

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

April 14th, 2022 / 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 51 people
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force – Mental Health	
Facilitator:	Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: (Elizabeth Hart) **National Gardening Day** - "Gardening is the greatest tonic and therapy a human being can have. Even if you have only a tiny piece of earth, you can create something beautiful which we all have a great need for. If we begin by respecting plants, it's inevitable we will respect people." Audrey Hepburn

Announcements: (Elizabeth Hart)

- All inquiries from the media should be directed to Bill.Christian@tn.gov Assistant Director of Communications and Media Relations of the TN Dept of Health
- Two paid internships are available for MPH students, with the Department of Health, interested in Epidemiology.
- The top ten email will contain several funding opportunities. Be mindful of the deadlines and share with others.
- Send questions to Elizabeth.Hart@tn.gov by 4:30 pm April 21, 2022 for the Health Equity Book Series: Henrietta Lacks. Please register to hear the great granddaughter and sister of Henrietta Lacks April 28, 2022 @ 1:00p.m.
- This weekend of April 15-18, 2022 is a rarity that happens every 33- 34 years. It will be a weekend of Passover, Easter and Ramadan simultaneously.
- State of Tennessee offices will be closed April 15, 2022 in observance of Good Friday.
- The federal government is allotting eight COVID 19 tests per household to be distributed via USPS. You may order @ covid.gov.
- Community Outreach Workers will start working in the community within a month. Outreach materials have been purchased. Invite them to community events and health fairs to set up information stations.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: "Drug Take Back Events in Tennessee"

Presenter: Sarah Murfree – Prevention Coalition for Success, Inc., Rutherford County headquartered in Murfreesboro via TN Dept of Mental Health, Mr. Anthony "Tony" Jackson

Summary: The presentation focused on the coalition's involvement with taking unused, prescribed/OTC drugs for proper destruction and preventing abuse. Discussed using the DEA and the state of Tennessee as sources for guidance and sponsoring a "Take Back Day" locally. Discussed the statistics for users of unused medications, success of the take back program, and potential for education and messaging at the events. Also, provided information for OTC medication that is risky for overdose. Deterrent pouches are useful in individual destruction of unused medicines.

Member Comments: Announcements and Upcoming Events (Impactful/Significant remarks made in chat box by meeting participants)

- As always, this presentation will be uploaded to www.HealthDisparitiesTN.com and a link will be sent in the Top Ten email this week.
 - You can learn more about Take Back Day and find a location near you at the TN Together website <https://tntogether.com/takebackday/>
Take Back Day - Tennessee Together
National Prescription Take Back National Take Back Day Spring Take Back April 30th, 2022 Learn More! The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health, and TN Toget...
 - Fisk University Opioid Workplace Community. aleeart1@gmail.com/615-720-6427. If anyone is willing to participate, please contact ASAP.
 - Kim Buckland, CMS- Atlanta, GA. Asking partners and stakeholders who hear of events solely focused on vaccine and booster for a possible CMS dignitary to participate send information to Elizabeth Hart and she will inform Kim Buckland or Teresa Zyus. They will let their leadership know.
 - CMS announced on April 6th that it will pay for the Pfizer and Moderna 2nd COVID 19 booster vaccines. Medicare recipients will not have to pay.
 - Medicare recipients are eligible to receive eight OTC COVID 19 tests at their local pharmacies or order them online per month.
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Resources mentioned during call: (List information / Resources/ Programs mentioned during call or listed in the chat box)

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Chat Box – links / website / events: [List ALL links/ webpages/ upcoming events (dates/time/locations) etc. listed in the chat box] REMEMBER: NO EMAILS OR CONTACT INFORMATION

- You can learn more about Take Back Day and find a location near you at the TN Together website <https://tntogether.com/takebackday/>
Take Back Day - Tennessee Together

National Prescription Take Back National Take Back Day Spring Take Back April 30th, 2022 Learn More! The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Department of Health, and TN Toget...

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Next Meeting: Thursday, April 21, 2022, 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,,221274636#](#) United States, Nashville

Phone Conference ID: 221 274 636#