Welcome to NAQC Connections ... Keeping members and partners connected to timely and upcoming events in the quitline community.

Next Issue—September 15th

In this issue ... NAQC thanks staff member Annamaria Feltracco for many contributions, register now for NAQC Sept. Conference Call, CTUMS 2007 data available.

News & Updates

NAQC Thanks Annamaria Feltracco for Her Many Contributions
At the end of August, Annamaria Feltracco’s contract with NAQC ended. Annamaria was NAQC’s Manager of Research & Evaluation Activities from December 2006 to August 2008. During her time as a consultant with NAQC, Annamaria’s contributions to NAQC were many. Notably, she worked to develop the 2006 NAQC Annual Survey dataset, staffed the MDS Work Group to complete a report on the MDS Implementation (due to be published Sept. 2008) and lead the development of the 2008 NAQC Annual Survey. Annamaria also provided an important linkage to the Canadian quitline community.

Prior to being involved as a staff consultant, Annamaria was a founding member of NAQC and involved in many important activities, including co-chair of the Promotions Task Force. We are pleased that Annamaria will continue as a member of NAQC and we look forward to her continued involvement in helping advance the quitline community in North America. NAQC would like to thank Annamaria for her leadership and many contributions as a staff consultant and wish her continued success in her work.

Anna may be reached at afeltracco@xplornet.com. For questions about NAQC research and evaluation activities, please contact NAQC@naquitline.org.

Navajo President Vetoes Smoking Ban
Last week Navajo Nation President Joe Shirley, Jr. vetoed the Commercial Tobacco Free Act that would have banned cigarette smoking and tobacco chewing in all public places on the Navajo Nation, including casinos, and the Sales Tax Fairness in Distribution Act, which would have changed how Navajo sales taxes are distributed to chapters. In his veto message, Shirley said that although it is indisputable and widely known that commercial and smokeless tobacco use is harmful to individual users and those affected by secondhand smoke, he was concerned that the ban would infringe upon bona fide religious ceremonies, affect the Nation’s ability to generate revenues through its gaming initiative, did not address concerns of due process and equal protection and failed to adequately focus on underage smoking.

Reports Reveals Trend of State Support for Tobacco Control Programs on the Decline
According to the report State Legislated Actions on Tobacco Issues, published by the American Lung Association and supported by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, there has been a pattern of decreased and flat funding for state tobacco control programs. Read full report.
Research

MMWR Features Article on Smoking Prevalence Among Women of Reproductive Age

The August 2008 issue of Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report featured an article on the smoking prevalence among U.S. women of reproductive age. According to 2006 data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), there is a six-fold difference in current smoking prevalence between the states and territories among women of reproductive age (18-44). The median prevalence was 22.4% with a range of 5.8% in the United States Virgin Islands to 34.7% in Kentucky. Current smoking prevalence was highest among non-Hispanic whites (24.5%), those with high school education (29.4%), those with less than high school education (28.3%) and divorced, widowed, or separated women (34.7%). These variations are likely due to differences in socioeconomic determinants (e.g. race/ethnicity, education, marital status) of smoking, differing social norms around tobacco use and variation in implementation of tobacco control programs and policies in states. View online journal.

Resources & Information

NAQC 2008 Updated Conference Call Schedule

Be sure to take note of the recent NAQC Information e-Bulletin sent to all members with an updated NAQC 2008 Conference Call Calendar. We are excited about the conference calls schedule for the remainder of 2008, which reflect new and innovative work happening in our quitline community. We hope you are able to join us for the calls. Below are details about the next two upcoming calls:

“NIH Grant – Knowledge Integration in Quitlines: Networks that Improve Cessation (KIQ NIC)”
September 3: 3:30 - 5PM ET and September 5: 12:30 - 2PM ET

Recently a grant was awarded to the Arizona Cancer Center at The University of Arizona to work with NAQC to better understand the communication mechanisms by which NAQC members interact, share new evidence, make decisions on how and when to implement new knowledge and adopt practices that they believe will improve quitline outcomes. The goal of the study is to strengthen the NAQC network so that we can improve dissemination, adoption and implementation of best practices. Over 40 quitlines provided letters of support for this study when we were submitting the proposal in 2006. During the presentation, the research team will describe the research, options for engaging NAQC members in the study and options for providing feedback to NAQC. Members will have an opportunity to provide feedback, ask questions and share ideas related to the grant. Register Now.

