

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

February 16, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 60 ppl
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force	
Facilitator:	Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (Elizabeth Hart) “Carry out a random act of kindness with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you.” — Princess Diana

Announcements: (Elizabeth Hart)

- Random Acts of Kindness Week
- Dr. Tamara Chavez-Lindell, Senior Epidemiologist with the DHD Division, if anyone have any data questions, do not hesitate to contact Dr. Tamara by via email at tamara.chavez-lindell@tn.gov
- For Black History Month, we’ve completed three weeks of recognizing and celebrating Black Tennesseans here in the state of Tennessee. We’re publishing seven every week via email and all will also be published on our website at www.HealthDisparities@tn.gov. We’d like to say, “Thank You” to everyone who participated in getting their nominations in and we have more to recognize. We hope you take time out to read the short biography of all the phenomenal men and women, we have among us doing amazing work in their respective fields and different communities of our great state.
- Next week is Quit Smoking Week, we have many Tennesseans that die due to illnesses, related to smoking. Quit Smoking Hotline **1. 800.Quit.Now** and www.tnquitline.org FREE online program filled with information resources, experts and connections to help you quit smoking. Below is list of things that take place when deciding to quit smoking:
 - Risk of heart attack decreases due to reduced constriction of veins and arteries
 - Oxygen and circulation begin to increase and improve
 - Damaged nerve endings begin to regrow
 - Sense of smell and taste begin to improve
 - Two to four weeks after quitting the psychological effects of nicotine withdrawal will stop
- Tennessee State Loan Repayment Program provides educational loan repayment, which is a qualified primary care practitioners in exchange for an initial two-year service obligation to practice full time or part time at an ambulatory public nonprofit or private nonprofit primary care site located in a federally designated health professional shortage

area. The deadline extended until Monday, February 20th, 2023, please go to our website www.healthdisparities@tn.gov to retrieve the application and more information.

- On Thursday, February 23, 2023, Ola Banjo, PharmD, AAHIVP, the Senior Director of Community Engagement and Partnership, will be speaking on National Multiple Myeloma Foundation which is the largest nonprofit in the world focused on accelerating the cure for multiple myeloma. They believe curing cancer is not about solving problems — but about finding transformative solutions that change the way things are done forever.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Recommendations Report for Commissioner Dr. Ralph Alvarado

Presenter: Elizabeth Hart

Summary: The Health Disparities Task Force is in process of preparing a recommendations report for Commissioner Dr. Ralph Alvarado. The Task Force is a result of the COVID-19 impact that it was having on both minority and vulnerable populations. The task force started with about 50 individuals, and they were leaders, some elected officials, just to make sure that we were getting information out to the respective communities and then having them spread the information. Today we're working on the introduction and the executive summary and how to do get these ideas in open discussion and on paper. We have more questions to address, and we would like each of you in your professional roles to provide great feedback from the following questions listed below.

Q1) What do you believe is the purpose of this task force?

Q2) What do you believe should be the goal of this task force?

Q3) What are you responsible for?

Q4) What are we (Health Disparities Task Force) responsible for?

Q5) How do you use the information that we're providing you all within your organizations as far as spreading the word?

Q6) What are we really wanting to do outside of the presentations, outside the great communications that we have with the top ten, the feedback that you all have been giving to us which have been developed into these PSA's, the ones that was shown on the Super Bowl and some upcoming ones in March Madness?

Q7) What do you see the task force accomplishing annually?

Q8) Do you think there we should prepare recommendations report every year or every other year? Is that something you want to do?

Responses:

- Provide statewide partnerships
- Provide weekly news about what's going on around the state besides the area, one serve
- Brainstorm or gather ideas to eliminate disparities across the state
- Receive and take what other agencies are doing and replicate in other counties
- Partner and network with other agencies across the state
- Support the work of what other groups/organizations/communities are doing in the state

- Uplift the work Tennessee Healthcare campaign is doing and tell other people that might be interested
- Provide quick references for community partners and everyone to use and share
- Actionable outcomes come from the task force meetings
- Provide useful and updated healthcare policies
- Long term healthcare services and centers been identified due to folks constantly joining the task force meeting
- Resources are available based on task force (4) priorities (chronic disease, infectious disease, mental health and environmental health and injustice)
- Bridging the gap from county to county
- Need accurate and complete data collection
- Need create one pager for health disparities
- Cross parallel connection

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Alliant Health Solutions is hosting the Quarter 1 2023 Tennessee Statewide Partnerships for Community Health (PCH) Tuesday, February 21, 2023 2:00 p.m. ET/1:00 p.m. CT https://bit.ly/TNStatewideQtr12023Meeting_Feb21
Meet virtually with Cisco Webex, anytime, anywhere, on any device. Simple, modern video meetings for everyone on the world's most popular and trusted collaboration platform.

Resources mentioned during call:

- If you need more information, please go to our TN Department of Health Division of Health Disparities Elimination Website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com.
- CMS has a Health Equity Technical Assistance Program. You can email: HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov <https://www.cms.gov/about-cms/agency-information/omh/equity-initiatives/health-equity-technical-assistance>

Chat Box – links / website / events:

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Meet virtually with Cisco Webex, anytime, anywhere, on any device. Simple, modern video meetings for everyone on the world's most popular and trusted collaboration platform.
- If you need more information, please go to our TN Department of Health Division of Health Disparities Elimination Website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com.
- CMS has a Health Equity Technical Assistance Program. You can email: HealthEquityTA@cms.hhs.gov <https://www.cms.gov/about-cms/agency-information/omh/equity-initiatives/health-equity-technical-assistance>

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 23, 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#