

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

April 20, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 57 ppl
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: **(Bethsahida Harrigan)** “Equity work is fundamentally quality work. A question that I recommend organizations ask themselves is how are you ensuring that your organization understands the population being served — and are you reflecting the population being served? Value-based care is not just about the metrics. It's not just about the structure. It's also about intention — what are you trying to achieve and how are you trying to achieve it? — **Tosan Boyo, M.P.H.**, Senior Vice President of Hospital Operations at California-based John Muir Health

Announcements: **(Bethsahida Harrigan)**

- National Pet ID Week - The week of April 17th – April 23rd, allows pet owners to take time to ensure their pet’s safety with upgraded ID tags and microchips.
- OFBCE is looking for someone that would like to lead next Thursday’s, April 27th Task Force meeting, we will provide notes and all the necessary information to assist you to facilitate the meeting. Please email Elizabeth Hart at TDH.OFBCE@tn.gov, if you would like to be the facilitator.
- Vanderbilt University is also providing Community Health Worker Training, if you’re interested, please apply here: <https://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/projects/chwtpt/index.php>

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Ryan White Part B Program & HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Program

Presenter: Christopher Walton, Ryan White Part B Program Director of Client Services in the HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Program at the Tennessee Department of Health

Summary: The Task Force Meeting, today was about the Ryan White Part B Program and the HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Program. The providing data being used is from the year 2020, state of Tennessee. There’s over 19,000+ individuals living

with HIV in Tennessee alone and there were 651 newly diagnosed cases of (African American and Hispanic male and female) minorities, which they are leading and facing a great amount of health care disparities, we discuss on a regular basis. As of 2020, it is believed that 15% of Tennesseans were walking around not aware they have been affected with the HIV virus, which also means they could be spreading the virus through sex or injection of drug use.

The Ryan White Part B Program serves 9,300 clients and for them to be apart of the program, they must have the following three items, 1) be a resident of Tennessee 2) be diagnosed with HIV or AIDS and 3) their income must fall at or below 400% of the federal poverty level, making less than \$58,000 for a single person. The HIV/STI/Viral Hepatitis Program is a prevention program, promoting school-based health and disease prevention among the youth between the ages of 13-35, strategizing a way to control and most importantly stop the spread of these diseases.

The program works with (33) health departments, hospitals, and community-based organizations across the state of Tennessee and their seeking to partner in areas that we know there's no resources and transportation barriers for those who have the virus. We're working on a campaign called U = U which is strategic strategy to help slow down and try to end the transmission of HIV from one individual to another. Individuals who have HIV and taking their effective medication, have a reduced viral load and their viral load is undetectable, which means they cannot pass HIV on to their sexual partners. This is very important because most of the individuals who get HIV get it through sex but there are others who get it through drug usage.

Due to scientific advances, we've come a long way with medication but we're trying to do more by getting resources and information to as many people as possible to get tested because we want people to understand the importance of taking medication. There's also medication called Prep, which allows individuals who don't have HIV not to get HIV from their positive partner. We need to transform the course of this HIV epidemic quickly, with aggressive knowledge, more preventable strategies, medical care and ways to end the stigma for those that are not receiving treatment at all.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Bringing Health to You: April 29th 10am-1pm CST, Maury County Health Fair at Macedonia Church of Christ Columbia, TN – (See Flyer Below)
- The Behavioral Health Safety Net (BHSN) for Adults provides essential outpatient mental health services to Tennesseans who lack insurance coverage, if you like to apply please click the link below: <https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health/bhsn/safety-net-eligibility-requirements.html>

Resources mentioned during call:

- This Saturday is Community Share Day in Oak Ridge, TN
- Meals on Wheels is seeking for those in need of daily meals. If you know of anyone needing Meals on Wheels please contact Mikaela Wiley, OFBCE Community Outreach Worker by via email: Mikaela.Wiley@tn.gov
- If you need more information, please go to our website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com
- Immigrants and Refugee Alliance meets every 4th Wednesday, please email bethsahida.harrigan@tn.gov for more

information

Chat Box – links / website / events:

- You are invited to join a webinar: Affinity Group Event: Patient Safety Series: Adverse Drug Events in Nursing Homes. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining...

Speaker: Jeffrey Bettinger, Pharm.D.

04/26 Topic: Pain Management for Patients with Opioid Use Disorder

05/24 Topic: Buprenorphine

Registration Link: https://allianthealth-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DmAjdmVYRbqXRw8_gTgWtw#/registration

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- The Community Health Worker Training Program of Tennessee, <https://nursing.vanderbilt.edu/projects/chwtpt/index.php>
- Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) - [CALLING ON PARTNERS TO HELP PEOPLE STAY COVERED | CMS](#)

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 20, 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#



TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
& THE FAITH-BASED COMMUNITY PRESENTS

2023 Health & Wellness Fair

"Bringing Health to You"

**APRIL 29, 2023
10AM-1PM
MACEDONIA CHURCH OF CHRIST
123 CLINCH DRIVE
COLUMBIA, TN 38401**

- Hands-On Health Check Ups
- On-Site Local Health Professionals
- FREE** Massages + **FREE** Gifts
- Community Resources
- Health Education, Testing & Vaccines
- TN Department of Health Breast & Cervical Screening Program
- Real Time Dental Appt. Scheduling On Site
- FREE** Healthy Recipes & Samples



Want to live healthy?

We'll help you get there!

Here are some of the participating organizations:

Maury Regional Medical Center
Mobile Medical Unit
The Women's Center
Cancer Center

Tennessee Department of Health
Breast & Cervical Screening Program
Dental Services

Meharry Medical Center TN CEAL
Clinical Research Associates Inc.
Department of Children's Services
Behavioral Health Group
Brittany Pye, LMT
Chef Juels

EMAIL JENNIFER.KINZER@TN.GOV FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL OR TEXT (931) 800-8344
(TABLES & CHAIRS WILL BE PROVIDED TO PARTNERS)