

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

October 12, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 103 ppl.
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Bethsy Harrigan Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (Bethsy Harrigan) in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, “challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.” - Anonymous

(Bethsy Harrigan)

- **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** was started in 1985 as a partnership between the American Cancer Society and a pharmaceutical company to promote mammography screening. Since then, this has grown into a global movement that involves various organizations, events, and initiatives to raise funds and awareness for breast cancer research and support. Breast cancer awareness month also aims to address the disparities and barriers that affect the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer, especially among women of color, men, and under-resourced communities. Breast cancer awareness month encourages everyone to take action for themselves and others, such as getting regular screening, talking about breast health, donating, volunteering, and spreading the word.
- **Hispanic Heritage Month** - Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15) is an annual celebration in the United States that honors the history, culture, and contributions of those whose ancestry can be traced to 20 countries and one territory — which includes Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Spain. You may see, this annual celebration recognized as Latino Heritage Month, Latinx Heritage Month, or Latine Heritage Month. [Tennessee, United States Hispanic Heritage Month Events | Eventbrite](#)
- **National Book Month** is held every October! Since the 1950’s the National Book Foundation has highlighted the best books to read non-fiction, fiction, history etc. In 2003 the organization created the first National Book Month, and this is the perfect month of opportunity to read books, assist others to read, support independent bookstores, and maybe even read a book of your own. This month honors the power of reading and writing — and is celebrated by authors, booksellers, publishers, and readers.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Balancing Act: A Panel on the Challenging Art of Spanish Interpretation

Presenters: Dr. Tamara Chavez-Lindell, Dr. Katherine Diaz, Esthela Rios (Latino Memphis), Fernanda Maruri (VUMC), Luisa Malagon and Sofia Muñoz Siso (Centro Hispano)

Summary: Today's meeting was a group discussion with a panel providing insight on the challenges, the art, and the skill of Spanish interpretation. We must first understand the difference between translation and interpretation, translation is basically converting text from one language to another language and interpretation is converting direct conversation from one language to another language.

When interpreting the Spanish language, interpreters come to learn of the many different dialects spoken in various countries such as Spain vs Puerto Rico or Mexico vs Nicaragua, which the Spanish language may be the same, but the dialect is totally different. One of the main things, when providing interpretation services, is the vital information given and received by both parties and must be communicated clearly and precisely. It is also important for the interpreter to build a rapport with the client receiving the interpretation services, so they can have an understanding, building a bridge with different cultures and different languages, respectfully, based around the sensitive information, situations and subjects being stated amongst one another.

The other important factor to using an interpretation service is to avoid using children, to interpret for their parents and family members. Children cannot interpret adult information such as doctor diagnosis's, social work information or even lawyer to client documentations, these are just a few named challenges, but a certified interpreter brings much value to many entities such as the medical field, the judicial system, social work, and education. Currently there's no standard protocol to becoming a certified interpreter but folks will need some form of training, if folks would like to delve into becoming bilingual below are a few resources National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters, National Center for State Courts and National Interpreter Association.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Please join us virtually on Thursday, October 19, 2023, **Men's Health Network** between 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST for our first CMHE Webinar "**THRIVE Vaccine Education & Vaccine Hesitancy.**" For more information the flyer is noted below.
- [REGISTER](#) and join "Protecting Medicaid Coverage for Children and Families in Rural Communities", Thursday, October 19, at 2:00 p.m. ET, and learn how to inform and guide eligible community members to take action and keep kids, and families covered!
- Rural Health Association of Tennessee, 29th Annual Conference "Shining a Light on Rural Health: Advocating for a Brighter Future" Scheduled Date: November 15-17, 2023, to register, click the link <https://www.tnruralhealth.org/annual-conference>
- Tennessee Health Care Campaign is hiring a part time Bilingual Family Services Specialist. This is an Americorps position. Please help us find a caring candidate: [Americorps Bilingual Family Services Specialist - Knoxville, TN 37921 - Indeed.com](#)

Resources mentioned during call:

- **Tennessee Strong Families Grant Program** Governor Bill Lee announced that applications are now open for the [Tennessee Strong Families Grant Program](#), which dedicates \$20 million to improve access to maternal healthcare and boost critical resources for mothers, children and families by supporting local nonprofits across the state, including pregnancy centers. In the state's FY23-24 budget, the Governor and General Assembly funded \$20 million to create the Strong Families Grant Program and provide the opportunity for nonprofit organizations, including pregnancy centers, to partner with the state to provide support based on the unique needs of the mothers, children, and families they serve. Examples of these services include:
 - Direct services for pregnancy support, which can include medical, mental health or other counseling services.