“The 2008 Annual Survey of Quitlines”
October 8: 3:30 - 5PM ET and October 10: 12:30 - 2PM ET

NAQC and the Evaluation, Research and Development Unit at the University of Arizona are partnering to implement the 2008 NAQC Annual Survey in October, 2008. The Survey Work Group has improved the questionnaire to ensure that valuable data is collected and to make the survey easy to complete. This call will provide a review of the 2008 survey to highlight changes in the questions and also to train respondents on using the online questionnaire. We encourage all those who will be involved in completing the questionnaire to participate in one of the calls. The call offer a valuable opportunity for quitline funders and vendors to ask questions and get answers that will be useful for completing the survey.

NAQC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for FY 09

The schedule of meeting dates for FY 09 for the NAQC Board of Directors has been finalized (below). All meetings will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.
September 11-12, 2008
December 11-12, 2008
March 19-20, 2009
June 9-10, 2009

1-800 QUIT NOW Monthly Call Volume Report Now Posted

The 1-800 QUIT NOW monthly call volume report for the period November 9, 2004 through July 31, 2008 is now posted to the US Network of Quitlines bulletin board on the NAQC member site.
2007 CTUMS Data Now Available
The Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey (CTUMS) was developed to provide timely, reliable, and continual data on tobacco use and related issues. Results for the CTUMS for 2007 are now available. The data show that 19% of the Canadian population aged 15 years and older were current smokers (about 5.2 million smokers), unchanged from the same period one year ago. Slightly more males (20%) reported smoking compared to females (18%). The difference between the male and female smoking rate has narrowed from 6% in 2005 to only 2% in 2007. The current smoking rate among youth aged 15-19 years was 15% for the second year in a row (about 331,000 teens). The CTUMS results for 2007 showed that the rate of smoking ranged from a low of 14% in British Columbia to a high of 24% in Saskatchewan.

New NCI Monograph – “The Role of the Media in Promoting and Reducing Tobacco Use”
National Cancer Institute’s new monograph, “The Role of the Media in Promoting and Reducing Tobacco Use,” is now available. The following link provides access to the full monograph, executive summary, fact sheets and other additional resources: [http://www.cancercontrol.caner.gov/tcrb/monographs/19/index.html](http://www.cancercontrol.caner.gov/tcrb/monographs/19/index.html).

JAPNA Extends Call for Papers Deadline to October 1 for Special Issue “Failure to Act Equals Harm; Action Equals Hope Smoking Cessations in Persons with Mental Disorders”
Journal of the American Psychiatric Nurses Associations (JAPNA) extends its call for papers for a special issue of the journal to October 1, 2008. The special issue will be titled Failure to Act Equals Harm; Action Equals Hope Smoking Cessations in Persons with Mental Disorders. Papers for the journal should focus on the intersection between tobacco use and nicotine dependence, mental disorders, smoking cessation interventions and psychiatric nursing practice. Article submissions may include linkages between mental disorders and smoking behavior patterns, issues related to nicotine dependence and innovative models of smoking cessation intervention including harm reduction approaches. Data based manuscripts and state-of-the-science/critical literature reviews are preferred. All manuscripts should include key practice points that can be implemented in the healthcare setting by psychiatric nurses. [Learn more.](#)

Updated State Tobacco Tax Fact Sheets
The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids has updated its state tobacco tax fact sheets.

Latest Issue of Legal Update Now Available
Published by the Tobacco Control Legal Consortium, this issue of Legal Update features the Legal Consortium’s most recent publication, “Workplace Smoking: Options for Employees and Legal Rights for Employers.”

Updated State Tobacco Tax Fact Sheets
The Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids has updated its state tobacco tax fact sheets.

Visit the NAQC Connections Archive. For more information about NAQC Connections or to submit information for consideration in its next issue, email bbrvan@naquitline.org.

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