The Tobacco Issues Forum (TIF) is a workgroup led by ASTHO, currently co-chaired by Dr. Greg Holzman (MT) and Amy Winter (MS) under the guidance of our Community Health and Prevention Policy Committee (CHPPC) and comprised of members and staff from key affiliate and partner organizations including CDC, FDA Center for Tobacco Products, the Tobacco Control Network, the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, the National Association of City and County Health Officials, the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, the Department of Defense, the Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, the Directors of Health Promotion and Education, and other national tobacco control organizations as well as non-traditional tobacco partners. The workgroup meetings serve as an opportunity to share tobacco control activities and resources, understand the integrated priorities across other sectors that are impacted by tobacco policies, develop a collective voice across multi-sector partner organizations, and examine the overall picture of tobacco prevention and control at the local, state, and federal levels.

In 2019, Dr. Greg Holzman, MD, MPH, and Amy Winter, MPH, CPH, were appointed as co-chairs of the Forum. This is the second year in the Forum’s existence that the group will be led by co-chairs representing the executive and programmatic levels of the public health agency. Dr. Holzman is board certified in both family medicine and preventive medicine. Prior to joining Montana’s Department of Public Health and Human Services full time, Dr. Holzman was the Director of the Healthy Campus Initiative at Michigan State University (MSU). Ms. Winter is the director of the Office of Tobacco Control at Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH). Prior to that, Amy served as a nutritionist for 20 years with MSDH, with six of those years as the State Breastfeeding Coordinator. Ms. Winter joined the Office of Tobacco Control as the Director of Statewide Interventions in 2013, directing statewide tobacco cessation and education programs for youth and adults, community smoke-free air advocacy programs, early childhood interventions, and other tobacco cessation programs.

In 2018, ASTHO reestablished the Tobacco Issues Forum as a convening of both traditional and non-traditional partners to examine the overall picture of tobacco prevention and control in the United States and Territories among a diverse and cross-sectoral group of stakeholders. The Tobacco Issues Forum is now an intentional space that is dedicated to broadening the conversation and our understanding of the most equitable ways to integrate tobacco control policies and services across everchanging environments. New members include national and federal affiliates whose work spans from nutrition, oral hygiene, transportation, serving minority and other underrepresented priority groups, military service families, and the clinical delivery systems. New partners include the Department of Defense, Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, National LGBT Cancer Network, The National Alliance for Hispanic Health and others. For a complete list of agencies represented on the TIF, please contract ASTHO’s Chronic Disease team at chronicdisease@astho.org.
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