

Health Disparities Advisory Meeting | MINUTES

May 2, 2024, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 51 ppl.
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Advisory Group Meeting	
Facilitator:	LaShan Dixon, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (LaShan Dixon) “Never give up on someone with mental illness. When “I” is replaced with “we”, illness becomes wellness”. – Shannon L. Alder

(LaShan Dixon)

- **Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month** known as (AAPI Heritage) is an annual celebration that recognizes the historical and cultural contributions of individuals and groups of Asian and Pacific Islander descent to the United States. The AAPI umbrella term includes cultures from the entire Asian continent—including East, Southeast and South Asia—and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia. As of the 2020 U.S. Census, there were about 20.6 million people of Asian or Pacific Islander descent in the United States. According to the Pew Research Center, AAPI people are a diverse and growing population that make up about 7 percent of the total U.S. population. AAPI Heritage Month 2024 will take place from Wednesday, May 1 to Friday, May 31. [Events - AAPI Heritage Month Memphis 2024](#)
- **Jewish American Heritage Month** also known as (JAHM). Jews first arrived on American soil back in 1654 in New Amsterdam. In search of better opportunities and lifestyles, they made the U.S. their new home base, finding in it a space where they could openly practice their faith and lead their lives freely without the fear of persecution.

The efforts to create a Jewish American Heritage Month had been in the pipeline since 1980. The U.S. Congress passed and authorized a bill that would allow President Carter to designate a special week in either April or May for Jewish heritage celebrations. Finally, in April of 2006, the whole month of May was dedicated to recognizing and honoring Jewish contributions and achievements. Jewish people have also been great advocates for other minorities and their rights in America. They participated in the Civil Rights Movement, having showed up at voter registrations, rallies, sit-ins, etc. All the achievements by Jewish people, big and small, deserve to be recognized and celebrated.

In celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month, the Office of Access and Compliance at University of Tennessee Health Science Center cordially invites you to join us for a celebration of Jewish American culture and history. Drop by our table on May 7, 2024, in the Madison Plaza Lobby, from 12pm-1pm to explore informational literature highlighting the remarkable contributions of Jewish Americans to our nation. As a token of appreciation for your

participation, all visitors will be entered into a drawing for two tickets to the Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art and will receive a complimentary cookie from Ricki's Cookie Corner.

- **Mental Health Awareness Month** The world is constantly changing – for better or for worse – and it can be overwhelming to deal with everything going on around you. While society is getting more comfortable discussing mental health, it can still be hard to know “Where to Start” when it comes to taking care of your own well-being. This May, Mental Health America will help you:

LEARN how modern life affects mental health with new resources to navigate our changing world.

ACT by building your coping toolbox so you can manage stress, difficult emotions, and challenging situations.

ADVOCATE to improve mental health for yourself, your friends and family, and your community.

For anyone struggling with the pressure of today's world, feeling alone, or wondering if they can feel better, **start here**, by clicking the QR Code and download the 2024 mental health toolkit.



Explore ideas for individuals, organizations, and businesses to help raise awareness and increase understanding about mental health, links noted below. Whatever your outreach approaches are, remember that Mental Health Month is an opportunity to make a positive impact on those around you and remind people that there is no health without mental health.

[Mental Health Month Outreach Ideas for Individuals | Mental Health America \(mhanational.org\)](https://mhanational.org/mental-health-month-outreach-ideas-for-individuals)

[Mental Health Month Outreach Ideas for Community Organizations and Schools | Mental Health America \(mhanational.org\)](https://mhanational.org/mental-health-month-outreach-ideas-for-community-organizations-and-schools)

[Get involved in Mental Health Month as a business | Mental Health America \(mhanational.org\)](https://mhanational.org/get-involved-in-mental-health-month-as-a-business)

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: FREE Crash Prevention Program – Checkpoints Tennessee

Presenter: Ms. Janay Smith, MpH(c) Injury Prevention | Public Health Educator 2

Summary: Checkpoints program was developed by Doctor Bruce Simmons-Morton of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development an agency of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Tennessee Department of Health, Division of Family Health and Wellness/Injury and Violence Protection decided to take on and adopt the program and implement in Smyrna High School as a part of the Child's Safety Collaborative Teen Driver Safety pilot program.

This program was designed for parents and teens to have an agreement in working together establishing driving privileges for their new teenage drivers. The program assists in managing new teen drivers from distractive driving and help to reduce the risk of speeding, accidents, crashes and etc. As the students are learning the safety tactics of driving the parents are relearning to become better drivers and role models themselves for their families. If you would like more information about the FREE Crash Prevention Program – Checkpoints Tennessee, please contact Ms. Janay Smith by via email at Janay.smith@tn.gov or you may click the link <https://youngdriverparenting.org/home-2/welcome-to-checkpoints-tennessee/> and retrieve information from the website.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- [Women and Alzheimer's Luncheon](#), on May 7th at the Scarritt-Bennett Conference Center, please click for more information.

Resources mentioned during call:

- CDC taking applications for the [2024 REACH Lark Galloway-Gilliam Awards for Advancing Health Equity Challenge](#) Nominations are accepted, please click the link for more information.

Chat Box – links / website / events:

- **Raleigh Community Health Fair**
 - The 5th Annual Community Health Wellness and Safety Resource Fair hosted by LF Mobile Lifesaving Courses will commence Saturday June 1st from 11a-2p at the Raleigh Springs Civic Center 3384 Austin Peay, Memphis, TN
- If you need more information, please visit our website at www.healthdisparitiestn.com

Next Meeting: May 9, 2024, from 1pm-2pm via Microsoft Teams.

Microsoft Teams Meeting details are as follows:

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

+1 629-209-4396, 641975577# United States, Nashville
Phone Conference ID: 641 975 577#