



*The mission of the Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care is to foster collaborative efforts that enhance awareness and create solutions to prevent, reduce, and alleviate homelessness in our region.*

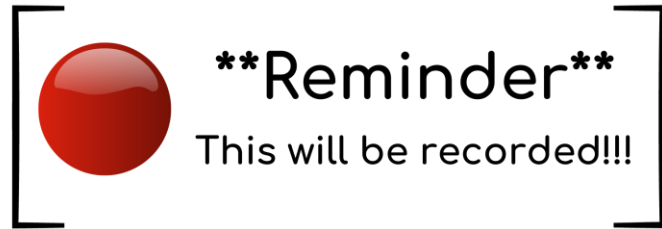
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ANDERSON • BLOUNT • CAMPBELL • CLAIBORNE • COCKE • GRAINGER • HAMBLEN • JEFFERSON • LOUDON • MONROE • SEVIER • UNION

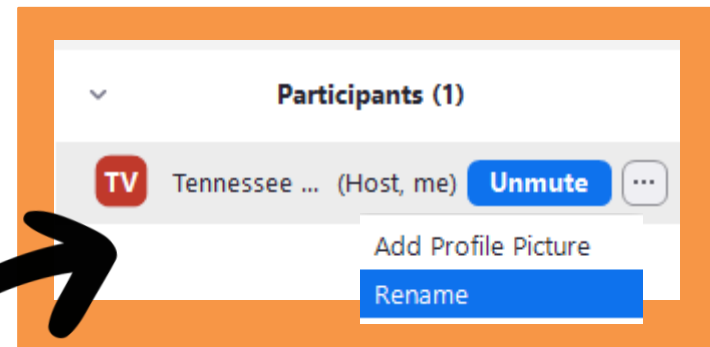
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October 3<sup>rd</sup> , 2023

# House Keeping Notes:



This is how we will  
take attendance!



Mute  
your  
audio!

Change your Zoom name to  
include your first & last name,  
pronouns (if you'd like), and your  
organization.

# Partner Spotlight



Haley Emitt & Kenneth Hawkins

# Choice Health Network

A Positively Living Company

Haley Emitt & Kenneth Hawkins



**Choice**  
**Health Network**  
**Health. Equity. Hope.**  
a Positively Living company

- *Our mission: to provide compassionate care to empower, promote, and inspire wellness*

# Organizational Background



- ☐ From its inception in 1996 as a day center for people living with HIV, the organization has evolved to include client services, medical services, prevention and harm reduction.
- ☐ In 2018, with the launch of our medical clinic, Positively Living became Choice Health Network.
- ☐ Today, we serve nearly 6,000 Tennesseans who are living with challenges associated with HIV, mental illness, addiction, homelessness, disabilities, discrimination, and stigma.
- ☐ We currently have four primary locations across Tennessee, providing comprehensive care and prevention service.

# Our Locations



- ❑ Headquarters – 1925 Ailor Ave., Knoxville, TN
- ❑ Chattanooga, TN
- ❑ Memphis, TN
- ❑ Cookeville/Upper Cumberland, TN



