

140 Dameron Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37917

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 7, 2023

Contact: Kelsey Wilson 865-257-7460 cell

## **Two KCHD Programs Receive Statewide Recognition**

*Knox County, Tenn.* -- Two Knox County Health Department programs received statewide recognition through the Tennessee Department of Health's Bright Spot Awards. The awards recognize examples of meaningful primary prevention work taking place across the state.

KCHD's Nutrition Education Activity Training (N.E.A.T.) Program was the only recipient in the state to receive a gold award and the Youth Health Board Program received a bronze award.

"We are thrilled that two of our programs were recognized for the incredible difference they are making in our community," said Cheryl Hill, Division Director of Health Promotion and Outreach. "Both the N.E.A.T. and the Youth Health Board programs are centered around children and adolescents. By promoting health at an early age, these programs are making a critical investment in the future health of our community."

Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Ralph Alvarado presented the awards to KCHD team members and affiliated partners. State Senator Becky Duncan Massey and Representative Dave Wright were also in attendance. Please see the two pictures attached to assist in your coverage.

## About N.E.A.T.

N.E.A.T. is a program designed to teach and promote healthy eating behaviors among youth in Knox County. The program reaches more than 1,000 children in afterschool sites. Trained volunteers lead interactive discussions and games centered on healthy eating and physical activity.

## **About Youth Health Board**

Youth Health Board is an opportunity for Knox County high schoolers to gain leadership skills and to affect the health and well-being of our community. It provides opportunities to partner with professionals across the community to learn, explore and act on a variety of health issues.

First picture, from left to right: Denarius Ross (Wesley House), Porschia Pickett (Wesley House), Xavier Moise (N.E.A.T. educator), Abigail Ford (KCHD), Sen. Becky Duncan Massey, Dr. Alvarado, Rep. Dave Wright.

Second picture, from left to right: Taylor Evans (KCHD), Kinsey Simmerman (KCHD), Sen. Becky Duncan Massey, Dr. Alvarado, Dr. Jasmine Armstrong (KCHD)

