

NATIONAL LGBT TOBACCO CONTROL NETWORK NEWSLETTER

March 2009

Director's Note

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Oh yeah, Spring is peeking around the corner, and you know what that means don't you? Federal officials are mad busy with two breaking issues, getting the health **stimulus** money out as fast as the law requires and getting draft health policy objectives in for **Healthy People 2020** by end of March. OK, maybe that doesn't happen every Spring but heads up because this means we need to be providing good ol' fashioned input for these decisions whenever possible right? I'm dang happy to report that after a meeting of **National Tobacco Disparity Network Consortium** last week in TX, we are moving quickly to create and circulate *joint* position statements for these policy opportunities. This joint position statement includes, of course, our top priority item, adding an **LGBT question** to those big health surveys! So we'll keep you updated on this as it changes.

As I was writing last month I was about to jet off to the biggest LGBT leadership conference, **Creating Change**. Kudos to **NLGTF** staff for adding a rich health track to this conference, making it a full meal indeed! Yay to tobacco stalwarts **Blue, Ernesto, Cree, and Ryan Li** who all helped with our presentation. And the big buzz this year was **netroots**. Like grassroots, netroots organizing is using new media like Facebook, MySpace, blogs, RSS feeds, and Twitter to outreach. Gotta say, my brain was really filled with ideas on how to do it different. And just today the **Washington Post** has an article on how this is changing LGBT organizing, see it at <http://bit.ly/umCuo>. So, as our first tiny step, we would like to invite you to follow the NatNet on **Twitter @lgbttobacco**! As some of you know, Twitter is easy and short so come on follow us, we promise to follow you too!

OK, there's lots of opportunities and work happening round the country, so read on.



Kaijson (Twitterer) & Scott (blogger) at Creating Change, having dinner 2009 style

Current Opportunities

Call For Abstracts for the 2009 LGBTQ Tobacco Summit: Don't delay submit one now! Especially interested in abstracts for: evidence-based programs, working with the business community, youth participation in tobacco control, how tobacco control can work with other fields (i.e. HIV, Mental Health, Substance Abuse), and reaching all of our communities. **Deadline is April 3, 2009.** <http://2009summit.googlepages.com/>

National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Trans Health Survey is still open! <https://online.survey.psu.edu/spanishendtransdiscrim/> is the link in Spanish and <https://online.survey.psu.edu/endtransdiscrim/> is the link in English.

Registration waiver for the National Conference on Tobacco or Health deadline is Saturday, February 28th. http://www.tobaccocontrolconference.org/2009/Scholarship_Program.html Also remember **early bird registration** ends March 15th.

Registration is now open for the 2009 LGBTQ Tobacco Summit, themed Breathe Equality, which will take place in Phoenix, Arizona on June 9th! Please visit the website as <http://2009summit.googlepages.com/>

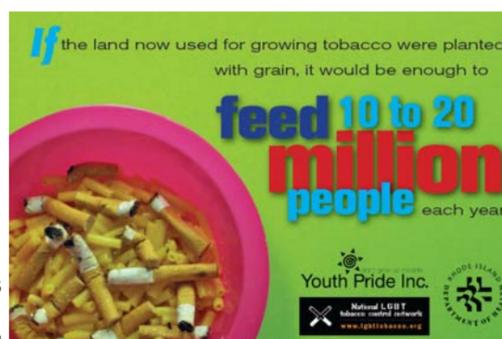
Request for Applications from the New York Department of Health: Health and Human Services for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Individuals, Families and Communities is a one-time funding award to support improved capacity within organizations and communities **Application due March 20, 2009.** <http://www.health.state.ny.us/funding/rfa/0812010927/0812010927.pdf>

Request for Proposals from the New York Department of Health: Center of Excellence in Tobacco Policy will support the work of the NY tobacco control community by providing guidance and technical assistance in the following areas: policy development, research and dissemination, and technical assistance. **Application due March 18, 2009.** <http://www.health.state.ny.us/funding/rfp/0709140400/0709140400.pdf>

Submit a workshop or panel proposal for the 2009 LGBTI Health Summit: The LGBTI Summit will focus on *Health Through the Life Course* and will be held August 14-18 in Chicago. **Deadline is March 31, 2009.** For more information: <http://www.2009lgbtihealth.org/content/page/workshop-proposal-submission-information>

Project and Resource Highlights

Check out the cool countermarketing postcard created by the youth at **Youth Pride Inc.** in Rhode Island. This postcard and a matching poster were used around Pride last year as part of a youth tobacco control project. We were able to go out and meet with the youth to talk about some basic tobacco facts, then they used that to brainstorm and work with a designer to create this promotional piece. We think it's a great job! So check out this and all the other materials submitted to the network under the **Countermarketing** section of the **Resource Library** at www.lgbttobacco.org.



