

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

- TCN is seeking new members for the Healthy Communities Engagement Workgroup to help build and strengthen partnerships between state tobacco control programs and our national partner organizations. This workgroup will also work on ways to integrate inclusive and community-centered approaches across TCN initiatives, as well as engage and retain broad representation among both members and the executive board. Please reach out to tcn@astho.org if interested.
- TCN is seeking new members for the Membership Engagement Workgroup to help strengthen how we connect, support, and build capacity across tobacco control programs. This workgroup plays a key role in enhancing the overall TCN member

*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!

[Dual Use of Cigarettes and e-Cigarettes: Clinical Implications and Treatment Strategies](#) —
The National Center of

experience. Responsibilities include planning member events, developing and disseminating member surveys, coordinating the Peer Mentor Program, and elevating member-identified challenges to the Executive Committee. The group also collaborates with the Healthy Communities Workgroup to support recruitment and long-term member retention. Please reach out to tcn@astho.org if interested.

Partner Announcements

- **CDC Foundation's Monitoring Tobacco Project** released two new data briefs from the Tobacco Epidemic Evaluation Network (TEEN+) Study. The briefs feature data collected in late 2025 and provide the most up to date estimates of [e-cigarette](#) and [nicotine pouch](#) use from a nationally representative cohort of youth and young adults.
- **CDC** has pending requests with the Office of Management and Budget for necessary permission to (1) continue collecting [National Quitline Data Warehouse information](#) from the states and others to better support cessation services, and (2) continue collecting data to evaluate the reach of the [Tips from Former Smokers® campaign](#). Public comments can be submitted on these requests until

Excellence for Tobacco-Free Recovery
Webinar
May 28, 1 p.m. ET |
Registration Required

[Project TEACH ECHO: Motivational Interviewing Four OARS & Change Talk/Sustain Talk](#) – The University of Texas MD Anderson Center - Free hour of CE
June 2, 1-2 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment Training Program](#) —The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center Virtual Training
June 8-12 | *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Use Disorder Integration Office Hours: Effective Nicotine Interventions for Rural Settings](#) — The National Council on Mental Wellbeing
June 9, 2-3 p.m. ET |
Registration Required

[A Nationwide Update on Flavored Tobacco Product Sales Restrictions](#) – Public Health Law Center
Webinar
June 10, 2 p.m. ET |
Registration Required

June 22, 2026.

- **Truth Initiative's EX Program** [reached a historic milestone with 1 million young people](#) ages 13 to 24 enrolling in its free, evidence-based quit vaping and nicotine cessation support.
- **Public Health Law Center** released its [latest resource which provides strategies](#) for responding to the tobacco industry's harm reduction messaging.
- The following announcements are from **FDA**:
 - FDA [issued a guidance](#) document which describes enforcement policies with regard to the marketing of certain ENDS products and nicotine pouch products that do not have premarket authorization.
 - FDA [filed two modified risk tobacco product \(MRTP\) renewal applications](#) for scientific review for the following products: VLN® King and VLN® Menthol King. Public comments on these MRTP renewal applications may be submitted on [regulations.gov](#) to docket number [FDA-2019-N-0994](#).

[Beyond the Vape: Overlooked Tobacco and Nicotine Products and Their Impact on Youth](#) – AAP Richmond Center Webinar
June 17, 12-1 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[Project TEACH ECHO: Nicotine Replacement in Surgical Patients](#) – The University of Texas MD Anderson Center- Free hour of CE
June 23, 1-2 p.m. ET | *Registration Required*

[National Tribal Tobacco Conference](#) — University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, MN
June 23-24

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

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

- Acting Director of the Center for Tobacco Products Bret Koplow [issued a statement](#) on how the Agency is taking new steps forward in accelerating innovation and efficiency in product review.
 - In February 2026, FDA held a roundtable discussion with small tobacco product manufacturers to solicit input on premarket tobacco product application submissions for electronic nicotine delivery systems products. All materials from the roundtable discussion are available online [here](#).
 - FDA announced that it [issued warning letters to eight retailers](#) for selling unauthorized tobacco products, including nicotine pouches and dissolvable tobacco products that have labeling, advertising, and/or design features that cause the products to imitate candy, breath strips, and cough drops.
- **American Heart Association**, in collaboration with the **Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence**, launched the Certified Professional by the American Heart Association–Tobacco Treatment certification, designed to validate foundational tobacco treatment

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

knowledge and strengthen provider capacity to deliver effective cessation support. Click [here](#) to learn more about the certification.

- **The Center for Rapid Surveillance of Tobacco** released an [Image Library](#) featuring images of confiscated tobacco products from the Youth Tobacco Monitoring Project. New images will be added quarterly, and you can filter them by state, product type, and year. If you are affiliated with a school and would like to submit photos, please email CRST_images@ints.rutgers.edu.

State News

- Economics for Health, in collaboration with the CDC Foundation's Tobacco Monitoring Project, released a [new factsheet](#) that assesses how **Indiana's** tobacco tax increase changed cigarette and e-cigarette prices, sales, tax revenues, and cross-border shopping.
- The **Hawaii** legislature [passed a bill creating an e-cigarette registry](#), the first state registry that allows only FDA-authorized e-cigarettes to be sold in the state. The bill now moves to the governor's desk for consideration.

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 **Iowa** state legislature [passed a bill creating a 5-cent tax](#) on alternative nicotine products, including nicotine pouches and e-cigarettes. The bill now moves to the governor's desk for consideration.
- The **Plymouth, Minnesota** city council [passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products](#), not issuing any new tobacco retail licenses, and establishing a 500-foot buffer from schools and youth oriented parks.
- The **Oregon** Supreme Court found that local ordinances prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products are [not preempted by state law](#), thereby affirming local authority to regulate such sales.
- Celebrating smokefree breathing free in **Georgia** [celebrates 15 years of smokefree breathing free](#). Former Mayor Otis Turner says "Smoke-free environments don't just change behavior, they reduce disease, save lives, and create healthier spaces for everyone."
- The **New Jersey** Public Health Commission [voted to recommend a resolution that calls for urgent action](#) to address a casino smoking loophole.

News

- In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights, the organization [featured Lamont White](#), a table games dealer in Atlantic City and co-founder of Casino Employees Against Smoking Effects.
- In a [conversation with Eric Ressler](#), Public Health Law Center's Executive Director Joelle Lester discusses how industries continue to use Big Tobacco's strategies of manufacturing doubt and resisting responsibility — tactics that slow progress critical public health issues.

Research

- In a survey-based *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis, adolescents who never used e-cigarettes and cannabis who were shown Instagram images featuring micro-influencers promoting e-cigarettes with cannabis had [higher odds of e-cigarette use intentions if offered by a friend](#) among those who perceived micro-influencers as credible, compared to those shown Instagram images promoting e-cigarettes alone.
- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* commentary highlights the [bidirectional relationship between chronic pain and nicotine/tobacco](#)

[use](#), emphasizing how pain can drive tobacco use while nicotine dependence may worsen pain over time. The authors call for greater integration of pain assessment into nicotine/tobacco research and treatment to improve cessation outcomes and personalized, effective interventions.

- A *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* analysis found that exposure to both cigarette and e-cigarette aerosols [compromised the ability of human bone marrow-derived mesenchymal stem cells](#) to repair and regenerate tissue, with only partial recovery after exposure ended.
- A cross-sectional survey analysis, published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*, found that among hypothetical e-cigarette retail advertising locations, [advertisements on store doors/windows and near checkout](#) made participants most likely to want to purchase e-cigarettes.

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