

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

October 26, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 91 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 National Down Syndrome Awareness Month, “The greatest pleasure in life is doing what people say you cannot do.” - Walter Bagehot

(Bethsy Harrigan)

- **National Down Syndrome Awareness Month “DSAM”** This month is a time to celebrate the abilities and achievements of people with Down Syndrome. Down Syndrome occurs across the human spectrum and is the most common chromosomal condition. Each year, about 6,000 babies are born with Down Syndrome, a 1 in 700 chance. The prevalence of Down Syndrome increases with the mother’s age, which is associated with delays in physical growth, characteristic facial features, and intellectual disability. These are just facts, and like all facts, they can fail to provide a full picture. The truth is children born with Down Syndrome, can go on to live happy and long lives.
- **National Spina Bifida Awareness Month** this is a birth defect in which there is incomplete closing of the spine and the membranes around the spinal cord during early development in pregnancy. No one knows for sure what causes Spina Bifida, but experts think that both genetics and environmental factors interact to cause Spina Bifida. There is no way to prevent a baby from having a birth defect, the only possibility is to reduce the risk. Studies show the risk is reduced up to 70 percent when women take folic acid at least one month before and through the first three months of pregnancy. However, it’s important to note that folic acid does not prevent all cases of Spina Bifida.

Any woman who can become pregnant can have a baby with Spina Bifida. Although people with a first-degree relative (parent, sibling) with Spina Bifida are more likely to have a child with Spina Bifida, there is no way to tell which women will have babies with an affected pregnancy. Experts know that genes play a role, and they are looking for the exact gene(s) that cause Spina Bifida. In time, research should clearly show how Spina Bifida develops so new treatments or even a cure can be developed. This research may also lead to new tests that help people or couples understand their chance of having a baby with Spina Bifida.

The Spina Bifida community joins together to raise awareness and support and if you would like to participate please find the Walk-N-Roll near you and join the fun by clicking the link below

<https://www.eventcreate.com/e/walknrollsb>.

- **Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Awareness Month (SIDS)** is the term used to describe the sudden death of a baby younger than (1) year of age that doesn't have a known cause, even after a full investigation. The investigation includes a complete autopsy, examining the death scene, and reviewing the clinical history. If they cannot determine a cause of death for the baby or explain why the baby died, the medical examiner or coroner may categorize the death as SIDS.

Researchers do not know exactly what causes SIDS. However, they do have a theory, that may explain how SIDS happens and it's called the Triple-Risk Model, which is known as unknown the baby medical conditions, period of development and outside stressors.

By itself, each risk is usually not a problem because most babies can adjust to stresses and changes as their body system functions and recover from these factors if they occur alone or even two at a time. However, when all three occur at the same time, a death from SIDS becomes more likely.

Task Force Name Change Today all are advised that the Division of Health Disparities Elimination will change the name of the taskforce to The Health Disparities Advisory Group effective November 1, 2023. The Health Disparities Taskforce was established in April 2020. For the last three years, this group has been critical partners of the Division of Health Disparities Elimination in engaging stakeholders and communities to advance our goals in addressing disparities, the social drivers of health and health equity in Tennessee. The function of this group will remain the same. Please note that you will receive new meeting invitations with the new name and Health Disparities Advisory Group will be used on all future communications. Thank you in advance for your cooperation as this transition takes place.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Medicare Open Enrollment began on October 15, 2023, and ends December 7, 2023, with coverage changes taking effect January 1, 2024. During this time, people with Medicare can compare coverage options, like Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage, and choose health and drug plans for 2024. Medicare Advantage and Part D plan costs and covered benefits can change from year to year, so people with Medicare should look at their coverage choices and decide on the options that best meet their health needs.

Here are four ways people with Medicare can compare plans and look at savings options:

1. Go to [Medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) to learn the difference between Traditional Medicare and Medicare Advantage, and do side-by-side comparisons of costs and coverage for Medicare Advantage and prescription drug plans.
2. Call 1-800-MEDICARE. Help is available 24 hours a day, including weekends.
3. Access personalized health insurance counseling at no cost, available from State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIP). Visit shiphelp.org or call 1-800-MEDICARE for each SHIP's phone number. Many SHIPs also offer virtual counseling.
4. Check eligibility for the Medicare Savings Programs and the Part D Low-Income Subsidy Program. If you have limited income and resources, you could qualify for Medicare Savings Programs, run by your state Medicaid program, or for the Part D Low-Income Subsidy Program. These programs could help save you money on health and prescription drug costs and could reduce your Part B premium and/or Part D premium to \$0. For more information, contact your [state Medicaid program](#) or call 1-800-MEDICARE and ask about Medicare Savings Programs. To learn more about the Part D Low-Income Subsidy Program, visit: [Medicare.gov/extrahelp](https://www.medicare.gov/extrahelp) or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

Resources mentioned during call:

