

# Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

August 24, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 99 ppl
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Amir Al-Bawi Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

**Motivational Quote:** (Amir Al-Bawi) “Health is a state of complete harmony of the body, mind and spirit. When one is free from physical disabilities and mental distractions, the gates of the soul open.” - B.K.S. Iyengar

## Announcements: (Amir Al-Bawi)

- **Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (SHAAD)**

On August 20, “Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (SHAAD)” was founded by the Southern AIDS Coalition. SHAAD is a day that individuals, communities, and organizations can unite to call attention to the disproportionate number of people living with HIV in the South. SHAAD is an opportunity to provide people in the South with HIV testing and linkage to HIV medical care, education on HIV prevention, including ways to stop HIV stigma, and other HIV-related care resources. Below is a link to information, events and more for HIV Awareness Days  
[www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days](http://www.hiv.gov/events/awareness-days)

- **Psoriasis Awareness Month**

Psoriasis Awareness Month is an awareness which aims to educate the public about psoriasis and enlighten patients on topics surrounding causes, triggers, and treatment methods. This awareness was first observed in October 1997 as a full-scale national awareness campaign, but the awareness month was moved to August due to the time of year, exposure of skin along with the sun having a positive effect on psoriasis during the summer months.

Here’s a list of possible triggers which can lead to an episode for psoriasis, and they are heavily consumption of alcohol, Vitamin D deficiency, stress, certain medications, smoking and even infections of the skin. Various treatment options for psoriasis are creams, ointments can clear skin patches in mild to moderate cases, for severe psoriasis, retinoids, methotrexate, and cyclosporine are recommended treatments of choice.

### “Learn about Consumer Protections under the No Surprises Act” Webinar

- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the national nonprofit PIRG (Public Interest Research Group) will jointly host a short overview of new patient protections and rights under the No Surprises Act. For more information about this webinar series, please contact: Patrick Hamilton, Special Assistant,

CMS Philadelphia, [Patrick.hamilton@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:Patrick.hamilton@cms.hhs.gov), or Patricia Kelmar, Senior Director of Health Care Campaigns, PIRG, [pkelmar@pirg.org](mailto:pkelmar@pirg.org).

**Calendar:**

Date	Time	CMS Regions	States
Thursday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup> <a href="#">Register here for this webinar.</a>	<b>12:00-12:45 PM Eastern</b> 10:00- 10:45 AM Mountain 9:00- 9:45 AM Pacific 8:00- 8:45 AM Alaskan 6:00- 6:45 AM Hawaiian	Region 9	AZ, CA, HI, NV
		Region 10	AK, ID, OR, WA
Thursday, Sept. 14 <sup>th</sup> <a href="#">Register here for this webinar.</a>	<b>1:00-1:45 PM Eastern</b> 12:00- 12:45 PM Central	Region 3	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV
		Region 4	AL, GA, FL, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN
Wednesday, Sept. 20 <sup>th</sup> <a href="#">Register here for this webinar.</a>	<b>3:30- 4:15 PM Eastern</b> 2:30- 3:15 PM Central 1:30- 2:15 PM Mountain	Region 7	IA, KS, MO, NE
		Region 8	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
Thursday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup> <a href="#">Register here for this webinar.</a>	<b>10:00- 10:45 AM Eastern</b> 11:00- 11:45 AM Atlantic	Region 1	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
		Region 2	NJ, NY, PR
Thursday, Sept. 21 <sup>st</sup> <a href="#">Register here for this webinar.</a>	<b>12:00-12:45 PM Eastern</b> 11:00- 11:45 AM Central 10:00- 10:45 AM Mountain	Region 5	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI
		Region 6	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX

- **Tennessee Health Care Campaign 2023 Annual Health Advocacy Conference**

TDH is sponsoring the Tennessee Health Care Campaign 2023 Annual Health Advocacy Conference, Paving the Road to Health Equity scheduled on Saturday, August 26th from 10AM – 4PM at the Jubilee Banquet Facility, 6700 Jubilee Center Way, Knoxville, TN. Keynote Speaker: Leighton Ku, PHD, MPH. Please register at: [www.tnhealthcarecampaign.org](http://www.tnhealthcarecampaign.org)

**Alliant Health Solutions**

- Next Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 1PM, the Task Force will be meeting with the Alliant Health Solutions to discuss their solutions that are led by clinicians, backed by data and their focus on improving health care for all.