# Our Programmatic Pillars

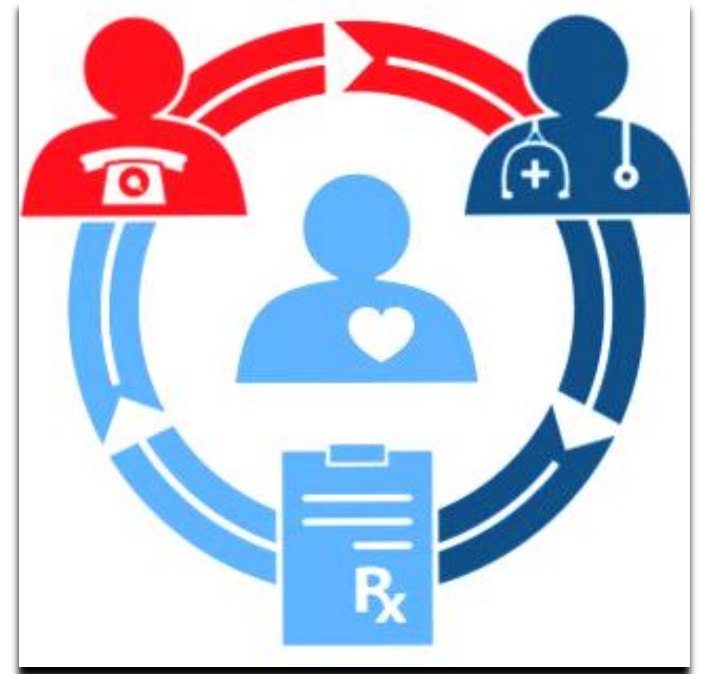


- Medical Services
- Client Services
- Prevention & Harm Reduction



# Medical Services

- ☐ HIV medical care
  - Rapid start program available
  - Clients living with HIV do not have to be insured.
- ☐ Hepatitis C treatment
- ☐ HIV prevention (PrEP/PEP)
- ☐ Primary care for clients living with HIV and/or Hepatitis C
- ☐ On-site pharmacy





# Harm Reduction Programs

- ☐ HIV/HCV/STI-Testing: Operates Monday-Friday. Walk-in or appointment.
- ☐ Referral to treatment
- ☐ Condoms & lube distribution
- ☐ Educational outreach
- ☐ PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis)
- ☐ PEP (Post-Exposure Prophylaxis)
- ☐ SSP (Syringe Service Program): Operates three days per week, by appointment only (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday)
- ☐ Overdose prevention (free Narcan / naloxone training and distribution)

HIV Testing

HCV Testing  
(hepatitis C  
virus)

PrEP/PEP  
Navigation

Further STI  
Testing

SSP (syringe  
service  
program)



## PrEP & PEP



**Choice**  
Health Network  
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- **PrEP**

- ☐ **Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP):** a pill taken daily to prevent HIV infection. It is recommended that you use other barrier methods with PrEP, such as condoms.
- ☐ Daily PrEP reduces the risk of contracting HIV via sex by more than 95% for men who have sex with men. Among people who inject drugs, it reduces the risk by more than 70%.

- **PEP**

- ☐ **PEP (post-exposure prophylaxis)** is an option for someone who thinks they've recently been exposed to HIV during sex or through sharing needles and works to prepare drugs.
- ☐ ***PEP must be started within 72 hours of possible exposure to HIV.*** If you're prescribed PEP, you'll need to take it for 28 days.

# Client Services

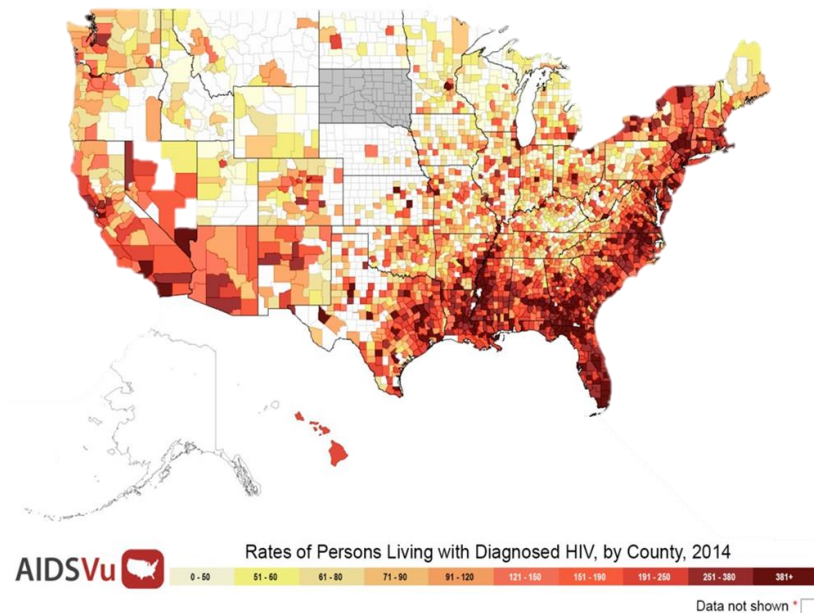
- ❑ Case Management Services
  - Ryan White Part B
  - HOPWA
- ❑ Behavioral Health Services



