

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

March 17th, 2022 / 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

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| Meeting called by: | Division of Health Disparities Elimination | Approximately: 42 ppl |
| Type of meeting: | Weekly Health Disparities Task Force – Infectious Disease | |
| Facilitator: | Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement | |

Motivational Quote :

“The amount of good luck coming your way depends on your willingness to act.” –Barbara Sher

Announcements:

- Everyone can order an additional set of four COVID-19 test per household (eight total) order then at covidtest.gov
- We are very honored to host two descendants of the one and only Henrietta Lacks for the first session who will talk about their matriarch and her incredible legacy!!!! The book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, can be purchased through a variety of platforms: [Amazon](#), [Books a Million](#), [Barnes & Noble](#). More details, including how to register for the free series, coming soon! For now, put a hold on your calendars for 1 p.m. CT on Thursday, April 28, 2022.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

Focus: Lead & Children’s Health

Presenter: Liam O’Rourke, MPH, REHS

Summary: Lead is a naturally an occurring element found in small amount in the Earths crust.

CDC recommend parents get children tested for increased lead exposure, via blood test. Children exposure typically happens thru utero, ingestion, and inhalation. Symptoms can be but not limited to headache, irritability, loss of appetite, wight loss sluggishness, and fatigues, abdominal pain, etc. Adults are exposed while spending time in and where lead-based paint is deteriorating, jobs, and hobbies, like stained glass. To help reduce exposing lead into your home, shower (prior to arriving home), washing and cleaning hands prior to eating.

Focus: Environmental Investigations and Lead Hazard Risk Assessments of Childhood Elevation Blood Lead

Presenter: Adrienne White, Senior Program Manager Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Solid Waste Management

Summary: The state of Tennessee needs to increase testing levels to determine which children are being exposed. Children typically get lead position from within their homes. Shelby county has a prevalence of exposure primary because they conduct a lot of testing. Parents that work at the textile battery plants have a high exposure. The objective of EBL are to identify all possible sources of lead exposure and studying all dwelling children frequently attend (home, relative home, school, day-care centers. Uncommon sources that lead also analyzed include toys, medicines, homes remedies, glazed pottery, herbs, spices, candy, and occupational work sites. Testing and collection of water, soil, and dust wipes samples are conducted when testing for lead poisoning within the homes.

Focus: Lead in Drinking Water

Presenter: David Money, Division of Water Resources

Summary: Lead is found in gasoline, fishing sinkers, batteries, cosmetics, bullets, and paint. Lead can cause cognitive impairments, which causes a concern. Lead service lines were installed in Tennessee as late as the 1950's. Real drinking water regulation begin in 1991 (Lead and Copper Rules) which states set contaminant level goal as zero, established monitoring and trigger levels of 15ppb, and required corrosion control treatment. The newest Lead and Copper rule revision (2021) was set but doesn't come into effect until 10/16/2024 require all PWS to develop a complete inventory to where lead is. One way to reduce/limit exposure is to let your tap water run for 30 seconds before drinking it .

Member Comments:

Resources mentioned during call:

- Cynthia J. Finch was selected as 2022 US Today Women of The Year for Tennessee. She has worked tirelessly to get individuals in Knox County and surrounding areas vaccinated. They have vaccinated over 80,000 plus individuals. Go to USA Today and out her story.

Chat Box – links / website / events:

- Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center Community Outreach and Engagement Speaker: LaNese Campbell, BS Health Educator Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center March 24,2022 From 7 P.M.- 8 P.M. CST

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 24, 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#