**Mental Health Awareness Day**

- TDH will be sponsoring the Wolf River Conservancy, Mental Health Awareness Day. Over the last two years, this program has positively impacted more than 300 community members, which is believed nature can nurture and teach problem-solving and coping mechanisms. Nature can also assist in helping to end suicide which is the second-leading cause of death among young people (ages 10-14 and 25-34).

The Wolf River Conservancy has joined with community partners to be part of the solution, and through nature at our FREE 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mental Health Awareness Day Event, which is open to the public on Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at The Wolf River Greenway, 2630 Epping Way Drive, Memphis, TN from 10:30 am – 1:30 pm. Food vendors will be onsite along with Job the Comfort Dog, educational resources from licensed counselor, firetrucks, music and more.

**TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

**Focus:**

**Presenter:**

**Summary:**

---

### **Member Comments:** Announcements and Upcoming Events

- **Helping people Stay Covered** - Today from 3-4 p.m. ET CMS is hosting a Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Renewals webinar focused on reaching rural populations is happening. This webinar will provide partners with strategies to reach out to diverse communities and audiences to share information about renewals taking place. CMS will walk-through a set of downloadable slides that partners can use to educate others in their communities about Medicaid and CHIP renewals. If you or your organization serves or interacts with people with Medicaid or CHIP, then these calls are for you, and we encourage you to share this invitation among your network and help us educate organizations and the populations they serve about Medicaid and CHIP renewals. Register at [https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_-uRUL8P0QFW2\\_iRCvfqT8g](https://cms.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_-uRUL8P0QFW2_iRCvfqT8g) and select the August 24th webinar from the list at the top of the page.
- **Rise & Shine TN** is hosting an evening of reflection, hope and action TONIGHT at the Legislative Plaza in Nashville. As the special session ends, community groups, activists, organizers, pastors and healthcare providers are reflecting on the week and honoring the memories of loved ones lost to gun violence. <https://www.riseandshinetn.org>
- **Section 1: Identifiers & Member Type** - Tennessee Cancer Coalition TC2 is a statewide, multidisciplinary, coalition of progressive leaders in cancer care and support. TC2 provides networking, education, best practice sharing, and partnership opportunities for individuals and organizations. The mission of TC2 is to measurably reduce the burden and impact of cancer for Tennesseans through prevention, early detection, and survivorship. <https://forms.gle/YLvQqCpHSDaDvgHr5>

---

### **Resources mentioned during call:**

- Registration is still open for the THCC Advocacy Conference on Saturday. In person and virtual options available. Nursing and Social Work CEU available. Register here: [2023 Annual Advocacy Conference – TN Health Care Campaign](#)
- Hosting Elder Abuse Provider
- The Institute on Health Disparities, Equity and the Exposome at Meharry Medical College is now on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/institute-on-health-disparities-equity-and-the-exposome/mycompany/?viewAsMember=true> For more information contact Elizabeth Hart via email: [ehart@mmc.edu](mailto:ehart@mmc.edu)
- If you need more information, please visit our website at [www.healthdisparitiestn.com](http://www.healthdisparitiestn.com)
- Calendar Year (CY) 2024 Medicare Physician Fee Schedule Proposed Rule - <https://www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/calendar-year-cy-2024-medicare-physician-fee-schedule-proposed-rule>

---

### **Chat Box – links / website / events:**

- Paint the Town Pink in October, for Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Sponsored by Newport Tennova Hospital, Date: TBD, flyer will be shared soon.
- Hispanic Heritage Month, Celebrate <http://www.nashvillehispanicchamber.com/hispanic-heritage-month-calendar.html>
- If you need more information, please visit our website at [www.healthdisparitiestn.com](http://www.healthdisparitiestn.com)

Next Meeting: Thursday, Sept 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# United States, Nashville

Phone Conference ID: 641 975 577#

<https://www.riseandshinetn.org/>



A "Save the Date" graphic for the East Tennessee Aging Symposium. It features a calendar icon for September 29th, a QR code labeled "Scan to register", and logos for the Division of TennCare and East Tennessee State University Center for Rural Health Research. The text describes the symposium as a gathering for professionals and policymakers to support aging Tennesseans.

A poster celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month. It features a large, colorful sun graphic with the word "CELEBRATE" in large, bold letters. Below it, "Hispanic Heritage Month". At the bottom, it says "6th Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration &amp; Awards Ceremony October 14th, 2010 Tennessee State Museum".