# Ryan White Case Management



- Ryan White Part B provides support for people living with HIV.
- Services:
  - Insurance and copay assistance
  - Medical and prescription assistance
  - Dental
  - Vision
  - Food cards
  - Transportation assistance
  - Housing
    - Short-term rent/utility assistance
    - Emergency housing





HOPWA is a HUD-funded program serving the housing needs of people living with HIV. Choice Health Network provides HOPWA services in the East and Upper Cumberland regions.



Emergency Housing\* (FB)

\*Emergency housing program maintains a waitlist



Move-in costs: deposits / first month's rent/application fees (PHP)



Short-term rent/mortgage/utility assistance (STRMU)

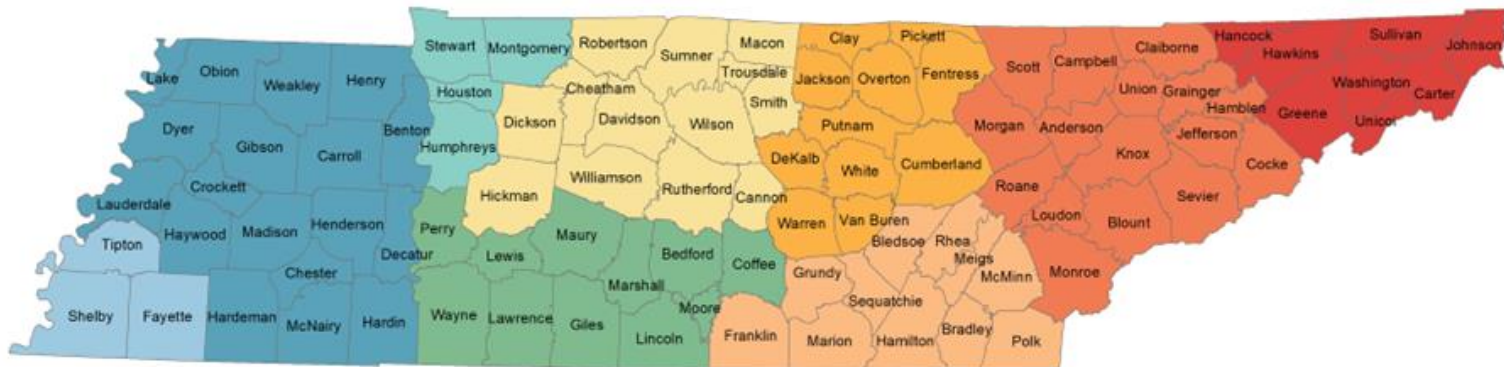


Supportive Services: case management, food assistance, transportation assistance





## Tennessee and Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (EMSA) Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)



City of Memphis, Div. of Housing & Community Development (3 counties)  
170 N. Main St., 4th Floor  
Memphis, TN 38107  
Kimberly Mitchell  
kimberly.mitchell@memphis.tn.gov  
901-636-7347

West TN Legal Services (18 counties)  
210 W. Main St., PO Box 2066  
Jackson, TN 38301  
Carita Cole  
carita@wtls.org  
731-426-1327

Nashville CARES (4 counties)  
633 Thompson Ln.  
Nashville, TN 37204  
Erin Pickney, LCSW  
epickney@nashvillecares.org  
615-921-0339

