

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

Help Your Peers Request

Age-appropriate Poster/Infographic for Middle and High School Youth on Nicotine Pouches

Deadline: Sept. 4

Where can we find age-appropriate posters or infographics for middle school and high school youth on nicotine pouches? This is a newly emerging product and there seems to be limited information about them, but parents and schools are looking for this information!

*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

Partner Announcements

- A recording of the **American Association for Cancer Research, American Lung Association**, and **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** [congressional briefing](#), which took place on July 23, is now available. This session spotlighted the critical role of federally funded public health programs in tobacco prevention and cessation, legislation and policies that could reduce tobacco-related chronic disease, and how support for these programs and policies is essential for a healthy America.
- The following announcements are from **Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (VFHY)**:
 - In accordance with [H.B. 1881](#) (2019), VFHY developed [Nicotine Products Prevention Lessons](#) to provide prevention K-12 education about products that contain nicotine like cigarettes, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and more.

visit the [TCN Events](#) page!

[Mini-Learning Series: Foundations for Health Systems Change and Insurance Coverage Implementation \(Health Systems Change\) Session 1](#) – NACDD
Sept. 9, 1 p.m.
ET | *Registration Required*

[The Tobacco Endgame: History, Headwinds, and the Horizon](#) – UCSF
Smoking Cessation
Leadership Center
Webinar
Sept. 9, 2 p.m. ET
| *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

- A [recent blog post](#) by VFHY explores the “Vape-a-gotchi,” an e-cigarette featuring a built-in Tamagotchi virtual pet that will die if the user doesn’t use the vape frequently enough.
- 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**. [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 U.S. 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 FDA.
- **Monitoring Tobacco Product Use** features updated [retail sales data for e-cigarettes and related products](#), rigorously reviewed at the national and state levels. This website also presents survey results on e-cigarette use and our latest published research on tobacco

Black Health & Equity
Charlotte, NC
Sept. 15-18 | *Registration Required*

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

product sales and use.

- **FDA** [issued a marketing denial order for blu® Disposable Classic Tobacco 2.4%](#), an e-cigarette product manufactured by Fontem US, LLC.
- **Public Health Law Center** released a [webinar recording](#) featuring three experts in the tobacco retail environment and healthy retail strategies who describe tactics the industry uses to persuade retailers to market tobacco products and explore a range of effective countermeasures.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - [Are kids using nicotine in the classroom? What to look for and how to talk about risks:](#)
As students return to the classroom this fall, they'll be excited to show off new clothes, sneakers, and electronics – and possibly new nicotine products. Some products (e.g., [oral nicotine pouches](#)) are extremely discreet, so it's important

Funding Opportunities

[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 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

that parents and educators know what to look for and how to talk to students who use these products.

- [Vaping prevention and quit resources: top tips for parents and educators:](#)

Parents and educators have an important role to play in reaching young people with the information they need to make informed choices. By understanding how young people start using tobacco products – and how nicotine addiction impacts the young brain – parents and educators can prepare to have productive conversations with their students and children.

- In a recent video, Miguel [talks about going from a pack and a half of cigarettes a day to being tobacco free](#), using **QuitlineNC**. Besides being a person who used to smoke, Miguel is also living with behavioral health issues, and QuitlineNC gave him the tools he needed to quit successfully.

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

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

State News

- The following announcements are from **Minnesota**:
 - Minnesota announced the release of two Request For Proposals: [Reducing the Burden of Menthol and Flavored Commercial Tobacco Products through Policy Change and Community-Driven Approaches to Address Commercial Tobacco Use](#).
 - Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison [announced that the state has received an additional \\$2.5 million payment from e-cigarette maker JUUL](#) as a result of the Attorney General's settlement with the company, which required JUUL to make the payment following FDA's authorization of certain JUUL products.
- The Board of Health in Southborough, **Massachusetts** [approved a regulation to restrict the sale of nicotine pouches](#) to adult-only

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

retail tobacco stores. The updated regulation goes into effect on Sept. 1.

- The **Oklahoma** Supreme Court is being [asked to rule on the constitutionality of H.B. 2783](#) that could impact the Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust and has raised concerns among health organizations.
- [Mecklenburg County Public Health](#) in **North Carolina** partnered with [Charlotte Pride](#) to offer the first tobacco-free zone at the Charlotte Pride Festival. The festival took place Aug. 16 and 17 in and around First Ward Park. All areas within First Ward Park, including the Youth and Family Zone, were designated tobacco-free.

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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News

- This week, *Saathee Magazine* [published an article](#) detailing the youth vaping problem in Wake County and North Carolina. The writer, Aadrika Sharma, is a student at Green Level

High School and an active member of the Poe Youth Empowerment Group. Aadrika dedicates her time to address the issue of vaping and was featured on [WRAL Gev V documentary](#).

Research

- A *JNCI Monograph* analysis of nationally representative Tobacco Epidemic Evaluation Network (TEEN+) Study of U.S. youth and young adults found [a lower prevalence of any tobacco product use and of any flavored tobacco product use](#) for those covered by strong flavor policies.
- A *Tobacco Control* analysis of NielsenIQ retail scanner data concluded that among disposable e-cigarettes sold between January 2017 and September 2022, [average volume capacity increased 518% from 1.1 mL to 5.7 mL](#) and average nicotine strength increased 294%, from 1.7% to 5%.

