East Tennessee Grand Division Meeting

Date: Friday, April 11, 2025

Location: Jubilee Banquet Facility

6700 Jubilee Center Way, Knoxville, TN 37912

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| Time | Topic | Presenter |
| 8:00 am – 9:00 am | Registration |  |
| 9:00 am – 9:15 am | Welcome | Michelle Moyers, East TN Vice-President  Sarah Boop, East TN Vice-President Elect |
| 9:15 am – 10:15 am | 1st Session: Blue Zones  The Blue Zones Project is an initiative focused on transforming communities to promote healthier lifestyles and greater well-being. The feasibility and readiness assessment for Sevier County examined the community's potential to adopt and implement Blue Zones principles. During the assessment, Sevier's role involved evaluating local strengths and identifying areas for improvement.  This presentation will share key findings regarding and plans for moving forward to develop sustainable initiatives that support healthier living and enhance overall well-being for Sevier County residents. | Dr. Emma Davis, Tennessee Department of Health |
| 10:15 am – 11:15 am | 2nd Session:  Building Tennessee's Age-Friendly Ecosystem  Tennessee ranks 43rd in the nation for older adult health outcomes. By 2035, adults will outnumber children for the first time in history. Meanwhile, 83% of older adults prefer to age-in-place. An Age-Friendly Ecosystem is critical to managing the needs of older adults and caregivers. This presentation will demonstrate public health's role in cross-sector collaboration to create an Age-Friendly Tennessee. | Dr. Kristina Wick, Assistant Professor, UT-Chattanooga, Vicky B Gregg Chair of Gerontology |
| 11:15 am – 11:30 am | Break |  |
| 11:30 am-12:15 pm | Lunch |  |
| 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm | 3rd Session:  EP Focus  On September 27, 2024, East TN and Western NC experienced unprecedented flooding due to rain from Hurricane Helene. This session will review the Northeast TN Regional Health Office’s emergency response efforts, including the coordination of a hospital evacuation, deployment of a field medical unit, delivery of medical care in shelters, community outreach, disease prevention, and more. Analyzing these response efforts offer insights into the scale of the response, determines what worked well, identifies areas for improvement, and helps enhance preparedness and planning for future emergencies. | Chad Bruckman, MPS, CEM, TN-CEM, CHEP, NER Emergency Response Coordinator |
| 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm | 4th Session:  Trauma-Informed Principles  /De-escalation  This one-hour training session equips staff and volunteers working with clients recovering from Hurricane Helene with practical de-escalation skills to manage interactions with clients experiencing heightened emotions, frustration, or distress due to the prolonged effects of such a disaster. Through trauma-informed communication techniques and scenario-based role-playing/discussion, participants will learn to recognize escalation signs, apply calming strategies, and maintain safety while supporting clients. | Ragan Schriver, PsyD, MSSW  Clinical Professor, UT-Knoxville College of Social Work |
| 2:15 pm-2:30 pm | Closing Remarks and Adjourn | Michelle Moyers, East TN Vice-President  Sarah Boop, East TN Vice-President Elect |