



*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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September 5th, 2023

# Partner Spotlight



**Allie Cohn**  
CHI Regional Housing Facilitator  
Region 2

[cohnab@ridgeview.com](mailto:cohnab@ridgeview.com)  
865-399-3144

**Sascha Henderson**  
CHI 2.0 Regional Housing Facilitator  
Region 2

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865-255-7001



Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**

# Creating Homes Initiative

**Office of Housing and Homeless Services**

# Creating Homes Initiative (CHI)

- Created in response to the lack of safe, decent, quality, permanent, and affordable housing options for persons with mental illness in Tennessee
- Proven model of **strategic collaboration** and **assertive partnering** to leverage and secure funds and resources to create and preserve **safe, quality, affordable and permanent housing options** for Tennesseans with mental illness or co-occurring disorders



# CHI Beginnings

- Feb. 2000: Marie Williams, LCSW (current Commissioner of TDMHSAS)
- September 2000: \$2.5M seed funding included in state budget
- Hired 1<sup>st</sup> Team of Regional Housing Facilitators
- CHI has consistently met expectations and even surpassed them over the past 20+ years. The initiative is regarded as a highly successful model for using regional facilitators as a tool to leverage multiple funding streams. As a collective, we have created much needed housing opportunities for the most marginalized individuals and families across Tennessee.



Pictured: Commissioner Williams presents a ceremonial check to mark CHI investment with AIM Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee

# CHI Expansion: Creating Homes Initiative 2.0

- Starting in FY 2020, CHI expand to CHI 2.0
- Goal: Develop new safe, quality, permanent, affordable housing options for Tennesseans with substance use disorder, primarily opioid use disorder.
- 7 CHI 2.0 Substance Use Regional Housing Facilitators hired.
  - Announcement of Funding (Competitive Grant)
    1. Infrastructure
    2. Support Services



# Expansion to CHI 3.0 – Year 2021

- Goal of developing safe, quality, affordable permanent housing opportunities for Tennesseans experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorder **who re-enter the community from prison or jail, or who have a history of incarceration. (Re-entry focus)**
- Provide ongoing operations for newly created housing opportunities.
- Provide support services to benefit residents of newly developed housing opportunities.
- Note: There are no CHI-3.0 Regional Housing Facilitators – if interested in applying, please reach out to Allie Cohn or Sascha Henderson.



# Creating Homes Initiative – Department Grants

- Creating Affordable Housing (CAH)
  - Brick and mortar for *new* units
  - Mental health diagnosis or co-occurring disorder
- Creating Homes Initiative 2.0 (CHI 2.0)
  - New construction, renovation or acquisition
  - Recurring supportive services
  - Opioid Use Disorder or Substance Use Disorder
- Creating Homes Initiative 3.0 (CHI 3.0)
  - New construction, renovation or acquisition
  - Recurring supportive services
  - Individuals who have been justice involved
  - Current or prior history of incarceration



# CHI Statistics

## CREATING HOMES INITIATIVE

A two-decade history of housing Tennesseans living with behavioral health challenges



SINCE 2000



MORE THAN  
**34,700**

New or Improved Housing Opportunities



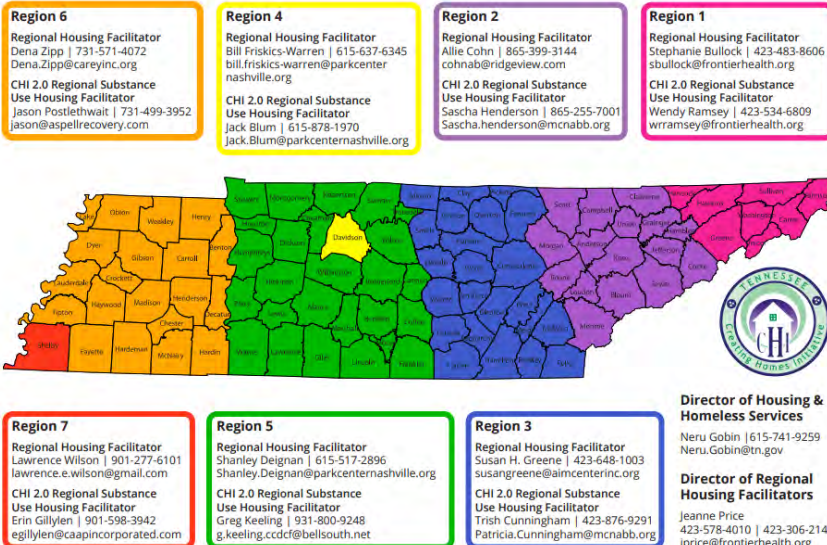
MORE THAN  
**\$1.2B**

Leveraged from Federal, State, Local,  
Foundational, and other funding sources

Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Office of Housing and Homeless Services. (2020). *Creating Homes Initiative* [Data set]. Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Office of Research.

