

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

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*News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network*

### **TCN Announcements**

- TCN, in collaboration with Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, worked with select state tobacco program managers to [document their successes made possible with the support of OSH funding](#) and the consequences of its reduction or loss. These anecdotes can serve as compelling examples for other states and jurisdictions to reference and illuminate in communications with legislators and other decision-makers at the state and federal levels.

*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.*

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### **Upcoming Events**

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

### **Help Your Peers Requests**

#### **Supporting Elementary Schools to Respond to Youth Vaping**

**Deadline:** May 2

Oregon is interested in learning how other states are supporting elementary schools to respond to youth vaping. Elementary school staff have reported needing more resources related to vaping but find that almost all content is designed for grades 6 and higher. OR is interested in learning from peers about evidence-based tobacco prevention materials, school policies, etc. that are used to support elementary school staff, parents, and students.

#### **RFP for ATS Contracts**

**Deadline:** May 6

DC Health Tobacco Control Program's contract with their current ATS vendor will end, and as such we are beginning to work on the next RFP. They would like to hear states' responses to the following questions: 1. Do you have any copy of requests for proposals or ATS contracts that you are willing to share? 2. What are some resources and best practices you used when drafting your ATS RFP and contract?

[Addressing Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Among People with Disabilities: Insights and Interventions](#) – NAQC

Webinar

May 1, 1 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

[Mindfulness Training for Smokers Facilitator Training](#) – Duke-UNC

Tobacco Treatment

Specialist Program

Online Training

May 6, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) –

University of Kentucky

Virtual Training

May 7 | *Registration*

*Required*

[Certified Tobacco Treatment Training Program](#) –

The University of Texas MD Anderson Center

Virtual Training

June 9 – 13 | *Registration*

*Required*

[Tobacco Treatment](#)

## Partner Announcements

- The Tobacco Control Network worked with select state tobacco program managers to document their successes made possible with the support of OSH funding and the consequences of its reduction or loss. These anecdotes can serve as compelling examples for other states and jurisdictions to reference and illuminate in communications with legislators and other decision-makers at the state and federal levels.
- **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** released two recent fact sheets:  
1) [\*Eliminating CDC's Office on Smoking and Health Will Undercut State Tobacco Control Programs and Increase Tobacco-Caused Death and Disease\*](#) and 2) [\*Support CDC and its Office on Smoking and Health: A \\$310 Million Investment To Protect Kids And Reduce Tobacco Caused Disease\*](#).
- The following announcements are from **NAQC**:
  - NAQC developed a [document](#) outlining key

[Specialist Training](#) –  
University of Kentucky  
Virtual Training  
June 25 | *Registration  
Required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – NNPHI  
Chicago, IL  
Aug. 26 – 28 | *Registration  
Required*

[State of Black Health 2025:  
A Call for Health Justice](#) –  
The Center for Black  
Health & Equity  
Charlotte, NC  
Sept. 15 – 18 | *Registration  
Required*

## Job Opportunities

[Virtual Health Coach -  
Preventative Services](#)  
RVO Health  
Remote

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

talking points designed to support quitline administrators in educating stakeholders, partners, and decision-makers about the critical role quitlines play in promoting commercial tobacco cessation. The document highlights how quitlines provide evidence-based services, enhance access to treatment, and contribute to better public health outcomes — particularly for communities disproportionately impacted by commercial tobacco. These talking points can help effectively convey the importance of continued investment in quitlines as an essential part of a comprehensive strategy to reduce harm associated with commercial tobacco.

- Project ENGAGE developed a **free** one-hour online course to equip tobacco treatment specialists with strategies to confidently educate clients (who are eligible) about lung cancer screening. [Register](#)

## Funding Opportunities

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

**Deadline:** April 24

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, please send*

[here.](#)

- Illinois [Attorney General Kwame Raoul](#) announced \$24 million from the [2023 Juul Labs settlement](#) will support efforts by **Truth Initiative** to provide Illinois youth with vital resources for vaping prevention and cessation through Truth Initiative's EX Program, the Vaping: Know the truth curriculum, and a targeted media campaign.
- Liz Williams with **Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights** recently posted a [new, brief video that shares steps individuals can follow](#) if they find themselves suffering from exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke in their apartment or condo.
- According to **The Center for Rapid Surveillance of Tobacco** (CRST), Zimo nicotine pouches made various health-related claims about nicotine use on their Instagram last month; no accompanying evidence to support these claims was included. This aligns with trends CRST has observed of brands making performance enhancement and other false claims about the use of

those to us  
at [tcn@astho.org](mailto: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.

nicotine. If you are looking for images of tobacco products for educational purposes, CRST has released [an Image Library](#) featuring images of confiscated tobacco products from their Youth Tobacco Monitoring Project.

- **American Lung Association** released [Talking to Your Child About Vaping: A Guide for Parents, Guardians, and Caregivers](#), a free one-hour interactive online learning module designed to help parents, guardians, and caregivers talk to their child about vaping and nicotine in the best possible way. This course is ideal for parents, guardians or caregivers of children ages 8 to 20, and parents, guardians, or caregivers of children who have a history of using tobacco and nicotine products.
- The [National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) convened by the **National Network of Public Health Institutes** is still on for August 26-28 in Chicago!
- **The Center for Black Health & Equity** will be hosting No Menthol

### 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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Sunday (NMS) on May 18, its annual call to action that highlights the detrimental impact tobacco has on Black communities.

Visit [nomentholsunday.org](https://nomentholsunday.org) to register your NMS event and access other resources.

### State News

- The **Oregon** Court of Appeals [upheld Multnomah County's law ending the sale of flavored tobacco products](#), finding that it is not preempted by state law.
- A bill was introduced in **Arkansas** that would [prohibit the sale of disposable e-cigarettes](#) unless approved by the FDA.
- Lawmakers in **Washington** filed [two bills which would prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products](#) in the state, with the exception of flavored hookah tobacco. The bills would also increase taxes on cigarettes by \$2 per pack.

- A **California** bill was introduced that would improve enforcement of the statewide law on flavored tobacco products by [increasing the fees that tobacco retailers pay each year from \\$265 to \\$600 a year](#) to maintain and enhance enforcement operations.

## News

- Amid the 10,000 job cuts so far this month at the U.S. health department, what happened to OSH is “[the greatest gift to the tobacco industry in the last half century](#),” said Tim McAfee, who headed the division from 2010 to 2017, in a recent *STAT* article.
- A [new video](#), created by InvestigateTV and posted by many news stations, details schools across the United States deal with e-cigarette use by students. While the report focuses on student restroom vape detectors, it also includes information on less punitive approaches.

## Research



- A randomized control trial of adults in NORC's AmeriSpeak panel, published in *Tobacco Control*, found that [exposure to three doses of nicotine corrective messages reduced false beliefs](#) on nicotine, nicotine replacement therapy, e-cigarettes, and reduced nicotine content cigarette, compared with the control, controlling for baseline beliefs.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health study data concluded that [individuals with previous smoking history \(vs no\) had lower cessation rates](#), as did participants who reported daily e-cigarette use. Vaping cessation was also associated with a significant improvement in quality of life and mental health outcomes.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis which tested the effects of exposure to e-cigarettes with WS-23 or menthol cooling additives on user appeal and sensory attributes highlighted that [WS-23 produced higher liking, willingness to use again, smoothness, and coolness](#) and

lower disliking, bitterness, and harshness ratings compared to no coolant products while menthol (vs no coolant) increased willingness to use again and reduced harshness and coolness.

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