

# Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

August 31, 2023, / 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 83 ppl
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Julie Clark Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

**Motivational Quote:** (Julie Clark) “We walk to raise awareness. We walk to stop the silence. We walk to prevent drug overdose.” – Unknown

**(Julie Clark)**

- **International Overdose Awareness Day** - The overdose awareness is the world’s largest annual campaign to end overdose, remember those who have died and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. International Overdose Awareness Day spreads the message about the tragedy of drug overdose death and that drug overdose is preventable. The goals of International Overdose Awareness Day are the following:
  - To provide information about the issue of fatal and non-fatal overdose.
  - To send a strong message to current and former people who use drugs that they are valued.
  - To stimulate discussion about overdose prevention and drug policy.
  - To provide basic information on the range of support services that are available.
  - To prevent and reduce drug-related harm by supporting evidence-based policy and practice.
  - To inform people around the world about the risk of overdose.
  - To provide an opportunity for people to publicly mourn loved ones in a safe environment, some for the first time without feeling guilt or shame.
  - To include a great number of people in International Overdose Awareness Day events and encourage involvement.
  
- **Women’s Equality Day** – On Saturday, August 26, commemorates the annual Women’s Equality Day since 1971. The celebration falls on the anniversary of the certification of the 19th Amendment which granted women the right to vote. The Woman Suffrage Amendment was first introduced on January 10, 1878. It was resubmitted numerous times until it was finally approved by both the House and Senate in June 1919.

The bill needed to be approved by two-thirds of the states, so suffragists spent the next year lobbying state legislatures to gain support for the bill. On August 24, 1920, Tennessee became 36th and final state to ratify the

amendment, which passed by only one vote. That one vote belonged to Harry Burn, who heeded the words of his mother when she urged him to vote for suffrage. Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby signed the amendment into law on August 26, 1920.

- **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. The meeting scheduled for the state of Tennessee is **Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 PM – 12:45 PM**. If you would like to attend, [Register here for this webinar](#).
- **Mental Health Awareness Day**  
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 between the hours of 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.
- **Meharry Medical College TN-AHEC Community Health Worker Training Program & Virtual Career Fair**  
Meharry Medical College and the TN-AHEC Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program is in collaboration with the National Black Nurses Foundation and 1Joshua Group – presents Health Career Pathways: Opportunities and Next Steps for CHWs, as a virtual career fair on **Zoom, Tuesday, September 12, 2023**.
- **East Tennessee Aging Symposium**  
A Symposium for professionals and policymakers who want to enhance the state’s capacity to support aging Tennesseans, their families, and caregivers. Save the Date: Friday, September 29, 2023.

---

## TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

**Focus:** Alliant Health Solutions

**Presenter:** Julie Clark, BS, LPTA, TN State Quality Manager

**Summary:** This is an introduction about Alliant Health Solutions, which is a CMS quality health management organization. The Alliant Health solutions covers as the CMS Q IO, in states such as Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, Florida and Louisiana. CMS Q IO, have goals such as Patient Care, Opioid Misuse, Chronic Disease – Self Management, COVID 19, to name a few. They have a lot of information and resources in regard to long term care. Please check out the [www.allianthealth.org](http://www.allianthealth.org), and search for the resources you know or need and utilize them to enhance what you already have or that you're trying to build upon.

---

## TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

**Focus:** Community Care Hubs Network

**Presenter:** Vickie Harris, Founder and CEO of Community ConneXor

**Summary:** Community ConneXor was developed to improve accessibility and holistic health within Community Care Hubs Network is for all frail but vulnerable, low-income individuals, regardless of age and disability. Community ConneXor is one of fifty-eight (58) organizations that was selected by a Health and Human services and administration for to participate in the first national learning community care hub network. We were recipients of a National Council on Aging grant in the amount of \$150,000, and we also received a \$250,000 grant for food security for the North Nashville.

To fix what's wrong in health care we must fix our communities. When we fix our communities with the community care hubs network in place, avoidable spending within the health care will cut down, which all ties back to our communities, that has been done by research or root cause analysis. It is at the community level, those social determinants of health, which are all relatable to social needs. Community hubs is that new approach strategic strategy to building up infrastructure and creating a level of system alignment within the community level.

We need the people in our communities to be healthy in spirit, mind and body and we need transformation within the social determinants, and it will reflect within the communities through the community hubs network. If you seek more information, please contact Vickie Harris by email at [vharris@communityconnexor.com](mailto:vharris@communityconnexor.com).

---

**Member Comments:** Announcements and Upcoming Events

---

**Resources mentioned during call:**

- If you need more information, please visit our website at [www.healthdisparitiestn.com](http://www.healthdisparitiestn.com)

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

- If you need more information, please visit our website at [www.healthdisparitiestn.com](http://www.healthdisparitiestn.com)
- 

**Next Meeting: Thursday, September 7, 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#

Join St. Luke CME Church,  
Meharry Medical College and NFL Alumni

# GEAR UP for Fall!

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS FAIR

Saturday, September 23 - 1pm to 4pm

St. Luke CME Church  
2008 Ed Temple Blvd. Nashville, TN 37208

Meet Former Tennessee Titans and Other NFL Greats  
Get Your Shingles Vaccine



**Warren Moon**

Former All-Pro Quarterback, Houston Oilers  
NBA MVP Ring of Honor, 2014 NFL Hall of  
Fame, 2014 NFL 100th Anniversary



**Brad Hopkins**

Former Tennessee  
Titans Linebacker  
2014 NFL Hall of Fame



**Al Smith**

NFL Alumni TN Chapter President  
Former All-Pro Linebacker  
Houston Oilers

**Rev. Daryl A. Ballard**  
St. Luke CME Church



**Dr. Donald J. Alcendor**  
Associate Professor  
Meharry Medical  
Director of Research  
TNCEAL Program

### Activities

Music | Food | Games | Health Screenings | NFLA Giveaways | Boosters and Vaccines

