

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

- The Public Health Law Center and TCN are pleased to invite those representing a health agency from a state, island jurisdiction, or Washington D.C., as well as a Funders Alliance organization to join an NCTOH ancillary meeting for brainstorming, information-gathering, and future planning, which will take place from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Central Time at the Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk on Monday, Aug. 25, 2025. Please [register here](#).

Happy Anniversary!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN

*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

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

[Mini-Learning Series:](#)

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:

- **Amanda Mortensen (NE)** – 10 years.
- **James F Kerrigan (WV)** – 10 years.
- **Megan Moran (TX)** – 3 years.
- **Mark Boldt (VA)** – 2 years.
- **Sarah Cattie (DE)** – 2 years.
- **Brandi Greeno (WY)** – 1 year.
- **Susan Morrison (NH)** – 1 year.
- **Stephanie Bever (UT)** – 1 year.

Partner Announcements

- **ASTHO** released a [report which examines how Washington state structures its tobacco surveillance](#) and how other state and territorial health agencies can model their own data systems after Washington state's example.
- **CDC Publications On Demand** allows you to [order a limited selection of public health materials](#) such as printed copies of factsheets, posters, reports, books, and other educational materials. The last day

[Foundations for Health Systems Change and Insurance Coverage Implementation \(Health Systems Change\) Session 1](#) – NACDD

Webinar

Aug. 20, 2 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

[Chronic Pain and Commercial Tobacco Use: Challenges Across the Cancer Continuum](#) –

National Council for Mental Wellbeing

Webinar

Aug 21, 1 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

[NCTOH Ancillary Commercial Tobacco Control Managers' Meeting](#) – Public Health

Law Center and TCN
Chicago, IL

Aug. 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. CT

| *Registration Required*

[2nd U.S. Tobacco Endgame Summit](#) – Action on

Smoking & Health
Chicago, IL

Aug. 25, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. CT

| *Registration Required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – NNPHI

for orders is **August 15th, 2025**.

- Can't make it to Chicago this month for NCTOH? You can still be part of the nation's largest gathering of tobacco control professionals — virtually. [Register here](#).
- The Federal Registrar has posted for comment, Proposed Data Collection Submitted for Public Comment and Recommendations, which [invites comment on a proposed information collection project titled National Youth Tobacco Survey \(NYTS\) 2024–2026](#). CDC must receive written comments on or before **Aug. 15, 2025**.
- The [comment period for FDA's proposed rule](#) to reduce nicotine levels in cigarettes, roll-your-own tobacco, cigars, and pipe tobacco closes on **Sept. 15, 2025**. [CDC's web page on this topic](#) gives a high-level overview of the public health rationale for this policy and incorporates evidence from the [2024 US Surgeon General's Report](#). The Public Health Law Center has an [archived webinar](#) on this commenting opportunity and a video on how to submit comments to the FDA.
- **NACDD's Disability Network for Tobacco Control and Cancer Prevention** is creating a campaign to

Chicago, IL

Aug. 26-28 | *Registration Required*

[Join us for Lunch at NCTOH!](#) – Counter Tools
Chicago, IL
Aug. 26, 12:30-1:30 p.m. CT
| *Registration Required*

[Beyond the Cuts: Strategies to Align Behavioral Health and Tobacco Control to Sustain Progress](#) – CoE-TFR
Chicago, IL
Aug. 27, 7-8:15 a.m.
| *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Cessation Program Implementation](#) – Duke
UNC TTS Training Program
Virtual Training
Sept. 11, 12-5 p.m. ET
| *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*

[Certified Tobacco Treatment Training Program](#) – MD Anderson
Cancer Center
Virtual Training

empower people with disabilities to quit using tobacco products. They are [asking for your help to recruit participants](#) for this important project.

- The **National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (CoE-TFR)** is [hosting an ancillary meeting](#) at the upcoming National Conference on Tobacco or Health (**Wednesday, Aug. 27, 7-8:15 a.m. CT**). This session will focus on sustainable, cross-sector strategies to support tobacco control efforts and improve access to tobacco use treatment for people with mental health and substance use challenges.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA is requesting nominations by **Aug. 25, 2025**, for voting members to serve on the [Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee](#). Individuals may self-nominate or be nominated by any interested person or organization.
 - FDA [issued a Federal Register notice](#) announcing a Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee meeting on **Oct. 7, 2025**, to discuss the renewal of several modified risk granted orders issued to Philip Morris

Sept. 15-19 | *Registration Required*

[Mini-Learning Series: Foundations for Health Systems Change and Insurance Coverage Implementation \(Insurance Coverage\) Session 2](#) – NACDD Webinar
Sept. 18, 1:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

Job Opportunities

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.

Funding Opportunities

[Quit & Thrive Challenge: Community-Derived Solutions to Reduce Menthol Cigarette Smoking](#) – The National Institutes of Health Office of Disease Prevention
Deadline: Sept. 2, 2025

ODP's Quit & Thrive Challenge will showcase successful and innovative community-derived

Products S.A.

