

April 2009

Director's Note

## In this Issue

- CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES
- PROJECT/RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS
- NEWS FROM THE FIELD
- NEWS FROM THE NETWORK
- CALENDAR

## Quick Links

- NATIONAL NETWORKS
- DIRECTORY
- OUR WEBSITE
- RESOURCE LIBRARY
- JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER

Happy Spring everyone! It continues to be an exciting time for LGBT tobacco on many levels. Since our last newsletter we've gone to the **Healthy People 2020** mtg on tobacco and we banded with the directors of the 5 other [tobacco disparity networks](#) to present a joint priority statement to the head of CDC's **Office on Smoking and Health** and the head of the **National Center for Minority Health and Health Disparities**. Do you think our assessment of the top priorities in tobacco makes sense? See the joint statement [here](#) and please give us [feedback](#).

One of the big challenges in LGBT tobacco has always been that the major federal health surveys do not collect LGBT data. Happily, the **National Coalition for LGBT Health** has been doing some great work to change that. Matter of fact, they have an **Action Alert** out about it right now. At this point, the best info we have about LGBT smoking comes from a variety of state and independent surveys, it would be so great to just once and for all, get solid federal data on this health disparity.



We're happy to report that work on LGBT tobacco is happening even in the North Pole! Thanks to Wilbur Brown, I got to present at the **Alaska Tobacco Control Conference**, where I had some fascinating talks about LGBTs and tobacco control in Alaskan Native communities. While we're all talking about [Twitter](#) and social media down here, some places in Alaska are doing tobacco control work by CB. Pretty different, eh? Big yay to Tom Rachal and his new recruit Julie, who are pioneering LGBT tobacco work in Anchorage.

But the big news now is still preparation for our next LGBT Tobacco Control Summit, June 9<sup>th</sup> in Phoenix, AZ. Are you coming? Have you [registered](#)? Or want to help plan the [event](#)? Come on down and get active.

Best,  
Scout

p.s. And remember, follow us at [@lgbttobacco](#) on [Twitter](#)!



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## Current Opportunities

**Missouri**—Tobacco Prevention & Cessation Initiative:  
<http://www.mffh.org/tobaccoabout.htm>

**South Dakota**—Community Tobacco Coalition Grant Application:  
<http://dhs.sd.gov/ada/documents/FY2010TobaccoGrantApplicationforWeb.pdf>

**Department of Health and Human Services** - Learn how you can receive recovery money in your state: <http://www.recovery.gov/?q=content/state-recovery-page>

Check out the RFP Database <http://www.rfpdb.com/> for current tobacco RFPs!

## Project and Resource Highlights

### National LGBTQ Tobacco Summit

**Registration and Scholarship opportunities are now open**

For more information, please visit:  
<http://2009summit.googlepages.com/>

With the Summit only a month and a half away we have been working to solidify the programming for the June 9<sup>th</sup> event. We're thrilled to have topics that will reach all of our communities including *Tobacco in the LGBT Latino Community*, *Tobacco in the Native American Community*, & *Tobacco in Rural Communities*. New to the Summit this year - we will incorporate skills building opportunities with presentations such as *Evaluation on a Shoestring Budget & Working with the Business Community*. Finally, as we recognize the immense benefit of collaboration, we will invite Summit participants to learn about more about *Substance Abuse and Tobacco Control* and *Tobacco and People Living With HIV/AIDS (PLWHA)*

We are also please to announce that our evening entertainment will be international comedian **Rene Hicks**! Rene is an out stand-up comic who has appeared on NBC, Comedy Central, and MTV. Rene is a lung cancer survivor, a disease she developed from second-hand smoke in comedy clubs. We are thrilled to have her presence at the summit and for her to share her insight and humor on tobacco, and life itself

**Please enter yourselves into our Project Directory**, an online guide to who's who in tobacco control and LGBT's. To register, please visit:  
<http://lgbttobacco.org/reachout.php>

Word on the street is, we got one of the best online **resource library's** on LGBT tobacco. You can make it even better by [sending](#) us your publications, presentations, and resources.

