4%), and smokeless tobacco (2022: 93.1%; 2023: 83.1%) but not for e-cigarettes.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis of interviews with clinicians, staff, and health system leaders from five pediatric primary care clinics in Minneapolis–St. Paul, **Minnesota** which [identified facilitators and barriers to addressing parental tobacco use in minoritized families](#) found that within the clinical encounter, barriers included linguistic and cultural barriers, health

system navigational challenges, medical mistrust, low levels of clinician and staff knowledge, skills, and confidence, time constraints, and lack of alignment with external metrics.

News

- *NBC News* reports on how [the Supreme Court is reviewing whether the FDA unlawfully denied approval for flavored e-cigarettes](#), with key justices questioning the agency's changing standards and its impact on public health.
- *Duke Today* highlights how Brandy Palmer, a university employee, [quit vaping through Duke's employee wellness program](#), LIVE FOR LIFE.

Research

- An analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) study data, published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Control* concluded that [transitioning from cigarettes to e-cigarettes was associated with increased rates of wheeze resolution](#) but not cough resolution compared with persistent smoking.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of moisture, total nicotine and pH content in 70 commercially available 'tobacco-free' nicotine products (TFN) found that [nicotine levels were highest in nicotine pouches \(1.41–8.11 mg/product\) and lowest in toothpicks \(1.19–1.57 mg/product\)](#) with the majority of TFN products (91.4%) analyzed were advertised to contain flavor components.
- A [recent commentary](#), published in *The American Journal of Medicine*, provides a landscape of current cessation strategies and the complexities introduced by new tobacco and nicotine products, highlighting that despite the evolving landscape, clinicians can use simple principles when discussing tobacco use and cessation with patients.

Upcoming Events

For more Tobacco Control Network events and deadlines, please visit the [TCN Events](#) page!

[The Rising Zynfluence of Nicotine Pouches: Understanding the Latest Trend in Harmful Tobacco Products](#)

– Public Health Law Center

Webinar

Dec. 18, 12:30 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Certified Tobacco Treatment Training Program](#) – The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Virtual/Houston, TX

January 13 – 17, 2025 | *Registration Required*

[New Commercial Tobacco Control Program Managers Community of Practice](#) – Tobacco Control Training

Collaborative

Virtual Training

Jan. 15, 2025, and Jan. 29, 2025, 1-2:30 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[TCN Office Hours Event: Framing Tobacco Disparities and Health Equity \(Part-Two\)](#) – ASTHO &

FrameWorks Institute

Webinar

Jan. 22, 3 – 4 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[The Hazards of E-Cigarette Waste in the State of New York: Problems and Solutions](#) – Public Health Law Center

Webinar

Jan. 23, 2025, 1 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[What's Menthol Got to Do With It? Exploring the Health, Equity, and Advocacy Impacts on Children, Youth, and Families](#) - American Academy of Pediatrics

Webinar

Jan. 23, 2025, 10:30-11:30 a.m. CT | *Registration Required*

[Tools to Guide Coalition Development Videoconference \(VC#3 of the Coalitions in Commercial Tobacco Control: Building Blocks for Success Series\)](#) – Tobacco Control Training Collaborative

Virtual Training

Jan. 30, 2025, 1-5 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment in Adolescent and Young Adult Populations](#) – Duke-UNC

Virtual Training

Jan. 14, 2025 | *Registration Required*

[Hybrid Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Education Program

Jacksonville, FL

Feb. 4 – 6, 2025 | *Registration Required*

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[Motivational Interviewing Workshop](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Education Program

Jacksonville, FL

Feb. 7 – 8, 2025 | *Registration Required*

[2025 Agents of Change Summit](#) – Rescue Agency

San Diego

Feb. 24 – 25, 2025 | *Registration Required*

[31st Nicotine Dependence Center Conference 2025: The Evolving Tobacco Landscape and Implications for Policy and Practice](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Education Program

Phoenix, AZ

March 27 – 29, 2025 | *Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

[Tobacco, Alcohol, and Cannabis Policy Research for Health Equity](#) – The National Cancer Institute

Deadline: Feb. 5, 2025

The National Cancer Institute seeks to support policy research projects that examine new or adapted policies pertaining to tobacco, alcohol, and/or cannabis in the United States, with a particular focus on how the policy or policies influence tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis use or secondhand exposure among populations experiencing disparities. The results of funded projects are expected to advance equitable tobacco, alcohol, and cannabis policies.

[Quit & Thrive Challenge: Community-Derived Solutions to Reduce Menthol Cigarette Smoking](#) – ODP and CDC

Deadline: Feb. 28, 2025

ODP and CDC are sponsoring Quit & Thrive Challenge: Community-Derived Solutions to Reduce Menthol Cigarette Smoking to enhance the evidence base of interventions to help individuals from populations experiencing health disparities quit smoking, with a specific emphasis on menthol cigarettes. The Challenge encourages submissions from local and state organizations and agencies to highlight promising community-led solutions to address menthol cigarette smoking. Up to nine prizes of \$100,000 each will be awarded to organizations with the most successful or innovative community-led strategies.

Join ODP and CDC for a [pre-application webinar](#) on **Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. ET**. Please email your questions to ODP-QuitThriveChallenge@nih.gov at least 24 hours before the webinar.

If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs and/or their partners, please send those to us at tcn@astho.org.

Job Postings

[Director of Tobacco Cessation](#)

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Wake County, NC

[Regional Technical Advisor](#)

CDC Foundation
Remote

[Tobacco Prevention Regional Manager](#) (ID: 40009728)

Durham County Department of Public Health
Durham, NC

[Regional Tobacco Control Manager](#)

Mecklenburg County Public Health Department
On-site with Travel (Region 4)

[Provider Outreach Specialist](#)

RVO Health
Remote (Georgia and Florida only)

[Health Education Outreach Coordinator](#)

Lutheran Community Services (for Delaware Quitline)
Wilmington, DE