

Communiqué | March 2020

Recent News

Congratulations to Louisiana as the 21st SAMHSA/SCLC Leadership Academy State!

[The National Center of Excellence for Tobacco Free-Recovery](#) is excited to announce Louisiana as the 21st Leadership Academy State. The summit will be held May 27-28, 2020 in Baton Rouge. The goal of the [Leadership Academies](#) is to create a state-wide collaboration among mental health substance use treatment, tobacco control, and public health departments, charged to produce an action plan to reduce smoking prevalence of behavioral health consumers and staff and to foster tobacco-free living.

With progressive policy changes like the New Orleans Smoke-Free Ordinance and strong cessation services like the Louisiana quitline, we look forward to seeing what other strategies this new group of stakeholders develops to combat the epidemic of tobacco use in the behavioral health community.

Pennsylvania State Academy Reconvening

In July 2020, a reconvening will be held in Pennsylvania to continue the work from the previous State Leadership Academy held in 2017. Since the summit, Pennsylvania has reduced the smoking rate of adults with poor mental health from 37.4% to 35.1%.

Here are a few highlights about Pennsylvania since its 2017 summit:

- As of December 31, 2018, all state hospitals have implemented policies for smoke-free campuses

- All Physical Health and Behavioral Health MCOs have submitted action plans related to comprehensive tobacco cessation programs targeting plan employees, outpatient treatment facilities, and members (clients)
- Cessation trainings for pharmacists have been implemented, including option to enroll as a Medicaid tobacco cessation provider
- There has been a significant increase in communications between and among the MCOs, Department of Health, Department of Drug and Alcohol, and Department of Human Services/Office on Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services resulting in uniform messaging, increased engagement and utilization of existing DOH resources

To learn about what the Center of Excellence can provide you, visit tobaccofreerecovery.org or call our toll-free line at **1-877-509-3786**. If your state is interested in holding a Leadership Academy Summit in 2021, please contact [Christine Cheng](#), Partner Relations Director.

Tobacco-Free for Recovery Trainings

In addition to the State Leadership Academy Summit opportunities, the Center of Excellence is pleased to offer the following trainings with the National Council for Behavioral Health:

- Springfield and Oak Park Illinois, June 2020 (sponsored by ALA and SCLC)
- Anchorage, Alaska, August 2020
- San Francisco, CA, September 2020

These trainings will provide technical assistance and educational resources to help facilities establish and maintain tobacco-free grounds, as well as explain how to enhance evidence-based tobacco cessation activities for individuals with behavioral health conditions. Participants will learn how to utilize data and evaluation to support ongoing tobacco programming efforts. All trainings offer free accreditation.

[Subscribe to our mailing list](#) to learn about these trainings and other future opportunities.

Announcements

Webinar Bundle Promotion

Earn up to 22.5 credits of FREE CME/CEU

SCLC is offering accredited webinar bundles for **FREE**. Use code **SAMHSA23**.

Topics include engaging health professionals around cessation, state and community approaches to tobacco control, quitlines, behavioral health, smoke-free public housing, smokeless tobacco, online interventions for cessation, pharmacotherapy, tobacco harm reduction, veterans and tobacco, health systems change for tobacco cessation, e-cigs and vaping, FDA regulations and non-daily smokers.

Online learning at your own pace. [Click here for more information and to register for a collection.](#)

Resources

- [Quitting Tobacco: Help Your Clients to a Healthier Life](#)
- [Implementing Tobacco Cessation Programs In Substance Use Disorder Treatment Settings](#)
- [Enhance Your State's Tobacco Cessation Efforts Among the Behavioral Health Population](#)
- [Infographic: The Opioid Epidemic and Smoking Quick Facts](#)

Visit tobaccofreerecovery.org for more resources, including materials created by Leadership Academy States.



Smoking Cessation
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