

TCN Newsletter for January 15, 2024

TCN Announcements

- **TCN Office Hours Event: Framing Tobacco Disparities and Health Equity (Part Two)**
On **Wednesday, Jan. 22, from 3-4 p.m. ET**, Julie Sweetland with FrameWorks Institute will 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 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.](#)

Partner Announcements

- The following announcements are from **CDC**:
 - 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](#).
 - CDC recently [released an article](#) in the *American Journal of Health Promotion* which highlights that building capacity to develop and test multi-level, culturally grounded cessation interventions that address relevant social determinants of health may advance commercial tobacco cessation efforts in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.
 - A [new CDC feature article](#) encourages people to make their new year smokefree and highlights counseling and medicines to help you quit smoking for good. It includes information about the benefits of quitting smoking and treatments and free resources available to help.
- The following announcements are from **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids**:
 - The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids—along with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, and Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights and Truth Initiative—released their [annual report](#) assessing FY25 state tobacco prevention and cessation program funding compared to CDC-recommended funding levels.
 - Please find [here](#) the current Regional Advocacy Director (RAD) map. RADs lead efforts in their respective regions, driving for policy change to reduce the use and harm of commercial tobacco products. Program managers can reach out to these contacts for their subject matter expertise on addressing commercial tobacco use, access to regional resources and trends, and more.
- **The Center for Black Health and Equity** is [accepting abstracts](#) for the State of Black Health 2025: A Call for Health Justice. Abstracts are due Feb. 7.
- The following announcements are from **Public Health Law Center**:

- Public Health Law Center [recently updated its map](#) and chart that overview U.S. state laws requiring tobacco-free grounds for mental health and substance use disorder programs.
- Public Health Law Center’s new [fact sheet](#) and [webinar](#) address common questions about pharmacists’ roles in cessation services including prescribing FDA-approved tobacco cessation products.
- Public Health Law Center’s [updated resource](#) offers guidance for organizations aiming to create effective and enforceable tobacco-free campus policies.
- **Truth Initiative** unveiled their new campaign, [Outsmart Nicotine](#), that empowers young people to break the cycle of nicotine addiction for good with an enhanced [EX Program](#), a comprehensive digital quitting resource developed with Mayo Clinic.
- **North American Quitline Consortium** released an [infographic](#) and an [executive summary](#) to provide key findings and highlights for the quitline community from the Surgeon General’s 35th report, [Eliminating Tobacco-Related Disease and Death: Addressing Disparities](#).
- The Utah Department of Health & Human Services released a resource called [Comprehensive Drug-Free Policy Guide for Schools](#) and a [supplemental resource](#) specific for school nurses.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA announced the update of two import alerts, [98-07](#) and [98-06](#). These updates separate imported e-cigarette products from all other tobacco products and provide clearer instructions to FDA staff in the field, as well as our federal partners and the wider trade community—including importers, customs brokers, filers, and others.
 - FDA issued “[Validation and Verification of Analytical Testing Methods Used for Tobacco Products](#),” a final guidance providing tobacco manufacturers with information and recommendations to aid tobacco product application submissions.

State News

- The following announcements are from **Massachusetts**:
 - Three state lawmakers said they are planning to file the Nicotine Free Generation Bill, which would [prohibit the sale of tobacco or nicotine products](#) to anyone born after a specific date.
 - The Board of Health in Northampton [passed a regulation](#) to move all nicotine pouch sales to adult-only stores. The regulation will take effect Jan. 1, 2025.
- The city council in Denver, **Colorado** will [vote soon on a bill to prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products](#) (hookah is exempt) and eliminate penalties for underage purchase, use, or possession of tobacco products.
- The **Michigan** state Senate [passed bills](#) to create a state tobacco retail license and remove penalties for purchase, use, or possession. Both bills now head to the state House for consideration.

- In a [recent episode](#) of the **North Carolinians for a Tobacco-Free Generation Podcast**, Rachael Joyner (Nurse Practitioner, Duke Cancer Institute) and Jim Martin (Director of Policy and Programs, NC Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch) highlight the significant progress made in supporting people on their journey to quit tobacco as well as tobacco control policies across North Carolina, including creating tobacco-free schools, banning smoking in restaurants and bars, and increasing the minimum smoking age to 21.

News

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Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of NielsenIQ retail scanner data found that among disposable e-cigarettes sold between January 2017 and September 2022, [average product volume capacity increased 518% from 1.1 mL to 5.7 mL](#) and average nicotine strength increased from 1.7% to 5%.

Upcoming Events

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

[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*

[The Role of Computational Models on Assessing the Population Health Consequences of Menthol Cigarettes and the Benefits of a Menthol Ban](#) – NIH Office of Disease Prevention

Webinar

Jan. 21, 1 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

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

Webinar

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

[A National Perspective on Hookah, & the Negative Impact of California's Hookah Exemption](#) – African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council

Webinar

Jan. 22, 5 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, 11:30-12:30 a.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[2024 Cessation Updates: Year in Review](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center at UCSF

Webinar

Jan. 29, 1-2:15 p.m. ET | *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, 1-5 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

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

Jacksonville, FL

Feb. 4 – 6 | *Registration Required*

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

Jacksonville, FL

Feb. 7 – 8 | *Registration Required*

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

San Diego

Feb. 24 – 25 | *Registration Required*

[10th Annual National Eliminate Tobacco Use Summit](#) – The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center

Austin, TX

March 6 | *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 | *Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

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

Deadline: Feb. 5

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.

[Tobacco-Free Recovery Learning Community](#) – National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (CoE-TFR)

Deadline: Feb. 14, at 11:59 p.m. ET

CoE-TFR invites state public health authorities and behavioral health divisions to apply to participate in

a Tobacco-Free Recovery Learning Community. This initiative aims to reduce commercial tobacco use among people with mental health and substance use challenges. The initiative will support your team in mobilizing community partners, stakeholders, and people with lived experience to develop and implement a statewide tobacco-free recovery action plan to continue to reduce the rates of commercial tobacco use among people with behavioral health conditions.

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

Deadline: Feb. 28

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.

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

Deadline: April 24th

The Truth Initiative Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program is offering grants of up to \$20,000 to colleges and universities to support the adoption and implementation of a 100% tobacco/vape-free policy. Grantees of the Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program receive guidance through webinars, an in-person training and one-on-one consultations throughout the grant period. Since 2015, the Tobacco/Vape-Free College Program has provided funding to more than 220 colleges, universities and college systems to advocate for and adopt a 100% tobacco-free policy.

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