## News From the Field

The DC Center has launched a new website, [www.outtoquit.org](http://www.outtoquit.org), and is launching a new ad campaign featuring GLBT community members in D.C. who have quit smoking in the past year. They hope to kick off our first 'Freedom From Smoking' class in May.

Joseph Lee of UNC Department of Family Medicine's Tobacco Prevention and Evaluation Program, questions Human Rights Campaign's perfect rating of Reynolds Tobacco Company in QNotes, Carolinas' premier LGBT publication. Lee contended that his main opposition to Reynolds' perfect 100 score stems from evidence of the company's history of marketing has increased tobacco use among LGBT people. Study after study confirms that disproportionate numbers of lesbian and gay adults and youth smoke. Check out the full article <http://www.q-notes.com/2009/03/21/stamp-of-approval/>

A new article has been published in the American Journal of Public Health highlighting smoking rates of male-to-female transgenders in New York City. Sanchez NF, Sanchez JP, and Danoff A. reported on the health care utilization, barriers to care, and hormone usage among male-to-female transgender persons in New York City. They reported a 49.5% smoking prevalence for MtoF transgender people recruited at three sites in New York City in 2007. You can find an abstract of the article [here](#).

## News From the Network



Sasha and Lisa presented at the True Colors Conference at UCONN last month on tobacco control and its effects on GLBTQ Youth. We were lucky to have a youth from Youth Pride Rhode Island come speak with us to give a youth perspective on what it is like to be a former smoker. The crowd of youth were engaged with the presentation and we are hoping this leads to further opportunities with youth.

On March 24<sup>th</sup> The Network cosponsored the Fenway Boundless event. The Network is happy to report that we had a full house and this was the best attended Boundless event for this past year. Executive Director for the New Mexico Media Literacy Project, Andrea Quijada, gave an amazing presentation on how tobacco and alcohol companies are using marketing to target the LGB community. Her presentation explored particular companies marketing towards LBT's, what specific alcohol and tobacco companies are targeting LBT's, and presented several counter marketing campaigns designed by health organizations and/or LGBT organizations. We would also like to encourage folks to contact Andrea at the NMMLP or check out their website for more information at: <http://www.nmmlp.org/>. Thank you to Andrea, and the Fenway Institute for making this event such a large success!



L to R: Sasha, Lisa, Andrea, Vanessa

## What's On Our Calendar?

**April 29th & 30th**– Scout will be presenting at the 2009 Young Adults Conference: Prevention Connections in Virginia. Scout will be discussing Tailored Strategies to Impact Young Adults in the LGBT Community. More information can be found at: <http://www.preventionconnections.org/conference.shtml>

**May 13th**– Equality Cares conference in New York City. This first-of-its-kind conference will address how LGBT consumers of mental health, mental retardation and developmental disability, and alcoholism and substance abuse services can receive the affirming, culturally competent care that they deserve and need. For more information, please visit: <http://www.rainbowheights.org/>

**May 15th**– Last day to get your special conference hotel rate for the 2009 NCTOH: [http://www.tobaccocontrolconference.org/2009/Lodging\\_Travel.html](http://www.tobaccocontrolconference.org/2009/Lodging_Travel.html)

**May 28th & 29th**– Unite with Minnesota tobacco control advocates at *Expanding the Movement: Power in Unity for Tobacco Control*. This conference will highlight critical tobacco control issues in Minnesota's priority populations. For more information, please visit: <http://www.mnprioritypopulations.org/>

**June 9th**– Join us in Phoenix, AZ for the 7th annual LGBTQ Tobacco Control Summit! For registration and more information, please visit <http://2009summit.googlepages.com/>

## Help Us Keep You Informed

The best way to stay informed is by joining our discussion listserv at [www.lgbttobacco.org](http://www.lgbttobacco.org). And if you are on Twitter, please add us at @lgbttobacco!

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](mailto:lgbttobacco@gmail.com) or 617-927-6452.

Peace,

Scout, Mr. Network Director

Lisa, Mr. Network Manager

Vanessa, Funding Specialist

Sasha, King of all Network Data