

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

- While TCN stays apprised of the developments happening at the federal level, we acknowledge the challenges this presents to jurisdictions and remain committed to supporting tobacco control programs with information, resources, and by staying connected. If you have new updates to share, please consider communicating those impacts through the following channels:
 - [Anonymous survey](#) via Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids:

*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

Link: <https://forms.gle/toZifzV6vGYYLv1Z8>

- Send tcn@astho.org an email with any impacts, especially relating to staffing and programming changes. Please reference the TCN Help Your Peers request, "Tobacco Control Program Staffing and Capacity Impacts," disseminated via email on May 1 for additional details.
- The [TCN State Policy Map](#) is updated to reflect the policy landscape relating to tobacco and e-cigarette tax, smoke-free environments, T21, preemption, JUUL settlements, Medicaid coverage, and more.

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:

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

[Act for Public Health 2025 Briefings: Navigating the Impact of Federal Actions on Public Health Practice](#) – ChangeLab Solutions
June 11 & 25, July 9, 2 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[NTCP TA Webinar Relaunch](#) – Truth Initiative in partnership with ASTHO
Webinar
June 12, 3 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

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

[Innovative Strategies to Increase Youth Engagement in](#)

- **Vicki Huntington (WI)** – 18 years.
- **Jahnesta Ritter (USVI)** – 3 years.
- **Sara Araujo (NM)** – 1 year.

Help Your Peers Request

Utilizing Tobacco Treatment Specialists

Deadline: June 18

We would like to know how other states are using their Tobacco Treatment Specialists (TTSs) outside of in-person cessation groups. Are there any community-based initiatives that are utilizing TTSs?

Partner Announcements

- **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](#)

[Tobacco Control Programs](#) – NACCHO and Latino Connection Webinar
June 30, 3 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*

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

[your help to recruit participants](#) for this important project.

- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA [announced the seizure of nearly two million units of unauthorized e-cigarette products](#) in Chicago, with an estimated retail value of \$33.8 million.
 - [FDA posted six updated or new forms](#) that are required for submitting new tobacco product applications under the premarket tobacco product application (PMTA) and Substantial Equivalence (SE) pathways. Starting July 6, 2025, applicants must use these forms in their PMTA and SE Report submissions.
- **American Lung Association** released a new report, [Lifesaving Programs to Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use Go Up in Smoke](#), which looks at the elimination of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health and the initial impacts to tobacco prevention and

Black Health & Equity
Charlotte, NC
Sept. 15 – 18
| *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: September 2, 2025

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

reduction programs in some states.

- A fact sheet shares that Global Action to End Smoking (GAES) is [entirely funded by Philip Morris International](#) (PMI), the world's largest tobacco company.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Rooted in cultural connection and community-driven support, the [Culture + Cessation Collective](#) aims to provide safe spaces, meaningful conversations, and actionable resources to help communities disproportionately impacted by tobacco achieve freedom from nicotine addiction.
 - The Youth Engagement Alliance, a joint program of the Truth Initiative and the **Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids**, will be hosting the [2025 Coordinator Camp](#) on August 25, 2025, in Chicago, Illinois! [Registration](#) is free of charge, and the deadline to register is July 8 at 11:59 p.m. ET.

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

- Truth Initiative [released a fact sheet](#) highlighting how the tobacco industry has historically targeted communities that experience higher stress — contributing to disproportionately high tobacco use rates in the LGBTQ+ community.
- In honor of World No Tobacco Day, **American Academy of Pediatrics** released an [infographic and accompanying social media reel](#) to support pediatric clinicians and health professionals in addressing the increasing trend of concurrent tobacco and cannabis use among adolescents.

State News

- **Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth** [published a blog post](#) on the recent increase of public cigarette smoking by celebrities and the reappearance of cigarette smoking in music videos.

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

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

- The following announcements are from **North Carolina**:
 - As a result of the elimination of CDC's Office of Smoking and Health, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has [lost over \\$2 million in tobacco funding](#). These cuts resulted in 75% of state tobacco control workers being furloughed, local programs shifting focus to youth vaping prevention to align with Juul settlement funding, and possible cuts to state quitline services.
 - Read about a [successful business and health partnership](#) between Rock House Farm Family of Brands and QuitlineNC to offer employees free, personalized, and evidence-based cessation counseling and nicotine replacement therapy.
- The Hopkinton Board of Health in **Massachusetts** unanimously [approved new regulations prohibiting the sale of tobacco](#) to individuals born

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.

after January 1, 2005.

- The **Oklahoma** legislature [passed a bill to allow the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust \(TSET\) board of directors to be removed](#) “at the pleasure” of their appointing authority and limit them to no more than a seven-year term.
- SB 390 in **Montana** was signed by the governor, which [amends the state's Clean Indoor Air Act](#) to now include e-cigarettes.

News

- New data from the **North American Quitline Consortium** found [more than 250,000 Americans received quit support](#) from their state tobacco quitline in 2024.

Research

- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of young adults who completed laboratory visits [assessing the rewarding and reinforcing values of sweet-flavored versus non-flavored cigarillos](#) found

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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that young adults rated sweet-flavored cigarillos as more rewarding than the non-flavored cigarillo with young adults taking 1.9 times the number of puffs from sweet-flavored cigarillos compared with non-flavored cigarillo.

- *A Tobacco Control* analysis of young adults with past-month nicotine/tobacco use and no intention to quit who were randomized to self-administer four Zyn 3 mg nicotine pouches highlighted that [mint, menthol, and citrus flavors were significantly more appealing](#) than smooth. While modified risk tobacco product claims increased use intention and perceptions of pouches as less harmful than cigarettes, they did not affect perceived harm relative to e-cigarettes.
- *A Tobacco Control* [cross-sectional survey analysis of young adults who do not use commercial tobacco products but are susceptible to e-cigarette use](#) concluded that Hispanic and Black young adults (vs. White) and those with <\$75,000 annual household income (vs ≥\$75,000) knew of fewer e-cigarette industry practices.

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