

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting | MINUTES

September 14, 2023, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 87 ppl.
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	Katherine Diaz, CHW Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

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

(Katherine Diaz)

- **Hispanic Heritage Month** - Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 - October 15) is an annual celebration in the United States that honors the history, culture, and contributions of those whose ancestry can be traced to 20 countries and one territory — which includes Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Spain. You may also see, this annual celebration recognized as Latino Heritage Month, Latinx Heritage Month, or Latine Heritage Month. [Tennessee, United States Hispanic Heritage Month Events | Eventbrite](#)
- **Childhood Cancer Awareness Month** - September is a month Childhood Cancer Awareness is recognized, which is a time of year we and other organizations honor children and survivors affected by pediatric cancers. Childhood cancer is one of the leading causes of disease-related death past infancy in children and adolescents. Several barriers impede the early diagnosis and referral of the child with cancer to treatment centers.

“St Silvan’s Warning Signs of Childhood Cancer”

S – Seek medical help early for ongoing symptoms

I – White spot in the eye, new squint, sudden blindness or bulging eyeball

L – Lump on the stomach, pelvis, head, arms, legs, testicle, or glands

U – Unexplained fever present for over two weeks, weight loss, fatigue, pale, easy bruising, and bleeding

A – Aching bones, joints, back and easy fractures

N – Neurological signs, a change in walk, balance or speech, regression, continuous headaches with or without vomiting and enlarged head

Health Aging Month - Healthy Aging Month is observed during the month of September. This observance raises awareness on the physical and mental health of adults growing older daily. This month also serves as a reminder that as we age, our minds and bodies change. It is important to maintain a healthy lifestyle to help deal with those changes and to help prevent some common age-related health problems. You can take a proactive approach to aging by adopting healthy habits and behaviors, managing existing health conditions, and staying connected to your community. Consider practicing the tips below to help you stay active and independent as you age.

- Eat Healthy and Drink Plenty Water

- Move More and Sit Less
- Get Regular Check-ups
- Engage in Social and Mental Health Activities
- Get 7-8 hours of rest

For more information will be found at: <https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/what-do-we-know-about-healthy-aging>

- **Opioid Abatement Community Funding /Community Grants Application Portal** - The Portal for applications opens September 1, 2023, at 12:00AM CDT and closes October 9, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. To access the application for the Opioid Abatement Council's Community Grants, please click on this link. To aid in successfully navigating the portal, Council staff have produced Instructional videos which you can watch on [which you can watch on YouTube at this link](#) at this link. We encourage all Proposers to watch the videos which are about 17 minutes total in length. There are 9 chapters covering the activities necessary to submit the application and each may be accessed independently. The Proposer Instructions document is a helpful guide for the Portal and [may be found at this link](#). This document is a companion to the instructional videos and highlights the important steps.
- **Meharry Medical College TN-AHEC Community/Health Worker Training Program & Virtual Career Fair** - You are invited to attend the Meharry Medical College and the TN-AHEC Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Program in collaboration with the National Black Nurses Foundation and 1Joshua Group – presents Health Career Pathways: Opportunities and Next Steps for Community Health Workers, as a virtual career fair on **Zoom, Tuesday, September 12, 2023**. If you would like to register for this training scheduled September 29, please click the link [The 1Joshuagroup.com](#).

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Afro-Hispanic Health Disparities

Presenter: Bethsy Harrigan, Community Engagement Coordinator

Summary: The Hispanic Heritage week began on September 15, 1968, and due to all the festivities, conferences and social gatherings, was extended 30 days, between two months (Sept 15-Oct 15) in 1988. Hispanic and Latino descent is a person with ancestry whose language is primarily Spanish. The term Afro-Latino is rarely used but means a person whose African and Latin descent. The most common countries of the Hispanic origin are Mexico, Puerto Rico, Cuba, El Salvador and Dominican Republic and the most common countries of Afro-Latino are Brazil, Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, Columbia, etc.

In Tennessee, its estimated through the Census Bureau, that 5.2% of the population is Hispanic and Latino descent, but through health outcomes and data reports the population of Hispanic descent is a lot more than noted. Hispanics are affected by language and cultural barriers, lack of access to preventative care and health insurance and more, which keeps them from receiving the necessary care that's needed. Basically, poor health care leads to high rates of obesity, heart diseases, cancers, diabetes, strokes and even Alzheimer's disease.

There are many disparities within the subgroups of all Hispanic communities and we're seeking to shine light on all the health disparities as well as the festivities, during this Hispanic Heritage month so the Hispanic families will receive everything that's needed for their family.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- The Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance and Meharry Medical College will be hosting, A Conversation with Dr. Stephen Williams, Virtual Event on Saturday, September 23, from 10-11AM CT. If you would like to participate, please click the link. <https://redcap.vanderbilt.edu/surveys/?s=KY3NP7MJPAJ3KXJ7>
- Hispanic Nurse Association Link <https://nahnnnet.org/chapters/tennessee> If you need more information do not hesitate to email nahntn21@gmail.com

Resources mentioned during call:

- If you need more information, please visit our website at www.healthdisparitiestn.com
- Behavioral Health Outreach Crisis Coordinator, please call 423.362.3606
- Hispanic Nurse Association Link <https://nahnnet.org/chapters/tennessee> If you need more information do not hesitate to email nahntn21@gmail.com

Chat Box – links / website / events:

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 - Latinx Health Coalition: <https://sites.google.com/email.mmc.edu/drirenelazarus/dra-lazarus/coalici%C3%B3n-de-salud-latina-csl>
 - If you need more information, please visit our website at www.healthdisparitiestn.com
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Next Meeting: Thursday, September 21, 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#



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


FREE REGISTRATION





MEHARRY FISK TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY LANE COLLEGE
LeMoyne-Owen COLLEGE PAINE COLLEGE TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY FAMU



Spanish Teen Group
(Ages 14-17)

 **Tuesdays**
Sep. 19 - Oct. 24

 **3:00pm - 4:30pm**

 **AGAPE Main Office**
4555 Trousdale Dr.
Nashville, TN 37204

 **Primarily Spanish-Speaking group**

Topics Include
Anxiety
Stress
Anger
School related issues
Friendships
Relationships

<http://tinyurl.com/AGAPESpanishTeenGroup>