

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

- Many of you attended the monthly National and State Tobacco Control Program Technical Assistance webinar, hosted by CDC's Office on Smoking and Health (OSH) that recurred on the second Thursday of each month. In their absence, Truth Initiative reconvened regular meetings with ASTHO and the Tobacco Control Network to focus on the needs of the state tobacco control programs and help fill the gaps left with the elimination of CDC/OSH. Register [here](#) for the State Tobacco Control Program TA Webinars.

Partner Announcements

*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!

[Strategies for Sustaining](#)

- **NACDD's Disability Network for Tobacco Control and Cancer Prevention** is creating a campaign to empower people with disabilities to quit using tobacco products. Inspired by [CDC's Tips From Former Smokers](#), the campaign will highlight the real-life stories of people with disabilities, including U.S. veterans, who have quit using tobacco products to inspire others to also quit. They are [asking for your help to recruit participants](#) for this important project.
- The **ANR Foundation** announced its quarterly update to the lists and maps of U.S. municipalities and states with smokefree laws now in effect. The [U.S. Tobacco Control Laws Database](#) is a key resource for researchers, health departments, the media, and advocates, who use our data to document trends and research the effectiveness of tobacco-related legislation
- Heading to Chicago for the National Conference on Tobacco or Health? Register for "[Cultivating Sustainable Partnerships Workshop](#)". This interactive workshop, hosted by the **Emory University's Community Approaches Training and Technical Assistance Hub**, offers practical tools and strategies to cultivate sustainable partnerships that help reduce the health impacts of commercial tobacco among

[and Expanding Tobacco Cessation Coverage and Services](#) – NACDD

Webinar

July 30, 1 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

[Project TEACH ECHO](#) – The University of Texas MD Anderson Center
August 5 & 19 | *Registration Required, Bimonthly sessions*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) – University of Kentucky
Virtual Training
August 6, September 17, October 29 | *Registration Required*

[Countering the Tobacco Industry's Retail Influence](#) – Public Health Law Center
Webinar
Aug. 7, 2 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Monthly Tobacco Use Disorder Integration Office Hours](#) – National Council for Mental Wellbeing
Aug 12, 2:30-3:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Mini-Learning Series: Foundations for Health](#)

low-income populations.

- The following announcements are from **Public Health Law Center**:
 - The Center recently updated a resource [featuring select examples from U.S. jurisdictions that restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products](#), as well as excerpts from legislation and information on legal challenges.
 - Secondhand smoke infiltration in multiunit housing is a serious public health risk, yet only one in three residents are covered by smoke-free laws or building policies. The Center's new resource [outlines current legal protections and potential legal strategies](#) to address smoke infiltration in multiunit homes.
- The **National Center of Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery (CoE-TFR)** is [launching a new Case-Based Discussion Series to help behavioral health professionals](#) apply evidence-based strategies to treat tobacco use disorder in clients with co-occurring behavioral health conditions. These interactive, virtual sessions blend brief clinical guidance with a live case discussion — focusing on real-world challenges, peer exchange, and practical

[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*

[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

Chicago, IL

Aug. 26-28 | *Registration*

Required

[Tobacco Cessation Program Implementation](#) – Duke

UNC TTS Training Program

Virtual Training

Sept. 11, 12-5 p.m. ET

| *Registration Required*

solutions.

- **Truth Initiative** [launched EX Program Go, a scalable, low-cost program](#) designed specifically to help small and mid-sized employers support their staff in quitting tobacco. Part of the EX Program Enterprise suite, EX Program Go helps organizations support employees with nicotine addiction by providing a proven path to quitting, while also reducing healthcare costs.
- **FDA** [authorized the marketing of five Juul e-cigarette products](#) — the Juul device, Virginia Tobacco flavor Juulpods (3% and 5% nicotine concentration) and Menthol flavor Juulpods (3% and 5% nicotine concentration).
- Become a credentialed Tobacco Treatment Specialist through **The University of Texas MD Anderson's Tobacco Treatment Training Program**. This virtual, five-day course runs from September 15-19, 2025, focusing on essential skills for tobacco cessation in clinics and community settings. Please [register](#) by **August 13**. Participants can earn up to 32.25 CE hours. For registration rates and additional information please visit this [website](#) or email ctts@mdanderson.org.

[State of Black Health 2025:
A Call for Health Justice](#) –

The Center for Black Health
& Equity
Charlotte, NC
Sept. 15-18 | *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

State News

- The **Minneapolis, Minnesota** city council is [considering an ordinance that would raise e-cigarette prices](#) to \$25. The average minimum price of an e-cigarette in the city is \$8.99, meaning this ordinance would nearly triple the price.
- The **New Jersey** legislature sent the state budget to Governor Murphy's desk for consideration, which includes [raising the state's cigarette tax](#) from \$2.70 to \$3.00.
- **WBTV** in Charlotte, **North Carolina** [released a story on the current concerns about tobacco use](#) among young people with Kim Bayha of Mecklenburg County Public Health sharing important information for parents and other concerned adults.

News

- A *NY Times* article discusses [FDA's authorization of Juul e-cigarettes](#) for the U.S. market, despite mounting concerns about the health effects of e-cigarettes.
- A *NY Times* article highlights the implications of [high levels of heavy metals in popular nicotine vapes](#) on cardiovascular and lung issues, oral

Deadline: September 2, 2025

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

If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please send

health, and addiction.

- A blog post from *Psychology Today* shares updated information on [how vaping harms the adolescent brain](#), including hardwiring the brain for future addictions.
- When DHHS abolished the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health in April, the national media buy for its highly effective campaign Tips from Former Smokers, had already started running. You can read about the campaign's history, successes, and future in [this blog post by Dr. Stan Glantz](#).

Research

- A recent study at Tulane University, published in the *Journal of Clinical and Translational Science*, found that although 60% said their children had no exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, urine testing [showed that all of the children tested positive for low levels of cotinine](#), which forms when nicotine is broken down in the body.

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 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.



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