- Vaccine Clinic hosted by the American Muslim Advisory Council on October 27 in Davidson County.
 - Clothes Drive Event on October the 28th at Pruitt Branch Library, 117 Charles E. Davis Boulevard, Nashville, TN 37210
 - National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, held on Saturday, October 28, 2023, Hamilton County and Regional locations are noted in the flyer below.
 - Davidson County Juvenile Court Spooktacular on October 31st, from 3:30PM – 6:00PM, 100 Woodland Street Nashville, TN 37213
 - The Rutherford County Health Department will be hosting a community health and wellness fair. This fair will be held on *Friday, November 3rd* from 12 pm-3 pm. Some of the main activities are to name a few: car seat checks by certified passenger safety technicians and a winter coat drive for children 18 years and below.
Contact: Keziah Boatema
100 West Burton Street
Murfreesboro, TN, 37130
p. 615 898-7880 x0491
Keziah.Boatema@tn.gov
 - On Saturday, November 4th, Second Harvest Food Bank in Kingsport County is having an event, see the flyer below.
 - HOPE HAS A NEW NUMBER: **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, Join the conversation on Nov. 7th from 1 - 2 pm CST via Teams. In case you want the link now, here it is!** [Click here to join the meeting.](#) **Flyer to come soon.**
 - Alzhiemers Caregiver Conference held on November 8th and 9th 2023, at the Scarritt Bennett Building near Vanderbilt in Nashville, TN.
 - Salud Y Bienestar Evento Comunitario, held on Friday, November 10, 2023, from 3PM – 6PM, hosted by Su Casa Family Ministries located 1302 N. Graham Street, Memphis, TN 38122
 - Celebrating Health & Wellness Honoring Service hosted by TN CEAL at Meharry Medical College and NFL Alumni Tennessee Chapter on Saturday, November 11th from 1PM – 4PM at New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, 7786 Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN 38138, flyer attached below.
 - SMLC is celebrating our 10th anniversary November 11th, 2023, starting @ 11:00! I invite you to join us! Please reach out to mvargas@smlcares.com to RSVP, <https://www.smlcares.com/anniversary>
 - Our Annual Fall Psychiatric Symposium: November 16-17. CEUs available and Ethics credits, as well!! Located at the Convention Center in Knoxville: 701 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN 37902. You can register here: <https://www.mhaet.com/26th-annual-fall-psychiatric-symposium/>
 - The Health Equity Bureau at the Metro Public Health Department (MPHD) is organizing listening sessions focused on currently employed Community Navigators that have been in their role for a minimum of six (6) months. These sessions aim to evaluate their role and sustainability in their careers, identify areas where additional support for resource navigation is needed, and assess the overall well-being of these professionals. Please share among networks. [Community Navigators Final RSVP.pdf](#)
 - If you need more information, please visit our website at www.healthdisparitiestn.com
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Chat Box – links / website / events:

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Next Meeting: Thursday, November 2, 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#](tel:+16292094396) United States, Nashville
Phone Conference ID: 641 975 577#

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

October 28, 2023, 10AM - 2PM EDT

Dispose of Unused, Unwanted and Expired Prescription and Over-The-Counter Medications. We will also collect vape pens or other e-cigarette devices.

Hamilton County Locations

- Mt. Canaan - 4801 SR-58
- Parkridge Camp Jordan ER - 483 Camp Jordan Pkwy.
- Food City, Red Bank - 3901 Dayton Blvd.
- Walgreens - 3605 Brainerd Rd.
- Walgreens - 2289 Cumberland Rd.
- Walgreens, East Ridge - 5301 Ringgold Rd.
- Walgreens, Coletwah - 9307 Lee Hwy.
- Walgreens, Hickson - 5478 SR-183
- Greater Community Church of Chattanooga - 1817 E. 3rd St.
- Ellis Lodge - 491 - 1067 Grayville Rd.
- Food City, Harrison - 8634 Hwy. 58

Regional Locations

- Walmart, Dayton - 3034 Rhea County Hwy.
- Walmart, Dunlap - 16772 Rankin Ave.
- Leisure Time Bowling, Cleveland - 2739 Keith St. NW
- Spring City Police Department - 229 Front St.
- Preferred Pharmacy, Benton - 6206 US-411
- Crundy Safe Coalition - 173 College St.
- Sequatchie Valley Baptist Association - 300 Cornerstone Dr.
- Document shredding services provided.
- Additional activities.