Columbia CARES (11 counties)  
1202 S. James Campbell Blvd., Suite 8B  
Columbia, TN 38401  
Letitia Franklin  
letitiafranklin@columbiacares.org  
931-381-0114 ext. 11

Davidson Metropolitan Development & Housing Agency (13 counties)  
712 S. 6th St.  
Nashville, TN 37206  
Shelley Fugitt  
sfugitt@nashville-mdha.org  
615-252-6702

Positively Living-Upper Cumberland (11 counties)  
1100 England Dr.  
Cookeville, TN 38501  
Jered Croom  
jered@positively-living.org  
931-283-1544

Chattanooga CARES/CEMPA (11 counties)  
1000 E. 3rd St., Suite 300  
Chattanooga, TN 37403  
Sherry Martin  
sherrym@ceempa.org  
423-648-9909

Positively Living (16 counties)  
900 E. Hill Ave., Suite 280  
Knoxville, TN 37915  
Haley Emitt  
haley@choicehealthnetwork.org  
865-525-1540 ext. 224

Frontier Health/Hope for TN (8 counties)  
1570 Waverly Rd.  
Kingsport, TN 37664  
Megan Suggs  
msuggs@frontierhealth.org  
423-224-1427

HOPWA Director Contact: 615-532-7914

# HOPWA: Short Term Rent, Mortgage & Utility Assistance



- Must have income (employment, social security, disability, etc.)
- Up to 147 days of assistance per year (just under 5 months)
- Must provide lease for rental assistance
- Checks come from Mission Rental Assistance for confidentiality
- Typically runs out of funding in the last quarter of the grant year

# Motel Housing Assistance



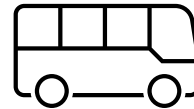
- HOPWA – up to 60 days of assistance at a motel, with weekly case management appointments required
  - Small case load – intensive case management
  - Has a waitlist
- Ryan White Emergency Housing – 2 weeks max
  - Primarily for acute medical or safety issues



\*All housing services are for people living with HIV



# Food & Transportation Programs



- **Food Assistance**

- Ryan White Program - \$40 in food cards per month
- HOPWA program - \$25 in food cards per month & dry goods from our pantry

- **Transportation Assistance**

- Ryan White Program - gas cards, bus passes, ETHRA transportation or Uber Health for medical, dental, vision, or behavioral health appointments
- HOPWA program – gas cards & bus passes for housing-related needs

# Behavioral Health Services



- ☐ No-cost therapy for Choice Health Network clients living with HIV
- ☐ Behavioral health services are offered in-person at our Knoxville location, or via telehealth.
- ☐ **How to refer?**
  - ☐ Referrals must come from within the agency – a patient’s medical provider, case manager, or prevention staff member.

# How to Refer – Clinic & Case Management



- ☐ Send us a message through our CONTACT form at [www.choicehealthnetwork.org](http://www.choicehealthnetwork.org)
- ☐ Call our front desk (865) 525-1540
- ☐ Email us: [info@choicehealthnetwork.org](mailto:info@choicehealthnetwork.org)

I'm Interested In ▼

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone Number

## Preferred Pronouns

☐ He/Him/His ☐ She/Her/Hers ☐ They/Them/Theirs

## Preferred Contact Method

☐ Call ☐ Text ☐ Email

## Message

How can we help?



# THANK YOU

- Questions?



