

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

April 27, 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: (LaShan Dixon) “Hope can be a powerful force. Maybe there’s no actual magic in it, but when you know what you hope for most and hold it like a light within you, you can make things happen, almost like magic.” – Laini Taylor

Announcements: (LaShan Dixon)

- National Month of Hope / National Infant Immunization Week
- Tennessee Department of Health is looking for community and/or faith-based organization that can distribute FREE COVID-19 to the community. If so, please email COVID19.testing@tn.gov leave your organization's name, mailing address and the best contact information, including your telephone number. TDH, can mail the free testing to your organization as early as Monday.
- Community health worker training is taking place. Vanderbilt University is providing community health worker training in addition to the one that was announced last week with Meharry Medical College, and they are now accepting applications. So, if you or someone you know is interested click the link noted below: [Trainees | CHWTPT | projects | School of Nursing | Vanderbilt University](#)
- We’d like to invite our members to provide presentations about your work and/or what your organization is doing in the Community. If you're interested in providing a meeting presentation, please email us at tdh.ofbce@tn.gov, so we can get you on the calendar.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: National Infant Immunization Week

Presenter: LaShan Dixon, Tennessee Department of Health

Summary: The Task Force Meeting was about the National Infant Immunization Week, which is observed

yearly, due to the importance of protecting children two years and younger from vaccine preventable diseases. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children stay on track with their routine vaccinations because its critical to provide protection against potentially life-threatening diseases.

Vaccines are the most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing diseases. Vaccines help to protect both individuals and communities by preventing and reducing the spread of infectious diseases, which is a shared responsibility from families to healthcare professionals because public health officials must work together to help protect our entire community.

Note, the United States have a long-standing vaccine safety system that ensures vaccines are safe and, as new and scientific information becomes available, vaccine recommendations are updated, monitored, and improved regularly.

We want to make sure that everyone receives this important information about the National Infant Immunization Week, which is amongst us this week and that we as a whole continues to spread the word. If you'd like to learn more about vaccines, you can go to www.tn.gov/health.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **Sevier County Health Fair & Lions Club Vision Clinic**
When: Sat, April 29, 8am – 3pm
Where: Sevier County Senior Center & Office, 1220 W Main St, Sevierville, TN 37862, USA ([map](#))
Description: Health education, only taking 200 vision patients. Cost \$40 cash for vision exam and glasses
- Maury County Health Fair THIS Saturday April 29 10am -1pm CT Macedonia Church of Christ, Columbia, TN If you have any questions email Bethsahida Harrigan at bethsahida.harrigan@tn.gov or tdh.ofbce@tn.gov
- Northeast TN, we have an Emerging Pathogens Preparedness and Response Conference in Kingsport, TN Thursday May 18 8-4:30. This is for nurses, physicians, EMS, LTC and Public Health and discussing lessons learned and national and local updates. Registration <https://balladhealth.cventevents.com/event/561e3b65-69b9-4ad7-98a8-069e0d2b30f2>
- The deadline for proposals is May 31st. Make sure to submit your proposal before the upcoming deadline. We want to hear from you! Submit your proposals here.

Resources mentioned during call:

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- I would love the opportunity to connect and discuss future opportunities for collaboration, my name is Sherri Hughes, my email address is sherri.hughes@beahealthhero.com
- Immigrants and Refugee Alliance meets every 4th Wednesday, please email bethsahida.harrigan@tn.gov for more information
- If you need more information, please go to our website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com

- June is National Immigrant Heritage Month, and we invite any task force members to share ideas on how the Division of Health Disparities Elimination should celebrate it as far as our website, event ideas, and topics. Please send them to my email: bethsahida.harrigan@tn.gov

Chat Box – links / website / events:

- Maury County Health Fair THIS Saturday April 29 10am -1pm CT Macedonia Church of Christ, Columbia, TN If you have any questions email Bethsahida Harrigan at bethsahida.harrigan@tn.gov or tdh.ofbce@tn.gov
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Next Meeting: Thursday, May 4, 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#

Check out this list of events for

Mental Health Week

May 2023

Yoga, breathing exercises, games, health education & painting

May 8th at Lentz
10am - 2pm

May 10th at Woodbine & WIC
WIC: 9am - 11am | Woodbine: 1pm - 3pm

May 12th at East
9am - 11am

Mental Health Fair

May 9th at Lentz
9am - 11:30am
Centennial Room

School Site Visit

May 11th at Haynes Middle School
10am - 2pm

Mental Health Fair

Tuesday, May 9th 9am - 11:30am

Come and learn about the services and resources available in Nashville that support mental and behavioral health, substance use services, overall wellness, and more!

Lentz Public Health Center
2500 Charlotte Ave, Nashville, TN 37209



Metro Public Health Dept
Protecting, Improving, and Sustaining Health

Mental Health Fair Vendor Registration