News From the Field

Thanks to the **North American Quitline Consortium** for offering all National Networks free membership, we look forward to even more collaborative work!

National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC) is working to make Youth Pride tobacco free in DC this year. They promise to check back and tell us what they've learned.

The **National African American Tobacco Prevention Network (NAATPN)** is a lead organizer for the Menthol conference on October 19th-20th in D.C. We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Alicia Matthews** will be representing the Network on the organizing calls. Thank you Alicia! For more information on the conference or on NAATPN please visit their website at: www.naatpn.org.

We would like to encourage people to visit the **CDC tobacco disparity networks website** and take the survey to give us feedback! www.tobaccopreventionnetworks.org

New Mexico Media Literacy Project is in production of an LGBTQI resource. We are creating a DVD with a media literacy presentation on LGBTQI tobacco and alcohol prevention using media examples from magazines, television, and film. We will be unveiling the resource in Phoenix at the LGBTQ Summit and NCTOH. For more information, please contact NMMLP at 505-828-3129 or collins@aa.edu.

Need more evidence that smoking is a problem in our communities? Down at UNC and Duke, **Joseph Lee, Gabe Griffin, and Cathy Melvin** just published a study on over 20 years worth of research on LGBT smoking. They found and reported on 42 studies, and we now have even clearer evidence that there are big disparities in smoking. The abstract is online at: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19208668>

Congratulations to **Loretta Worthington of Tobacco Free Lavender Coalition (TLC)** and the other disparity networks from MN for getting the highest rated disparity abstract at NCTOH, so look out for their 90 minute presentation at NCTOH in June!

News From the Network

The network had a great opportunity this month to meet with **OUTspoken**, a community education program through **Youth Pride Rhode Island**. We presented on the work the network does and leadership opportunities that we have for youth in tobacco control work. We will be co-presenting on tobacco with one of their youth at the upcoming **True Colors Conference**.

Like we mentioned, we also spent time at the Creating Change conference and a later meeting of all CDC Tobacco Disparity Networks. Great connects and ideas came out of both events.



Unfortunately, one less fun piece of news we have is our **Legacy Leave No Funds Behind** Project, which worked to connect LGBTs with tobacco funding across the country, was, due to the economy, not eligible for a second year. So we're trying madly to see how to keep that sustained on its own power. Woah, breaking news, maybe you saw today that **Legacy just announcing phasing out all their grants!** Drats, dang, and blast this economy!

Scout also spent time in Minnesota, doing technical assistance for the state tobacco disparity networks, where he's coming back with some especially interesting stories about helping the **Southeast Asian Network, STEEP**, build good evaluation strategies.

Mostly of course, our big push is still to help support the massive community drive organizing that makes the **LGBTQ Tobacco Summit** happen each year. So, let us remind you this is your event and being part of the organizing group is your chance to meet and work with great folk from all over. So come one, come all, hit us at lgbttobacco@gmail.com and we we'll get you hooked up with the organizers!

What's On Our Calendar?

March 4th, Scout will be at the **Healthy People 2020** planning meeting in Washington D.C. More info at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/HP2020/>.

March 5th, Scout will be presenting at the **Quality Provider Forum for the Family Health Council of Central PA**, a training for subcontractors and provider networks in the area. Find out more at <http://www.fhccp.org/>.

March 6-8th, **National Lesbian Health Summit**, San Francisco, CA. Find out more at www.lesbianhealthinfo.org

March 8-12th, **World Conference on Tobacco or Health**, Mumbai India. **Naphtali Offen** is definitely going and wants to get all the LGBTQs together. www.14wctoh.org.

March 8-14th, **LGBT Health Awareness Week**, see how you can participate at the National Coalition for LGBT Health website, www.lgbthealth.net

March 12th-14th, **True Colors Conference XVI**, Storrs, CT. This year's theme is *Mental and Behavioral Health*. For more information on this LGBT youth conference please visit their website at: www.ourtruecolors.org

March 24th, The Network is proud to co-sponsor with **Boundless** the upcoming presentation, *Become a moving target: How big tobacco and alcohol target the LBT community* by Andrea Quijada of the New Mexico Media Literacy Project. Presented at 630pm at 7 Haviland Street, Boston, For more information please email lgbttobacco@gmail.com.

March 26th– 29th, **11th Annual Colorado Gold Rush**, Denver CO is a national transgendered conference hosted by the Gender Identity clinic of Colorado. For more information, go to <http://cgr2009.eventbrite.com/>.

Help Us Keep You Informed

The best way to stay informed is by joining our discussion listserv at www.lgbttobacco.org

Is there anything you want us to put in our next newsletter? News from the field? Opportunities? Some resource you want to highlight? Please hit us at

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Peace,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

Scout, Mr. Network Director