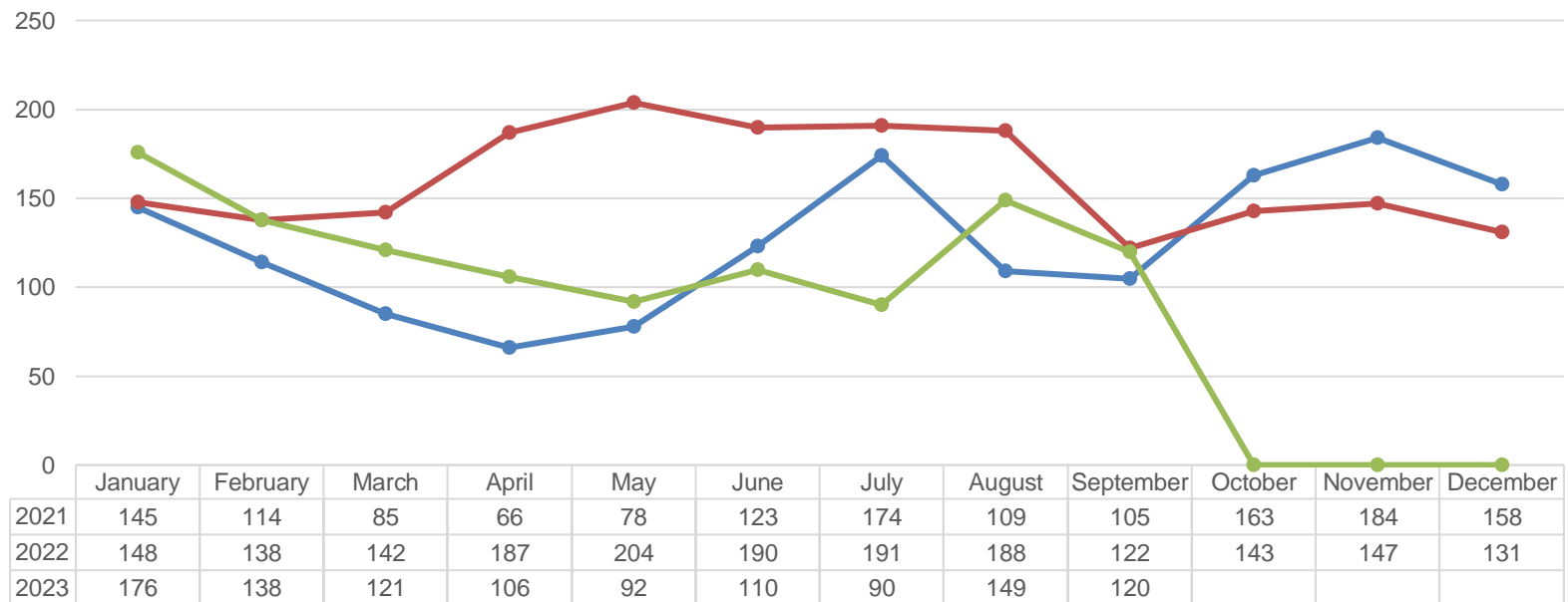
# New Business:



