



## Features

### The Great State Update: Highlights from Leadership Academy States

The Leadership Academy States are busy. And their hard work is paying off! Some impressive highlights from around the country include:

- **South Carolina** has required that all state-supported community mental health centers are tobacco free and are now expanding tobacco free policies to all public and private mental health and substance use disorder treatment facilities in the state
- **Indiana** passed a standing order to allow pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation products
- **Oklahoma** required state-funded behavioral health agencies to include TUD in treatment plan when appropriate and encourages Peer Support as an intervention. All state operated behavioral health facilities in OK are tobacco free.
- **Massachusetts** lowered smoking prevalence among adults with poor mental health from 33.3% in 2013 to 21.2% in 2020, already surpassing its 2020 target of 28%
- **Kentucky** surpassed a 2020 target as well, by lowering smoking prevalence among adults who binge drink from 45.2% in 2013 to 33.2% in 2020 exceeding hopes of reaching 36.2% by 2020
- **Montana** has already surpassed its 2021 target of 36% by lowering smoking prevalence among adults with poor mental health from 40.9% in 2014 to 29.8% in 2020
- **Hawaii**, is 2020 at 25.9%, surpassing its 2020 target of lowering smoking prevalence among adult heavy drinkers to 28.0%
- Nearly half of Leadership Academy states have reconvened multiple times, with **Alaska** and **Kansas** most recently hosting summit reboots. All Leadership Academy states continue to assert their commitment to and prioritization of reducing smoking prevalence in each state's respective behavioral health population.



[Read more about Leadership Academy states](#)

## News



**PROBLEM GAMBLING  
AWARENESS MONTH**  
→ AWARENESS+ACTION

### March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Did you know that **two-thirds** of treatment-seeking gamblers are **daily cigarette smokers**?

**Cigarette smoking** is associated with increased severity of **gambling problems** in treatment-seeking gamblers.

Check out the month's [event calendar](#) at the [National Council on Problem Gambling site](#) for opportunities to learn how to support individuals who need help.

### New Guides from ALA and ASAM

American Lung Association has updated their [Tobacco Cessation Coverage 101: The Basics](#) Presentation series.

The series is comprised of four videos, between 10-20 minutes long:

- An Introduction: What is a Comprehensive Cessation Benefit?
- Tobacco Cessation Coverage in Medicaid and Medicare
- Tobacco Cessation Coverage in Health Insurance Marketplaces
- So You've Got a Tobacco Cessation Benefit – Now What?



These videos are intended as a starting point from which to build your knowledge of tobacco cessation coverage. They are most helpful as an overview for people new to tobacco control and tobacco cessation or as a refresher on these topics.



Also from ALA, the new [Addressing Tobacco Use in Black Communities Toolkit](#) features a variety of culturally competent resources, trainings, videos, and other relevant materials focused on three key objectives:

- **Build Competence** by learning about the racist history of tobacco in Black communities;
- **Encourage Connectedness** by learning how to be an authentic ally and building better community partnerships; and
- **Confidence to Act** with materials, resources, and trainings to equip toolkit users.

Lung health disparities persist among Black Americans, especially in lung cancer incidence and menthol cigarette use. In anticipation of the Food and Drug Administration's expected proposal to remove menthol cigarettes from the marketplace, the American Lung Association is actively working to address these disparities and the systemic issues that perpetuate them.

The **American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)** has developed guidance for providers on how to address tobacco dependency in a client's treatment plan. The guidance points to four primary recommendations.

1. **Screen all patients** for tobacco use disorder.
2. **Offer evidence-based treatment** to all patients with tobacco use disorder.
3. **Use motivational and harm reduction strategies** for patients ambivalent about quitting



4. **Implement organizational policies** to support treatment of tobacco use disorder.

ASAM has published the guidance on their website along with blog entry introduction entitled, ["Tobacco Use Disorder Should be a Priority in Addiction Treatment"](#) featuring an interview with Dr. Brian Hurley, MD, MBA, FAPA, DFASAM, an addiction psychiatrist, president-elect of ASAM, and the medical director of the Division of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Dr. Hurley states that, "...medically necessary treatment for tobacco use disorder ... is sorely needed within specialty substance use treatment settings." [Access the newly released clinical guidance from ASAM](#)

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### **Bringing Barriers to Light: Minority Populations, Tobacco Use and Health Equity**

What can we do for marginalized communities? For starters, we can raise awareness of the barriers that keep these groups in the margins, in addition to showcasing some of the solutions that advocates within these communities have created. Contributing to the national conversation on health equity, SCLC hosted a media event that featured representatives with

expert knowledge of four minority populations: Native American Indians, African Americans, Asian Americans and Latinx individuals. The research and experience of these four panelists were subsequently developed as op-eds, cowritten by our own Catherine Bonniot-Saucedo, SCLC Deputy Director. The piece she wrote with Dr. Patricia Nez Henderson of the Navajo Nation was recently featured on CNN.com. [Read it here](#)

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## **Learning Opportunities**

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### **SCLC's Next Live Webinar: "Joining Environmental and Health Advocacy to Reduce Tobacco's Burden on People and Ecosystems**

**When?**

**Thursday, April 14,  
2022, 02:00pm to 03:00pm EDT**



We are honored to have the following speaker presenting on this important and timely topic:

- **Thomas E. Novotny, MD, MPH**, Professor Emeritus of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the San Diego State University (SDSU) School of Public Health and former epidemiologist in the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health in the US Department of Health and Human Services

#### **Webinar Objectives:**

- Explain three environmental damages that are due to tobacco product waste
- Evaluate two current policy approaches to mitigating tobacco product waste
- Assess two risks and benefits of a sales ban on single use filters
- Analyze two current tobacco industry corporate social responsibility efforts on tobacco and the environment

**One hour of FREE credit can be earned, for participants who join the LIVE session, on April 14, 2022. You will receive instructions on how to claim credit via the post webinar email.**

Register Here



## Spring Bundle

"Spring" ahead with free CEUs! SCLC's "Collection D" includes seven (7) webinars from 2021 for a total of **7.25 FREE CE credits**. Topics include COVID-19 and the effects of tobacco use, I COVID Quit - personal stories, IQOS, digital cessation, recovery-oriented tobacco interventions in addiction services, tobacco cessation with adult inpatient psychiatric clients, and e-cigarettes and

smoking cessation.

Please use the discount code **SAMHSA23** to waive the \$65 fee.

*Physicians, Pharmacists, Nurse Practitioners, Psychologists, LMFTs, LCSWs, Addiction Counselors and more!*

Questions? Contact Jennifer Matekuare, SCLC Operations Manager, at [jennifer.matekuare@ucsf.edu](mailto:jennifer.matekuare@ucsf.edu) or call toll-free (877) 509-3786.

Register Here

## Resources

- [Order FREE Quit Cards](#) 85% percent of groups who purchased it found that the card helped streamline their organization's ability to provide tobacco cessation assistance to patients, and 80% said it has increased the number of patients in their organization who receive advice on quitting.
- Check out what other SAMHSA State Academies are up to and borrow successful resources available on our [Leadership Academy page](#)
- [Visit TobaccoFreeRecovery.org](#) for more resources, including materials created by Leadership Academy States

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