

NATIONAL LGBT TOBACCO CONTROL NETWORK NEWSLETTER

February 2009

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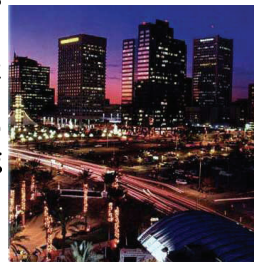
Director's Note

Welcome to 2009, and what a year it promises to be! I just got back from the **Inauguration** in DC because I'll tell you, if I didn't see it with my own eyes, I'd probably still be wondering if it was one huge dream. And while we, of course, don't want to express any political affiliations, I do want to point out some of the ways the incoming administration has laid out tangible policies that will positively impact LGBT people, and therefore LGBT disparities nationwide. First, I know not everyone realizes that in most states it's legal to fire people just for being LGBT, but unfortunately that is true. So we were heartened to see an early stand against discrimination when the Obama transition team announced they would not discriminate



against LGBT people in their consideration of incoming appointees. Then a further amazing step was publishing an historic 8-point LGBT civil rights platform on his transition website, which included support to pass a **non-discrimination law** nationwide. Yes indeed, change is starting at the top, and we are really looking forward to how that might impact all of our work over the coming years. So, as 2009 starts out on a big wave of hope for so many, it's speeding right from there into **Creating Change!** Yup, if you don't know, Creating Change is the largest LGBT leadership conference nationwide, and right now over 2,000 amazing people are flying to Denver to join in learning and planning strategies to make a difference in 2009. Tomorrow (at 4 am!) I'm flying out to Creating Change to do our usual shtick, which is roughly stand anywhere I can and beg folk to think about how they can expand their focus to include tobacco. Alright, not exactly begging, apparently I'm presenting at 5 or so workshops, but it's all the same point – come on, think about how you can start working on tobacco too!

But wait, the most important news we have is... thanks to our valiant new co-chairs, **Loretta Worthington, Sunshine**, and **Blue** (rock on all the one name folks) planning has already started for the **2009 LGBTQ Tobacco Control Summit**. Remember it's already an **ancillary meeting for the next National Conference on Tobacco or Health**, so plan on coming to **Phoenix on June 9th**, for the next summit!



Current Opportunities

DEADLINE EXTENDED to 2/6/09 for nominations for Legacy's Tobacco Industry Documents Awards - www.americanlegacy.org/awardsTIDA

Call for Applications for the Dr. Alma S. Adams Scholarship for Outreach and Health Communications, due April 30th - adamsscholarship@americanlegacy.org

American Public Health Association Meeting call for Abstracts, deadline is Feb. 9th. Especially help us here, let's get more than one transgender abstract at this meeting this year, kay? <http://www.apha.org/meetings> or <http://apha.confex.com/apha/137am/oasys.epl>

American Lung Association is calling for nominees for the Unsung Hero Award, due March 2nd. Uh, we can't find an easy link for the nomination form, so email us at lgbtto-bacco@gmail.com and we'll email you the app form.

Abstracts open for National Lesbian Health Summit <http://lesbianhealthinfo.org/NationalLesbianHealthSummit/aboutthesummit.html>

Request for Proposals from the Connecticut Department of Public Health
All applicants must send written notice of their intent to apply to the DPH by **February 6, 2009**. **Full Applications are due February 18, 2009**. The purpose of this request for proposals is to increase tobacco use cessation services for residents, especially disparate populations. http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3152&q=389676&dphNav_GID=1601

Project and Resource Highlights



We are very happy to have just mailed out 1600 copies of **Sharing Our Lessons: Making Minnesota's Quitlines Accessible to LGBTs**. **Blue Cross Blue Shield of MN** has really done an outstanding job on this multiyear effort. And they've developed several things out of this that you are likely to see hit nationwide, like the LGBT-inclusive cognitively tested surveillance question, a quit-tips guide for LGBTs, or the LGBT cultural competency training that is being integrating into a forthcoming online continuing medical education training.

So, if you didn't get a copy of this issue of *Sharing our Lessons* yet, why not? Aren't you on

So, if you didn't get a copy of this issue of *Sharing our Lessons* yet, why not? Aren't you on our mailing lists? Hit us at lgbttobacco@gmail.com. And catch the issue online at <http://lgbttobacco.org/files/SOL%20V2%20quitlines.pdf>

News From the Field

- Congratulations to many of us because after sitting on the review committee for presentations at the upcoming **National Conference on Tobacco or Health** I know LGBT folk submitted an amazing number of great abstracts!! Great job!
- Congratulations to **Prescott Pride Center in Arizona** for getting a new LGBT tobacco award from the state!
- Congratulations also to **James** and all the folks at **Youth Pride of Rhode Island** for the same!

Know anyone else who's gotten funding, or done something notable? Puhlease, tell us!

News From the Network

In December **Lisa Harrison** participated in a meeting with the **National Latino Tobacco Control Network at the Latino Commission** on Aids in New York City. We discussed the overlap between the Latino LGBT community and how the LGBT TCN can build better bridges in this community. One area that was raised as a concern was the lack of data in the **Transgender Latino** community. One way to respond to this need was to encourage people to take the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Trans Health Survey** which includes questions about tobacco use. The specific tobacco questions are 51-53 of this survey. Please find the links here: <https://online.survey.psu.edu/spanishendtransdiscrim/> is the link in Spanish and <https://online.survey.psu.edu/endtransdiscrim/> is the link in English. Please disseminate this survey widely. We will keep you posted with the results and stay tuned for some upcoming collaborative work with the Latino advocates!

It's also been an exciting month for the **Leave No Funds Behind** Project. We successfully completed our three part **webinar series** in which over 40 participants in 20 states joined in to hear about the \$100,000 funding opportunity through the **American Legacy Foundation**. We heard many innovative ideas and are thrilled that LGBT organizations are passionate about tackling tobacco health disparities. We'd love to replicate this series for other funding opportunities, so if you hear of any in your state or nationally let us know!

Scout also did some stuff since our last newsletter, including presenting on LGBT data collection at the fall **National Coalition for LGBT Health** meeting; presenting on a few things at the **American Public Health Association** conference; giving a plenary at the **Gay and Lesbian Medical Association** conference; but that's old news now. Wait though, we also participated in a super rare Parity Alliance meeting in D.C. in December. The **Parity Alliance** is a group of Community of Color and LGBT leaders working to advance tobacco disparity work nationally. Watch for work coming out of that really cool planning session, and thanks to the **Asian American Pacific Islander network, APPEAL**, for spearheading that gathering.

What's On Our Calendar?

January 28th – Feb 1, **Creating Change** in Denver. As we said, this is the flat out biggest gathering of LGBTQ community leaders anywhere, come on down to meet 2000 vibrant advocates and activists. http://www.thetaskforce.org/events/creating_change.

February 4th-8th, 23rd annual conference of the **International Foundation for Gender Education** for more info. Visit: <http://www.ifge.org/conference>

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.

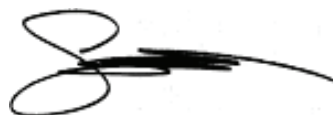
March 8-14th, **LGBT Health Awareness Week**, see how you can participate at the National Coalition for LGBT Health website, www.lgbthealth.net

March 12th-14th **True Colors Conference**, True Colors XVI *Mental and Behavioral Health* for more information on this LGBT youth conference please visit their website at: www.ourtruecolors.org

Help Us Keep You Informed

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 lgbttobacco@gmail.com or 617-927-6451.

Peace... and now Hope too,



Scout

