

NATIONAL LGBT TOBACCO CONTROL NETWORK NEWSLETTER

April 2008

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Director's Note

In the last two weeks, we've had two states open funding opportunities to create new statewide initiatives for LGBT tobacco control. Considering only about six states have LGBT networks, this is a huge leap forward, and I bet we're going to see a lot more of it in 2008 which is very exciting.

But the hard other side of the equation is that policymakers are nosing ahead of LGBT communities in seeing the importance of this issue. The last year has been riddled with news of funders not getting good enough applicants for LGBT tobacco funds, or worse, getting no applicants at all. What do we do to ensure that money to address a key health issue for LGBTs isn't left on the table?

The Network has always offered to help funders, be a bridge to connect and provide technical support to community groups who might be promising applicants. Now we're happy to announce that with a new **LGBT Tobacco Leave No Funds Behind Project** we're hoping to really dig into that issue, and hopefully create some better strategies to fix this problem.

But let me not give everything away, read on for more details on this and about our new **Stump the Scientist** challenge.

Current Opportunities

The **West Virginia** Bureau for Public Health's Division of Tobacco Prevention is requesting [applications for grants](#) up to **\$25,000 for 4 organizations** to reduce the high prevalence of tobacco addiction and use and the high rates of disease, disability, and death related to tobacco use by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) adult population residing in West Virginia.

For questions regarding this application please contact: Bruce Adkins, Director for the Division of Tobacco Prevention at: bruceadkins@wvdhhr.org or 304.558.2938 and go to <http://www.wvdtp.org/Tools/Documents/tabid/694/Default.aspx> for the full RFP.

The **Iowa** Department of Public Health also just released an RFP requesting applications for awards up to \$100,000 to support tobacco prevention and control initiatives to eliminate tobacco-related disparities in the LGBT community in Iowa.

Written questions are due by April 2, 2008 to Stacey Hewitt at shewitt@idph.state.ia.us and proposals are due **May 7, 2008**.

Go to http://www.idph.state.ia.us/apl/notice_of_funds.asp and click on **Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Priority Populations Networks RFP** for the full RFP.

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Project and Resource Highlights

Ever struggle to see if there's been anything published on some facet of LGBT tobacco control you need to know about?

Now many of us are familiar with the name Heather Ryan because she was the lead author on an overview of all LGBT tobacco studies published in 2001. And we were thrilled to find out that Heather Ryan hasn't stopped collecting every single LGBT tobacco article she's ever found *and* she's willing to share.

So it's with great pleasure that we debut the newest addition to our library, the **Heather Ryan annotated bibliography of all LGBT tobacco articles** ever published! (wonks can even get a citation database from us). Find it here: <http://www.lgbttobacco.org/resources.php?ID=37#39>

Better yet, to make sure this is 1000% complete we'd like to introduce the "**Stump the Scientist Challenge**". For the next 60 days, we challenge anyone to find any article from the peer reviewed literature that mentions LGBT tobacco that she hasn't included. Winners will get \$50 of free materials from the CA Tobacco Education Clearinghouse. So, put your reading glasses on and get going, because last time I talked to Heather, I swear I heard her say "Bring it!"

News From the Field

Congratulations to **Youth Pride Incorporated** from Rhode Island for just getting a \$4,500 award from **RI Department of Health** to have the youth develop counter-marketing materials to distribute at Pride this year.

We're also happy to be working on this project with YPI too, helping to put those ads in more places and see if we can get some new grown-ups to wake up, realize they are role models, and call their quitline. Now if the smallest state in the Union can do it, why can't you?

Also a big thanks and congratulations to **Naphtali Offen, Elizabeth Smith, and Ruth Malone** for their research article "**Is tobacco a gay issue? Interviews with leaders of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community.**" This research involves interviews with 74 leaders in the LGBT community on their views of the role of tobacco in our community and whether or not it is a priority issues. Turns out that only 24% do identify tobacco as a priority issue! Check it out here: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez> by typing the title into the search function.

Also, last time we told you about the nasty pro-tobacco letter in the St. Louis gay paper, this time yay to Vital Voice for printing 3 rebuttal letters, and read them all here <http://lgbttobacco.org/resources.php?ID=22#26> (**scroll down to "Letters to the Editor"**).

Big congratulations to **Dr. Barbara Warren** who last night was feted to celebrate her 25 years of service at the New York LGBT Community Center. Barbara has been one of our longest term LGBT tobacco leaders, including serving as the co-chair of the 3rd LGBTI Tobacco Summit. In her tobacco work at the Center she pioneered contemplator cessation groups, has developed cutting edge cessation videos, and is probably the foremost expert on HIV and cessation. Most recently, she was a lead on the first-ever government approved LGBT cultural competency training (thru SAMHSA). So, big kudos to Barbara on this milestone and we look forward to lots more great work from you in the future. Hit her yourself with congratulations at barbaraw@gaycenter.org.

News From the Network

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Also, as mentioned earlier, we are very proud to have received \$100k from **American Legacy Foundation** to address a high priority issue for LGBT tobacco.

After this last year, we thought the biggest priority was to do work to make sure any policymaker who wants to fund this issue has a pool of excellent community-based applicants who can apply for the money.

So, we are proud to announce the **LGBT Tobacco Leave No Funds Behind Project**. We're working with states who are building work in this area, like WV, IA, and MA. **Does your state have LGBT funding coming soon?** Tell us and we might be able to add you to the roster of states we are working with.

Thanks to all who have been volunteering their time to be on our calls and give us input on what this network needs to do for you in our coming years. But don't stop giving us that needed feedback, we are proud that we were founded on the basis of our **National LGBT Communities Tobacco Action Plan** and we want to stay community-driven forever!

As a reminder, we are hiring for a **Project Coordinator** position to work on this grant. The ideal candidate will have significant community organizing experience, a strong interest in fighting Big Tobacco, and successful experience engaging and working with diverse community groups. The right person would also show a desire to grow with the project and wants to build ongoing leadership in a critical LGBT health arena. Multi-lingual and underrepresented population candidates are encouraged to apply... For application information & a position description, please go to: www.fenwayhealth.org

Well have a great month!

Sincerely,

Scout

The National LGBT Tobacco Control Network

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