

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

September 7, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 95 ppl.
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Tiffany Tutko, CHW Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (Tiffany Tutko) “You are not alone, help is always available.” Unknown

(Tiffany Tutko)

- National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** - Suicide is a problem that touches the lives of many, many people. Many of us may know someone, such as a friend, family member, or coworker who has attempted or died by suicide. Over the past two decades, suicide rates have steadily risen across the U.S. Suicide is currently ranked the 10th cause of death among all ages. It’s important for you to know that suicide is preventable. With commitment and engagement in our communities, workplaces, and homes, together we can help reduce the number of suicides. So, today, our presentation is from the Tennessee Department of Health Suicide Prevention Program, led by LaDonna Merville.
- Blood Cancer Awareness Month** - has been helping to raise awareness since 2010. This global month of action belongs to everyone which gives us the chance to tell the world with one voice: This Is Blood Cancer Awareness Month. Everyone is encouraged to use color red and hashtags #ThisIsBloodCancer and #BloodCancer to help spread the word. You can visit our resources page Resources - Blood Cancer Awareness Month www.bloodcancermonth.org to get involved.
- National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month**
Recovery Month is a national observance held every September to educate Americans that substance abuse treatment and mental health services can enable those with a mental and/or substance use disorder to live a healthy and rewarding life. Recovery Month has adopted the theme of “**Every Person. Every Family. Every Community.**” The 2023 Recovery Month observance will work to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the emergence of a strong and proud recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and community members across the nation who make recovery in all its forms possible.
- 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 14th 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 3rd Annual Mental Health Awareness Day Event, which is open to the public on **Saturday, September 30th 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: Suicide in Tennessee

Presenter: LaDonna Merville

Summary: First we want to give recognition National Suicide Prevention Week, from September 10 through September 16. Suicide is a leading cause of death across the United States and continues to be growing here in the state of Tennessee. The rate of suicide varies from region to region, folks living in rural areas tend to die by suicide at a 1.5 times higher rate than those in the metropolitan areas. Men die by suicide at a rate four times greater than females in Tennessee in 2021.

The suicide rate for males in Tennessee was 28.7 deaths per 100,000 population, compared to 6.7 deaths per 100,000 female population. Suicide in Tennessee has increased for those ranging in the ages 10 to 24 and 25 to 44, but sadly primarily for the youth. White Tennesseans rate of suicide, compared to Black Tennesseans are two times greater but the rate of suicide has increased more for Black Tennesseans from 5.3 to 9.5 deaths per 100,000 from 2017 - 2021.

In the past five years firearms are the most prevalent means for suicide compared to hanging suicide deaths being the most common methods. Poisonings is another method of suicide by 9% and other methods are 5% or less. Tennessee Department of Health is here to raise awareness of the impact of suicide and to take a public health approach to reduce the number of lives lost to suicide. Here are several ways of trainings we offer through educating you about suicide prevention and training opportunities to participate in, clinician and/or non-clinical healthcare worker, a school or university administrator or educator or community member. Sign up for free online courses to Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) learn how to safely discuss the topic of reducing access to lethal means, download a copy of our mental health resource directory and receive information about mental health and suicide prevention resources across the state. Lastly, you can subscribe to our monthly newsletter. If you know anyone who maybe dealing with suicidal thoughts or issues please lead them to [988 Suicide Crisis Lifeline, available through call, text, or chat 24/7/365.](#)

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

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Resources mentioned during call:

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

Chat Box – links / website / events:

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

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 14, 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](tel:+16292094396), [641975577#](tel:+1641975577) United States, Nashville
Phone Conference ID: 641 975 577#



TN-AHEC CHW TRAINING PROGRAM

VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR
Tuesday, September 12, 2023

OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS

Meharry Medical College • Tennessee AHEC • Baptist Health Science University
University of Tennessee Health Science Center • Rural Health Association of Tennessee
TN Charitable Care Network • TN Department of Health • CVS Health • HealthWorks
National Black Nurses Foundation • 1Joshua Group



Leadership in the Sciences **SC MS**

SCIENCE CONSORTIUM OF MINORITY SCHOOLS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
MSEIP P120A18007

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
8:30AM - 3:00PM CST

FREE REGISTRATION

MEHARRY COLLEGE | FISK UNIVERSITY | TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY | LANE COLLEGE
LeMoyné Owen COLLEGE | PAINE COLLEGE | TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY | FAMU [FLORIDA AGRICULTURAL MECHANICAL UNIVERSITY]

[The 1Joshuagroup.com](http://The1Joshuagroup.com)



All women should have a baseline screening between the ages 35 to 40, followed by annual screenings.

You must have your doctor's full name, driver's license, or state ID and insurance card.

No Insurance? No Problem! Screening mammograms are covered for eligible women year-round. Financial assistance for those who are under-insured.

No restrooms on the coach



TRANSFORMATION CHURCH

7122 LEE HWY
CHATTANOOGA, TN

9/30/23

9 AM to 2 PM

To schedule your mammogram exam call
423-495-4040

More information and forms available at memorial.org/MELBCMmobile



LEARN HOW TO SUPPORT THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN YOUR LIFE

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adolescents ages 12-18. You'll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to young people who are struggling. You'll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support.

AFTER THE COURSE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO:

- Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health challenges, including anxiety, depression, eating disorders and attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD).
- Recognize common signs and symptoms of substance use challenges.
- Understand how to interact with a young person in crisis.
- Know how to connect a young person with help.
- Better understand trauma, substance use, self-care and the impact of social media and bullying.

Join the more than
2.6 MILLION

First Aiders who have chosen to be the difference in their community.

REGISTER TODAY!

Delivery Format:

In-Person



Date and Time:

October 30, 2023 at 9 AM, Registration at 8:30 AM

Location:

YWCA - 106 State Street Bristol, TN 37620

Where to Register:

Scan the QR code above or email kmurphy@frontierhealth.org

Learn how to respond with the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (ALGEE):

- A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm.
- L**isten nonjudgmentally.
- G**ive reassurance and information.
- E**ncourage appropriate professional help.
- E**ncourage self-help and other support strategies.



For more information, visit MHFA.org