# CHI Facilitators

## Creating Homes Initiative Regional Housing Facilitators



- “Hands on” collaborators with grassroots community partners and task forces to stimulate the preservation, development, and enhancement of housing options
- Team of Facilitators have affordable housing development expertise
- Identify and recommend financing strategies and grants to provide support for the development of permanent housing options and associated support services
- Conduct assessments to identify current availability and unmet need for permanent housing and support services
- Grant writing & consulting
- Consumer Housing Specialists

# CHI Partnerships



- Federal Home Loan Banks
- HUD/CoC
- Tennessee Housing Development Agency
- City/Local Governments
- Community Housing Development Organizations
- Public Housing Authorities
- USDA
- Tax credits
- Private banks
- Foundations
- Habitat for Humanity
- Private contributors
- Churches
- Property Owners (Equity, Mortgage)
- Behavioral Health Service Providers
- Substance Use Treatment & Recovery Services Providers

# Caswell Manor



- VMC
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- 48 units created
- Federal, State, City and private funds



# Dogwood Springs



- McNabb Center
- Housing for seniors.
- 50 new housing units.
- CAH and CHI 2.0 funding.
- Leveraged funding from multiple funding streams into one project.

# The Cabin



- 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial Recovery Services – Jefferson, Grainger, Cocke, and Sevier counties
- Purchased “The Cabin” in 2014, closed in 2020 due to Covid-19
- CHI 3.0 funds utilized to renovate home.
- 10 new units for women and their children.



# The Lighthouse



- True Purpose Ministries - Madisonville
- CHI 2.0 funds utilized for acquisition and renovations.
- 20 double occupancy rooms = 40 new units of housing for individuals and couples.
- Able to hire program director with funds for supportive services

# Newly Funded Projects in TVCH Counties

- McNabb Center – Blount County Recovery Home – 10 new beds (CHI 2)
- McNabb Center – Claiborne County Recovery Home – 8 new beds (CHI 3)
- Recovery Trail – Sevier County – 2 new homes – 16 new beds (CHI 2 & 3)
- Safe Harbor of Jefferson County – 3 new homes – 48 new beds (CAH)

Within Region 2, there were an additional 7 projects in Knox County that were funded this past grant cycle. Funded organizations include Volunteers For Recovery, The McNabb Center, Susannah's House, Angelic Ministries, The Steps House, and Knoxville Leadership Foundation – creating a total of 109 new beds in Knox County.



# Creating Homes Initiative - Recap

## HOW IT WORKS

- The state provides framework, incentives, and Regional Housing Facilitators.
- Broad-based local/regional task forces identify needs and prioritize projects.
- Development of permanent housing opportunities such as independent rental and home ownership is emphasized.
- Regional Housing Facilitators work with any appropriate agency.
- Housing is owned and operated by local agencies.

## EXPANDING OUR SCOPE

FY20: Added **CHI 2.0** to expand housing options for people **recovering from addiction**.

FY22: Added **CHI 3.0** to expand housing options for people **getting out of jail or prison**.

## STATEWIDE RESOURCES



Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**

**Neru Gobin**  
Director of Housing  
and Homeless Services  
615-741-9259  
[Neru.Gobin@tn.gov](mailto:Neru.Gobin@tn.gov)

**Shay Grier**  
Assistant Director of Housing  
and Homeless Services  
615-651-0434  
[Shanaya.Maclin@tn.gov](mailto:Shanaya.Maclin@tn.gov)

**Jeanne Price**  
Director of Regional  
Housing Facilitators  
423-578-4010 | 423-306-2149  
[jprice@frontierhealth.org](mailto:jprice@frontierhealth.org)

# Contact Information

## Allie Cohn

CHI Regional Housing Facilitator  
Region 2

[cohnab@ridgeview.com](mailto:cohnab@ridgeview.com)  
865-399-3144



## Sascha Henderson

CHI 2.0 Regional Housing Facilitator  
Region 2

[sascha.henderson@mcnabb.org](mailto:sascha.henderson@mcnabb.org)  
865-255-7001





Department of

**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**

QUESTIONS?