## Individual Agency News/Updates/ Agency Successes!

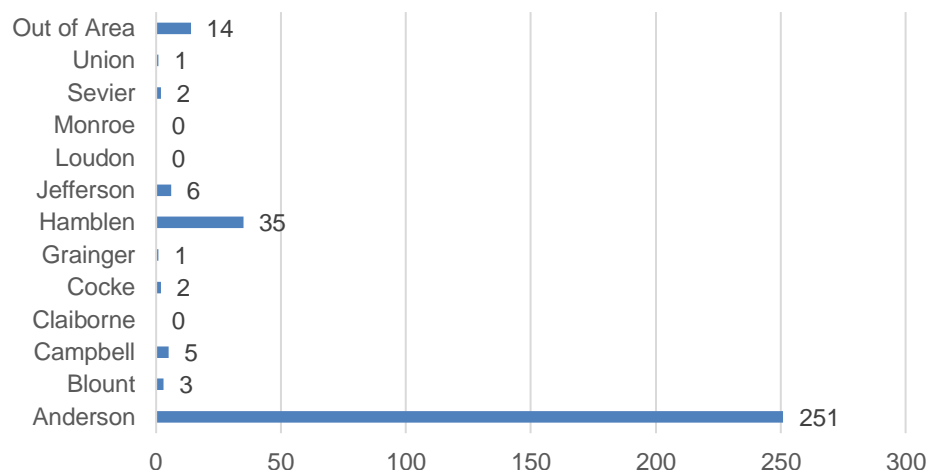
# CoC Data Reports

Total CES Participation



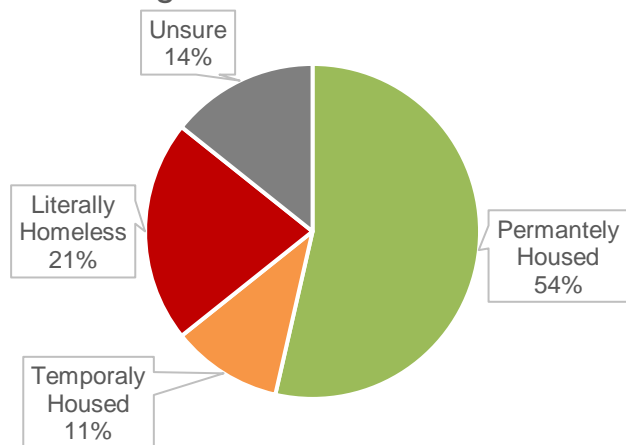
# CoC Data Reports

## Program Participation by County



**320 active participates  
enrolled in programs**

## Program Exit Destinations



Permanently Housed:	Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy (HUD)	1
Permanently Housed:	Rental by client, with ongoing housing subsidy (HUD)	7
Permanently Housed:	Staying or living with family, permanent tenure (HUD)	7
Temporarily Housed	Staying or living with friends, temporary tenure (e.g., room, apartment, or house) (HUD)	1
Temporarily Housed	Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher (HUD)	2
Literally Homeless	Place not meant for habitation (e.g., a vehicle, an abandoned building, bus/train/subway station/airport or anywhere outside) (HUD)	6
Unsure	No exit interview completed (HUD)	4

## 2023 NOFO – Katelyn McGuire

The Collaborative Application has been submitted!!



<https://tvchomeless.org/continuum-of-care/cocnofo2023/>



## Built for Zero Conference Recap – Katelyn McGuire

Attendees: Allie Cohn (Ridgeview), Tiffany Higginbotham (VA), Deborah Parker (VOA), Katelyn McGuire (TVCH), Nikki Lynn (TVCH)

**Built for Zero Movement:** Built for Zero is a movement, a methodology, and proof of what is possible. Over 100 cities and counties have committed to measurably ending homelessness for entire populations. Using data, these communities have changed how local homeless response systems work and the impact they can achieve. Together, they are proving that we can build a future where homelessness is rare overall and brief when it occurs.

**Built for Zero Conference Takeaways: Tiffany Higginbotham & Deborah Parker**

Want to learn more about this movement?

<https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/the-movement/>

Want to be involved in the local movement?

Contact Katelyn McGuire at [kmcguire@tvceh.org](mailto:kmcguire@tvceh.org)

**TVCHomeless.org**

# CoC Committee Updates



HMIS & Data Management – Andy O’Quinn – [andy.oquinn@oakridgetorch.org](mailto:andy.oquinn@oakridgetorch.org)

Coordinated Entry – Aaron Davies/Tiffany Higginbotham – [aaron.davies@mcnabb.org](mailto:aaron.davies@mcnabb.org)

PIT/HIC – Nikki Lynn – [nlynn@tvceh.org](mailto:nlynn@tvceh.org) – next committee meeting Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>

Homeless Awareness & Advocacy – Katelyn McGuire – [kmcguire@tvceh.org](mailto:kmcguire@tvceh.org)

# Discussion/Questions



How do we better include individuals  
with lived experience in our CoC  
activities?

# Next Meeting



In Person Meeting –

November 7<sup>th</sup> @ 10 am

United Way of Greater Knoxville

Virtual link will be provided via  
email

# Thank you for attending!



## Proud CoC Members

