

Health Disparities Advisory Meeting |MINUTES

November 21, 2024, | 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately:43 ppl.
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force –	
Facilitator:	LaShan Dixon, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (LaShan Dixon) On today Thursday, November 21, 2024, this week’s inspirational quote recognizes and celebrating Thanksgiving. “Be grateful for who you are, where you come from and what you have because life is like a vapor it only appears for a little while and then vanishes.” - Anonymous

(LaShan Dixon)

- **National Family Health History Day** is observed in the United States on the fourth Thursday of November, coinciding with Thanksgiving Day. It was created to raise awareness of the importance of knowing your family health history. The term family health history, or simply family history, refers to information about conditions of direct blood relatives (parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, siblings and half-siblings, children, and nieces and nephews). Accurate knowledge can help physicians identify a predisposition to developing certain illnesses such as autoimmune disorders, some cancers, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, and mental disorders.

Why is knowing your family history important? While you cannot change the genes you inherited, you can take precautions to prevent the diseases that run in your family if they are preventable or detect them early to start treatment. Knowing your family history will help your healthcare provider advice you on screenings you might need and provide other preventive care. The reason behind observing it on the same day as Thanksgiving Day is families usually get together, which creates a perfect opportunity to discuss family health history and health issues that affect multiple family members.

- **National UTI Awareness Day** - During “Bladder Health Month” November 21st is declared National UTI Awareness Day, which is believed urinary tract health is increasing awareness on this massive health issue. UTIs are the second most common infection in the U.S, to the common cold. So, what is a urinary tract infection known as a (UTI)? A (UTI) is a bacterial infection that affects any part of the urinary system, which includes the bladder, urethra, ureters, and kidneys.

There are upper and lower UTI’s, and the symptoms include frequent urination, painful urination, blood in the urine, and more. If a UTI progresses to your kidney, you may also develop symptoms such as a high fever, chills, change in appetite, nausea, and fatigue. Although sexual activity is certainly a risk factor, there are other causes for UTIs such as poor hygiene, use of catheters, blockages in the urinary tract such as kidney stones, or simple anatomical makeup. E. Coli is the most common bacteria found in UTIs, but we cannot just assume it is the only causative factor.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Tennessee TRAIN

Presenter: Matthew Coleman and Lisa M. Ward

Summary: This meeting was about Tennessee TRAIN Learning Management System. TRAIN is systemically set up for public health and accessible to anyone with an email address, this account can follow you throughout your career and as folk complete courses, they will earn certificates. There are many different courses which are related to main topics searched, all one must do is type in what their looking for and it should come up, directly.

TRAIN has a course catalog for Tennessee Department of Health, which houses in-house courses and partnerships with various schools of public health across the state. We also help coordinate the roadshow which is where a lot of various departments come together, planned with rural regions that consist of county directors, health educators, and regional staff members, some departments bring their clinical staff, and we receive a lot of feedback from them. Before COVID local staff was requesting for more professional development opportunities and due to funding, we were unable to reach the entire Department of Health. During COVID, we finally received federal funding allowing us to create a big project with Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant.

This project allowed us to put together work groups made up of different sections and different departments with various learning materials and management systems which are in place today. We connected with schools of public health across the state and created curriculum's that would help and address the needs of our public health staff and so we came to terms that TRAIN Learning Management System would be the best fit. Some curriculums are based from informal surveys and other curriculums we received in 2023, we have between 3000 to 4000 employees that are in healthcare and they are utilizing TRAIN in some form or fashion. Out of 14,000 Tennessee based accounts, registered are over 33,000 various courses in the Train Learning Management System, which breaks down 200 different courses being registered daily.

If you would like more information about TRAIN Learning Management System, please contact Matthew Coleman or Lisa Ward by via email at Matthew.Coleman@tn.gov and Lisa.M.Ward@tn.gov.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events

- Ensure Our Kids Coalition is hosting a conversation with an immigration attorney about the ACA Marketplace expansion for DACA recipients. You are invited to join a meeting: Insure Our Kids (IOK) TN Coalition Monthly Call. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the meeting.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZUpC-qorZ4qE9W9osrQsVBBHiDxWV4YmbAi>

Resources mentioned during call:

- The Tennessee Department of Health (TDH) invites faith leaders to participate in our Gifts and Needs Assessment [survey](#). TDH is committed to eliminating health disparities, and we know that partnering with faith communities is key to achieving this goal. We want to learn about the resources you have available, the resources you need, and how we can work together to support your congregation. Please take a few minutes to share your input here: bit.ly/tdhfaithsurvey
- Local Health Departments also have a presence at the multi-agency resource centers (where people can apply for FEMA funding, get WIC, etc.): <https://www.tn.gov/tema/news/2024/10/7/multi-agency-resource-centers-open-for-tennesseans-impacted-by-hurricane-helene.html>

Multi-Agency Resource Centers Open for Tennesseans Impacted by Hurricane Helene

The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA) has established two Multi-Agency Resource Centers for individuals affected by Hurricane Helene.

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

Chat Box – links / website / events:

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Next Meeting December 12, 2024, 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#

