

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 [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.
- ASTHO is working to **maintain an up-to-date roster of current program manager contacts**. If your contact information has changed, you're serving in an interim capacity, or

*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!

[Understanding Preemption and](#)

you're aware of a vacancy in your state or territory, please reach out directly to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org) or connect with your respective Regional Co-Rep on the [TCN Officers page](#) to share updates. Your partnership helps ensure we're communicating with the right folks at the right time.

#### Partner Announcements

- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
  - Despite proven research that exposure to tobacco imagery can make young people three times more likely to start vaping nicotine, [eight of the 10 films nominated for Best Picture Academy Award®](#) this year feature tobacco imagery.

[How It Can Be Bad for Public Health](#) — Public Health Law Center  
Webinar  
March 25, 2 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Dependence Pharmacotherapy](#) — Duke TTS  
Training Program  
Virtual Training  
March 26, 12-5 p.m. ET  
| *Registration Required*

[Living With Long COVID: Stories, Science, and Public Health](#) —  
ASTHO  
Webinar  
March 31, 1-2:15 p.m. ET  
| *Registration Required*

[NCTOH Webinar Series \(Current Challenges to Commercial Tobacco Control\)](#)  
— NNPHI  
Webinar  
Apr. 1, 3-4 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[2026 Eliminate Tobacco Use Summit](#) — The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
Virtual Convening (add-on events available for [New Jersey](#), [Texas](#), and [Virginia](#); Continuing

- According to a Truth Initiative [study](#), a text message program that can help young people quit vaping nicotine can also help them simultaneously reduce cannabis use.
- **Asian Pacific Partners for Empowerment, Advocacy and Leadership (APPEAL)** released its [2025 Annual Report](#) which highlights APPEAL's work advancing health equity and social justice for Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities over the past year. It reflects on continued community advocacy against policies that harm public health, celebrates 30 years of impact, and showcases leadership development, community partnerships, and campaigns on issues like commercial tobacco control and cancer

Education Credits available)  
April 9 | *Registration Required*

[NAQC Annual Meeting](#) — North American Quitline Consortium (NAQC)

Virtual Meeting ([preliminary agenda](#))

April 15-16 | *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Training](#) — Rutgers Tobacco

Dependence Program

Virtual Training

May 4-5 | *Registration Required*

[Champions for Youth Summit](#) —

Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth

Reston, VA

May 4-6 | *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](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

### **Funding Opportunities**

*If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal*

prevention.

- The **SelfMade Health Network** released its [newest resource](#), “Enhancing Community-Clinical Linkages: Reducing Lung Cancer Risks with Food Insecurity Among Low-Income Populations.”
- Through a partnership from 2008-2025, the **Center for Public Health Systems Science at WashU** and the **CDC Office on Smoking and Health** developed and published the [Best Practices User Guides and Tobacco Where You Live Supplements](#).
- **NACDD** invites State Tobacco Control Programs to participate in two multi-month Learning Collaboratives designed to strengthen tobacco cessation efforts within health systems and expand

to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please send 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.


### **About ASTHO**

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit

access to coverage. Through two half-day virtual kickoff sessions in April and monthly one-hour sessions thereafter, participants will explore practical strategies, emerging trends, and real-world applications. [Register here.](#)

Each collaborative also offers dedicated office hours for technical support, along with peer exchange opportunities to share lessons learned and highlight promising practices. An expert faculty will provide insights on health systems change, Medicaid coverage strategies, workforce development, and evidence-based cessation interventions. The Health Systems Change Learning Collaborative will kick off April 22–23, and the Coverage Learning Collaborative will kick off April 29–30 and participants are welcome to attend both.

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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- The following announcements are from **CADCA**:
  - CADCA’s latest article explores how flavored vapes, nicotine pouches, price promotions, and even “smart vapes” are [fueling youth nicotine use](#) and the policies states and communities can use to fight back.
  - In a recap from the CADCA National Leadership Forum, Kristy Marynak of the CDC Foundation explains why [strong, evidence-based tobacco prevention efforts remain essential](#) as the industry evolves.

### State News

- The **Arizona** Attorney General’s Office [announced](#)

[the results of its "Operation Counter Strike" program](#), which conducted 1,882 inspections of tobacco retailers across the state in fiscal year 2025. The program resulted in 451 criminal citations issued to clerks and businesses that sold tobacco products to minors.

- The **Oregon** legislature passed a bill that [expands the definition of nicotine and tobacco products](#) to include synthetic nicotine, nicotine pouches, lozenges, and similar products. The bill now heads to the governor's desk for consideration.
- The Aurora City Council in **Colorado** passed on first reading an ordinance [creating a retail license that would limit and impose certain requirements](#) on businesses that sell

tobacco products.

- The Town Council in **Fairfax, California** [adopted an ordinance](#) that sets minimum retail prices for cigarettes, prohibits retailers from redeeming coupons or offering discounts or promotional pricing on tobacco products, requires minimum package sizes for certain tobacco products, and prohibits the sale of electronic smoking devices.
- The **Raleigh** city council in **North Carolina** [passed an ordinance](#) to add e-cigarettes to its smokefree air laws. This will prohibit indoor e-cigarette use in bars, restaurants, stores, workplaces, and lobbies.

## News

- *The Carolina Journal* published an article on [how recent raids of NC](#)

[vape shops have uncovered illegal products.](#)

The article includes an interview with Rich Marianos, former assistant director of the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, who explained that some vape shops are providing much more than legal vaping products.

## Research

- *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [intends to publish a themed issue](#) to highlight research that advances the understanding of tobacco-related health inequities and identifies ways to reduce them among people with disabilities. Manuscripts must be submitted through the *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* submission system by April 30.

- An online survey analysis published in *Tobacco Control* found that among U.S. adults who dually used nicotine pouches with other tobacco products, [none completely switched to exclusive nicotine pouch use](#). Nicotine pouch use was also not associated with increased probabilities of quitting tobacco product use.

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