

Health Disparities Task Force Meeting |MINUTES

April 7th, 2022, / 1:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M. | Location: Microsoft Teams

Meeting called by:	Division of Health Disparities Elimination	Approximately: 45 people
Type of meeting:	Weekly Health Disparities Task Force – Chronic Disease	
Facilitator:	Elizabeth Hart, Director Office of Faith-Based and Community Engagement	

Motivational Quote: **(Elizabeth Hart)** *"Everybody can be great, because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You don't have to know the second theory of thermodynamics in physics to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."* Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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 month of Ramadan Rabat in the Islam faith commenced at Sundown (Shawwal) on April 2, 2022, and will end on (Eid al-Fitr) May 2, 2022. Ramadan focuses on fasting food and drink, from dawn to sunset 11-16 hours daily, reflection, charity and prayer.
- Send questions to Elizabeth.Hart@tn.gov 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.
- Please send information about your organization's role in the four priorities of the Task force to Elizabeth.Hart@tn.gov to post on the people's website www.healthdisparitiestn.com More PSA's to come.
- The federal government is allotting eight COVID 19 tests per household. 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: The Fundamentals of Alzheimer's Disease

Presenter: Pam Cowley, Member of TN Health Disparities Taskforce, Community Outreach and Engagement Manager of Vanderbilt Memory and Alzheimer's Center (VMAC) – Vanderbilt

University Medical Center (VUMC)

Summary: The VAMC provides knowledge for complexities underlying the pathophysiology, early identification and treatment of Alzheimer's. They use an interdisciplinary trans-institutional team of investigators to address research, risk, resilience and disparities of the disease. The presenter emphasized that Alzheimer's and Dementia are used interchangeably but, Alzheimer's is a form of Dementia. Information presented included risk factors, symptoms, prevention, research and statistics of the disease including high risk as individuals, race and ethnic groups more susceptible to the disease.

Focus: Advanced Directives

Presenter: Phil Martin

Summary: Advanced Directives are important for the patient and the family. Alzheimer's patients typically receive aggressive compensated treatments if there is no Advanced Directive. More information is available on the website advanceddirectivestn.org.

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

- In May, 2022 information will be shared by a different presenter on how to participate in clinical trials for Alzheimer's research.
- Intercouncil on Cancer is having their "Easter Goes Pink" virtual event on Saturday, April 9, 2022 to reach people across the U.S.
- Next week's Task Force meeting will discuss overdosing in Tennessee and resources available

Resources mentioned during call: (List information / Resources/ Programs mentioned during call or listed in the chat box)

- VAMP - Memory and Aging Project is looking for people with healthy cognition for an observation study to monitor memory changes over time.
- VAMP - The Tennessee Memory and Aging Project is accepting people who have been diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment. It is an observational study with a focus on the heart and brain connection.
- Alzheimer's Patient and Caregiver Support Groups – Reserve virtual spot 615-875-3175, sydney.wilhoite@vumc.org
- Caretakers can apply for a grant to receive 50 hours of respite from a registered and bonded caregiver. There is an option to reapply for 25 more hours if needed. <https://www.helpforalzheimersfamilies.com/get-help/hilarity-for-charity/>

https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/care-options/respice-care?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI-9yL0s6C9wIVjIzICh1TLg6tEAAyASAAEgJ1GvD_BwE

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**

Advanced Directives

- Executive Director of Honoring Choices Tennessee 615-268-8000 pmartin@honoringchoices.tn.org

Support:

- <https://www.helpforalzheimersfamilies.com/get-help/hilarity-for-charity/>
 - https://www.alz.org/help-support/caregiving/care-options/respice-care?gclid=EAIaIQobChMI-9yL0s6C9wIVjIzICh1TLg6tEAAyASAAEgJ1GvD_BwE
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Next Meeting: Thursday, April 14, 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)

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Phone Conference ID: 221 274 636#