TN Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services. This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Caregivers Conference

Creating connections, sharing solutions and building bridges... together

Day One: Wed., Nov. 8, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. CT
Hybrid program: In-person and virtual
Location: Scarriet Bennett (1027 18th Ave S, Nashville, 37212)

- Personal Journey: One Caregiver's story
Sonya Dobbs
- 10 a.m. | Understanding Alzheimer's and dementia
Dr. Kristi Wick, PhD, PhD, BC, CG-C
- 11 a.m. | Legal and Financial Planning
Barbara Moss, Elder Law Attorney
- 12:30 p.m. | Lunch speaker
Hospice vs. Palliative Care
Terry Stokes, Registered Nurse
- 1 p.m. | Navigating Medicare and Medicaid
Dr. Laura Keohane, MS, PhD
- 2 p.m. | What is new in dementia research?
Dr. Claire Sexton, PhD



Day Two: Wed., Nov. 9, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. CT
Virtual

- Personal Journey: Caregiver's story
Lanette Morrison
- 10 a.m. | Faith-based Workshop
Arlene Jones
- 1 p.m. | Healthy Living/Self-Care
Dr. Kristi Patrick-Lewis, DNP, RN

RESOURCE PANEL

9:45-10:30 a.m. CT | 11:45-12:30 p.m. ET

- Panelists include:
 - Kim Daugherty, LMSW
Adult Commission of the Mid-South
 - Mary Ross, Turkington
Elder Veterans Legal Aid Group
 - Sally Pitt
Patient Care Advocate/TN State Govt.
 - Joel G. Anderson, PhD, CHFP, FGSA
College of Nursing/UT | RISE Knoxville
 - Phil Martin, HCTN

To register <https://bit.ly/TNCC23>

Saturday, Nov. 4th
9 AM - 1 PM
Second Harvest Food Bank
of Northeast Tennessee
1020 Jericho Dr., Kingsport, TN 37663

Presented By Equality Health Foundation

Equality Health Foundation and partners is hosting its Inaugural Annual Healthy Fall Festival and Turkey Giveaway. It's going to be fun for everyone and a great way to kick-off the holiday season with a community celebration and an abundance of gratitude. Be sure to save the date and bring your family, friends and neighbors!

Sponsorship & Exhibitor Registration

Together, we can reach more families than ever and contribute to building healthy and thriving communities. This event attracts more than 1,000 people from the surrounding community and area.

- Immunizations, Vaccines & Flu Shots
- Health Education Sessions
- Health Reg. with Taxes & Photos
- Menopausal & Blood Health Screenings
- Diabetes Testing
- Community Resources & Information

For sponsorship questions, please contact Travis.Lee@ehf.org by phone or by email. We look forward to your participation and partnership!

*Selling food and other items is not permitted on-site, with exceptions.

[Sponsorship Packet](#)

Company/Organization *

Contact Name *

Title *

Phone *

Address *

City/State/Zip *

Event/Exhibitor Interest *

Comments (Maximum 250 characters)

Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to make a difference in your community?

[Register To Volunteer Today!](#)



CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, INC.
BISHOP J. DREW SHEARD - PRESIDING BISHOP & CHIEF APOSTLE

GLOBAL HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

NOVEMBER 8-11 2023
10:00am - 2:00pm

Resources and Information Available:

- Immunization
- Suicide Prevention
- Mental Health
- Substance Misuse
- Health Insurance
- Clinical Trials
- Chronic Disease
- Tennessee Statewide Initiatives

VACCINATIONS **SCREENINGS:**
BLOOD PRESSURE, WEIGHT & GLUCOSE

Health Insurance Marketplace OPEN ENROLLMENT

- Do you need help with a Marketplace application or the renewal process?
- Do you need help comparing plans that meet your healthcare needs and budget?
- Do you want to know if you are eligible for financial help (tax credit)?
- Do you want to know if Marketplace plans are more affordable than your employer sponsored health plans for your spouse or dependents?

Free Help is Available

CALL YOUR LOCAL NAVIGATOR

Or Call 1-866-475-7879
WWW.GETCOVEREDTENN.ORG



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SALUD Y BIENESTAR
evento comunitario

GRATIS Noviembre 10, 2023
3:00PM - 6:00PM

Su Casa Family Ministries
1302 N Graham St, Memphis, TN 38122

- Vacunas contra COVID-19
- Vacunas contra la influenza
- Pruebas de VIH/HEPC
- Exámenes de salud
- Cupones de Limpieza Dental
- Recursos adicionales

SuCasa SHUTTS

Celebrating Health and Wellness:
HONORING SERVICE

Hosted by TN CEAL at Meharry Medical College and NFL Alumni Tennessee Chapter

Saturday, November 11, 2023 - 1pm to 4pm

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church
7786 Poplar Pike, Germantown, TN 38138

 Former Tennessee Titans Tight End 2 Time Pro Bowler	 Former Tennessee Titans Defensive Tackle 2 Time Pro Bowler	 Former Tennessee Titans Wide Receiver	 Former Tennessee Titans Wide Receiver 2 Time Pro Bowler
 Former Tennessee Titans Wide Receiver	 NFL Alumni Tennessee Chapter President Former All-Pro, Pro Bowl Linebacker, Houston Oilers	 Regional Program Manager for West Tennessee Meharry Medical College	

Activities
NFL Alumni Giveaways | Food | Music by Stan Bell | Free Medical Screenings (Blood Pressure, Glucose, Cholesterol)
Free Dental Screening and Services | Updated COVID Vaccine and Flu Shots | Sickie Cell Blood Drive | Clinical Trial Recruitment



This event is supported by a grant from the Tennessee Department of Health

