

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

May 18, 2023 | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 70 ppl
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (Elizabeth Hart) “It is often the small steps, not the giant leaps, that bring about the most lasting change.” – Queen Elizabeth II

Announcements: (Elizabeth Hart)

- ALS Awareness Month / Better Speech and Hearing Month / Bladder Cancer Awareness Month
- If you attend or know a mid to small size church in your community where you would like for us to visit and do post COVID touch points with faith leaders, please email me, Elizabeth Hart at tdh.ofbce@tn.gov.
- Creative Girls Rock mural project starts today in the North Nashville area, we’re doing the basic painting today and the main painting begins tomorrow from 10AM – 6PM. If you live in Middle Tennessee or in Nashville area and if you’re interested to volunteer and have 2 or 3 hours to spare, please drop by and give us a hand, the location is in the link: <https://www.creativegirlsrock.org/>
- DHDE planning to schedule another CPR Training in Memphis in July and host one in Nashville in June, maybe even on a Saturday. If you would like to participate and become CPR Certified in Memphis or Nashville, please provide us your name and email address:
 - LaNese Campbell – lanese.campbell@vumc.org
 - Erika Digby – erika.g.digby@vumc.org

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Promoting Immunizations: Action Toolkit to the Minority Population

Presenter: Rana Zakaria, MPH / Adult Adolescent Immunization Coordinator

Summary: Ms. Zakaria, introduced the Task Force to the new VPDIP Toolkit, known as the Vaccine Preventable

Diseases and Immunization Program. This program is used to protect Tennesseans of all ages from vaccine preventable diseases and used as a one stop shop to make things easier for professional public health providers and community advocates. This toolkit promotes vaccines within the community, it provides location of where diseases began and track any possible outbreaks within the different states and communities in the US. The Toolkit is used also to identify geographical areas and populations that have lower vaccination coverage rate, which is often shown in the minority areas and communities.

NIS, National Immunization Survey, does random calls surveying parents if their teens between the ages 13 -17, are vaccinated. NIS provides CDC an actual report card of how they are doing to protect the nation. Then there's the TennIIS, the Tennessee Immunization Information System which covers raw data such as, if the person is a child, teen, or adult, male or female, ethnicity, and so much more. This toolkit comes with a reference guide a step-by-step process, breaking down certain things you'd like to know such age groups and demographics.

The goal is to get 90% of Tennesseans to receive the recommended vaccines to protect themselves from all diseases. This toolkit is to create strategies to address the common barriers of vaccine hesitancy and improve the vaccine coverage rates. If you would like more information please go to the [Immunization Program \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/health/immunization-program) website.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- CMS will host our inaugural [CMS Health Equity Conference](https://cmshealthequityconference.com) on June 7 - 8, 2023. If you haven't already registered, we encourage you to do so before the deadline by visiting our website: <https://cmshealthequityconference.com>. The deadline to register as a virtual attendee is May 19th, 2023.

Resources mentioned during call:

- <https://www.tn.gov/health/vaccinetoolkit>
- <https://www.tennesseeiis.gov/tnsiis/>
- Email Address: TennIIS.Help@tn.gov
- If you need more information, please visit our website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com
- THCC is just wrapping up a 2-year COVID vaccine equity project. We worked with 13 Vaccine Ambassadors, trusted local messengers in 7 of the most underserved counties in TN. Please use their videos as a resource: [COVID 19 Vaccine – TN Health Care Campaign](#)
- Special Concern: Flu
 - Statewide flu coverage rate: 48.3%
 - Non-Hispanic black: 33.2%
 - Non-Hispanic white: 50.4%

Chat Box – links / website / events:

- <https://www.tn.gov/health/vaccinetoolkit>
- <https://www.tennesseeiis.gov/tnsiis/>
- Email Address: TennIIS.Help@tn.gov
- <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/immunization-program/ip/immunization-fact-sheet/coverage-rate-dashboard.html>
- THCC is just wrapping up a 2-year COVID vaccine equity project. We worked with 13 Vaccine Ambassadors, trusted local messengers in 7 of the most underserved counties in TN. Please use their videos as a resource: [COVID 19 Vaccine – TN Health Care Campaign](#)

- If you need more information, please visit our website at: www.healthdisparitiestn.com
-

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 1, 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#