- **ChangeLab Solutions** released a resource, [Moving from Research to Action: Policy Scans to Promote Community Health](#), designed to support public health practitioners in better understanding how to leverage policy scans to support the identification, assessment, and prioritization of policy options in collaboration with community partners.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative [released a statement on FDA's recent decision](#) to authorize the marketing of tobacco and menthol-flavored JUUL e-cigarette products, stating that this decision underscores the need for continued vigilance in protecting young people from nicotine initiation — and the importance of helping people who want to quit.
 - [Respira Vida](#), part of the Culture and Cessation Collective, is a coalition of community members reclaiming the narrative around tobacco use in the Hispanic/Latino American community and equipping individuals with the tools and

solutions that have reduced menthol cigarette smoking among populations with disproportionately high rates of menthol cigarette use. These solutions may help inform future federally funded research initiatives or demonstration projects intended to enhance the evidence base of interventions that help individuals quit smoking. By publicly highlighting effective solutions, the Challenge also may encourage broader adoption of best practices to reduce menthol cigarette smoking. Up to nine prizes of **\$100,000 each** will be awarded to organizations with the most successful and innovative community-led strategies.

[Tobacco Regulatory Science Small Grant Program for New Investigators \(R03 Clinical Trial Optional\)](#) – NIH Office of Disease Prevention
Deadline: Nov. 18, 2025

This Notice of Funding Opportunity aims to support new biomedical, behavioral, and social

support to quit. Learn more about the coalition and [join](#) to receive updates.

- **Action on Smoking and Health** launched the [2025 version of our U.S. Tobacco Industry Lobbyist and Lobbying Firm Registration Tracker](#). In 2025 at the state level, there was a 24% increase in tobacco industry lobbyist and lobbying firm registrations compared to 2024 and a 27% increase in registrations compared to 2021.
- **Counter Tools** will have a booth at the upcoming National Conference on Tobacco or Health (booth 202) and will also be hosting a lunch on **Tuesday, Aug. 26, 12:30-1:30 p.m. CT** to have a conversation about the challenges and opportunities in commercial tobacco prevention and control. Please [register](#) here for the lunch.

State News

- Fifty years ago, **Minnesota** became [the first state to adopt landmark legislation](#) restricting smoking in indoor public places and workspaces.
- A newly passed law in **Texas** [prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes disguised to appear as](#)

science investigators who are in the early stages of establishing independent careers in tobacco regulatory research. The R03 grant mechanism supports different types of projects, including pilot and feasibility studies; secondary analysis of existing data; small, self-contained research projects; development of research methodology; and development of new research technology. Applicants are encouraged to conduct projects that ultimately have the potential to inform regulations on tobacco product manufacturing, distribution, and marketing.

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

[alternative products](#) like school supplies or toys or manufactured in China.

- In light of FDA's decision to authorize JUUL's tobacco- and menthol-flavored e-cigarettes for sale in the United States, the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth [remains focused on its mission which includes reducing and preventing tobacco product use](#) among youth across the Commonwealth of **Virginia**.
- The following announcements are from **California**:
 - A *Tobacco Control* analysis of 2014-2019 California Health Interview Survey data and local-level tobacco control policy scores found that the adoption of local tobacco control policies was associated with a [2.1 percentage point \(pp\) reduction in overall smoking prevalence](#), a 2.3 pp reduction among individuals living in multiunit housing or neighborhoods with low socioeconomic status, and a 3.5 pp reduction among African American populations.
 - In a study, published in the [American Journal of Public Health](#), researchers from the CDC Foundation, Truth Initiative, and University of Southern California

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 representing the state and territorial public

found that California's ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products reduced e-cigarette and cigarette sales without impacting neighboring states. Specifically, in the first 18 months of the law's implementation, California's flavored tobacco ban led to a 37% decrease in average quarterly nicotine milligrams sold per capita for e-cigarettes, while per capita cigarette packs sold declined by 10.6% in California retail outlets.

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.

Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis, [which investigated how states are implementing flavor restriction policies](#), found that key themes in implementation included the roles of clear product definitions and enforcement processes, coordination across state and local governments, adequate resources, and communication with retailers.
- A meta-analysis examining the bi-directional association between e-cigarette use and depression, published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, concluded that according to 27 studies, [e-cigarette use and depression](#)



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[might be statistically significant predictors of one another](#), justifying stronger mental health warnings on e-cigarette packaging and consistent e-cigarette screening in depression assessments.

- *A Drug and Alcohol Dependence Reports* analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health study data from 2022-2023 found concluded that 0.3% of participants reported [receiving discounts or coupons for nicotine pouches](#), which was positively correlated with past-30-day pouch use.

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Our address:

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, 2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450,
Arlington, VA 22202

TCN@astho.org