- Support for Tennesseans who are considering adoption.
- Workforce assistance to prepare new moms for self-sufficiency.
- Housing assistance to help moms in crisis find a safe and stable place to live.
- Additional wraparound services to support vulnerable mothers and their children.

Application materials for the grants are available [online](#) where applicants may view webinars and access training and technical assistance. The grant program is just one facet of the Governor’s Strong Tennessee Families initiative, which dedicated a [historic](#) investment of more than \$600 million in the State’s FY23-24 budget.

- Tennessee Health Care Campaign is hiring a Bilingual Family Services Specialist to work in our health insurance enrollment program. This job is part time, located in Murfreesboro or Knoxville:
<https://www.cnm.org/job/bilingual-family-services-specialist-amicorps/>
- 2nd Annual TN Health Care Summit and Expo, hosted by Meharry Medical College, held at Baptist University Sciences University on Thursday, November 9, 2023, from 9AM – 1PM. Please click the link below if you like to attend. https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=aCFoT5FEWkS9gFIwixT7rB_-soEdPxLgyq-8-AaRv1UMURPSDM1RjgzRFdYSjRPREQ2NIFRVIIETS4u&fbclid=IwAR0IiuJ6WkH4Zc9fVF9oOZag5jU401s9QEFpLBKMBR4pch0ipuSeP9pqCw0
- [REGISTER](#) and join “Protecting Medicaid Coverage for Children and Families in Rural Communities”, Thursday, October 19, at 2:00 p.m. ET, and learn how to inform and guide eligible community members to take action and keep kids, and families covered!
- St. Mary's Legacy Clinic is hiring an Executive Assistant, we would love to have a Spanish speaking candidate apply <https://www.smlcares.com/employment>
- Rural Health Association of Tennessee Annual Conference scheduled November 15-17, 2023. Click the link below to register. <https://www.rhat.org/annual-conference>
- If you need more information, please visit our website at www.healthdisparitiestn.com

Chat Box – links / website / events:

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Next Meeting: Thursday, October 19, 2023, 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#

Dining &
DANCING ON THE RIVER

LIVE MUSIC, DANCING & FOOD

A PINK AND BLACK SUNSET AFFAIR

OCTOBER 14, 2023 6PM

IN HONOR OF JASMINE J. SMITH

TOM LEE PARK/ PICNIC DECK AND LAWN
FUNDRAISER FOR CHILDREN OF MOMS BATTLING BREAST CANCER

MN
Men's Health Network[®]

Episode 1, Webinar Series:
"THRIVE VACCINE EDUCATION & VACCINE HESITANCY"

Thursday, 19th October, 2023
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST

Scan to Join on 10/19/23

100% ONLINE

ID: 818 747 1004

Register now at:
Info@MensHealthNetwork.org

Part of the Certified Men's Health Educator (CMHE) Webinar Series

ABOUT THE WEBINAR...

THE SPEAKER
Maddie Manning
THRIVE, Program Assistant

In this webinar, Maddie Manning will cover the THRIVE grant & the UT extension, community nurse navigators, & education provided to the community about routine vaccinations.

Maddie will cover vaccine hesitancy & the lack of immunizations among school-aged children, causing diseases that have previously been eradicated to reappear & spread.

What is CMHE?
The Certified Men's Health Educator (CMHE) program is offered to healthcare & other professionals interested in improving the health of those living in their community, especially those who live or work in designated rural counties in Tennessee.

Training for these professionals is provided in part by Men's Health Network, the Rural Health Association of Tennessee, & funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC).

Those who successfully complete the course will earn the "Certified Men's Health Educator" designation.

MLGW

ONE-STOP
MULTICULTURAL RESOURCE FAIR

Saturday, October 21, 2023 • 10 am - 1 pm
First Baptist Church Broad
2835 Broad Ave, Memphis, TN 38112

- Utility assistance
- Vaccinations (Flu and Covid-19)
- Health exams
- Legal information
- Child support
- Expungement & Driver License Services
- Weatherization kits
- Raffles and giveaways
- Safety in Preparedness workshop
- Nutrition workshop

Some services require the following:

- State issued ID
- Social security card & income information for all household members

Applicants must meet the Federal Poverty Guidelines to QUALIFY.