Welcome to the NAQC Information e-Bulletin ... a special communication designed to provide important, time-sensitive information that may impact quitline operations and services.

**NAQC Welcomes Jessie Saul, Ph.D., as Its New Director of Research**

NAQC is excited to announce that Jessie Saul, Ph.D., will join the NAQC team on September 29 as its new Director of Research. In this newly created position, Jessie will serve as part of NAQC’s senior management team. Her primary responsibilities will be to maintain and enhance NAQC’s research portfolio, which includes its annual survey of quitlines, Minimal Data Set (MDS) for evaluating quitlines and implementation of the Quality Improvement Initiative. She will also work to establish a research infrastructure for NAQC that actively engages research members and serves all members as well as the quitline community. Additionally, Jessie will work with NAQC’s CEO on strategic planning and development of funding proposals for new research activities.

Jessie has a long history of dedication to NAQC and its work both as a member of the organization and short-term consultant. As a founding member, she has been active in NAQC work groups, including serving as co-chair of the MDS Assessment Work Group and as a member of the Research & Evaluation Work Group. During MDS implementation, Jessie provided valuable guidance to NAQC members as a short-term technical consultant.

NAQC will benefit greatly from Jessie’s valuable experience in tobacco cessation. For the past five years, she has been with ClearWay Minnesota. During much of Jessie’s time with ClearWay, she oversaw the organization’s evaluation activities for its tobacco cessation interventions, including its telephone quitline. Jessie has also served as lead and co-author for a number of tobacco control-related articles and presented on tobacco control issues nationally.

Jessie holds a Ph.D. in Science & Technology studies from Cornell University and a B.S. in Physics from Boston College.

Please join us in welcoming Jessie to NAQC! Having her on board in the newly created Director of Research position will enable NAQC to increase its focus on research activities that will benefit the entire quitline community.

To reach Jessie at NAQC on or after her start date on September 29, please email her at Jsaul@naquitline.org.

About the North American Quitline Consortium:
NAQC is a Phoenix, Arizona-based 501(3)(c) organization that seeks to promote evidence based quitline services across diverse communities in North America.