[www.TN.gov/behavioral-health/housing](http://www.TN.gov/behavioral-health/housing)

[www.recoverywithinreach.org](http://www.recoverywithinreach.org)

# New Business:



## Individual Agency News/Updates/ Agency Successes!

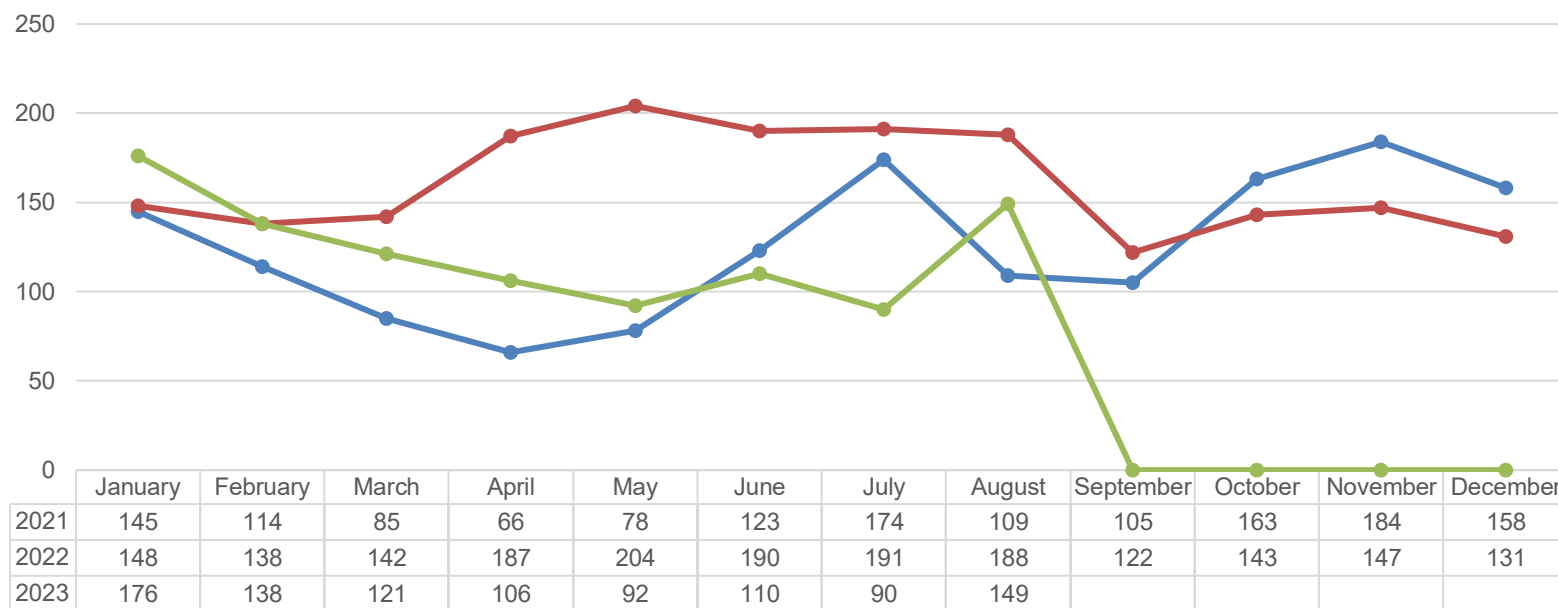
# CoC Data Reports

GRADE BASED ON COUNT FOR EACH ELEMENT:	HUD UDE ONLY	Additional ONLY	HUD Verification ONLY	OVERALL
	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>B</b>
	93.72%	93.03%	90.38%	92.86%

Data Element	Required for	Number of Applicable Entry Exits	Number of Non-Null Values	Percentage Complete
<b>*HUD Universal Data Elements:</b>				
Disabling Condition (Y/N)	All	211	197	93.36%
Length of Stay in Previous Place	Adults/HoH	183	80	43.72%
Relationship to Head of Household	All	211	197	93.36%
<b>Additional Data Elements:</b>				
Income Received (Y/N)	Adults/HoH	183	169	92.35%
Non-Cash Benefit Received (Y/N)	Adults/HoH	183	166	90.71%
Covered by Health Insurance (Y/N)	All	211	195	92.42%
<b>HUD Verification: (Elements measure completeness at entry ONLY)</b>				
Disability Type	All	211	180	85.31%
Income Source	Adults/HoH	183	166	90.71%
Non-Cash Source	Adults/HoH	183	168	91.80%
Health Insurance Type	All	211	188	89.10%

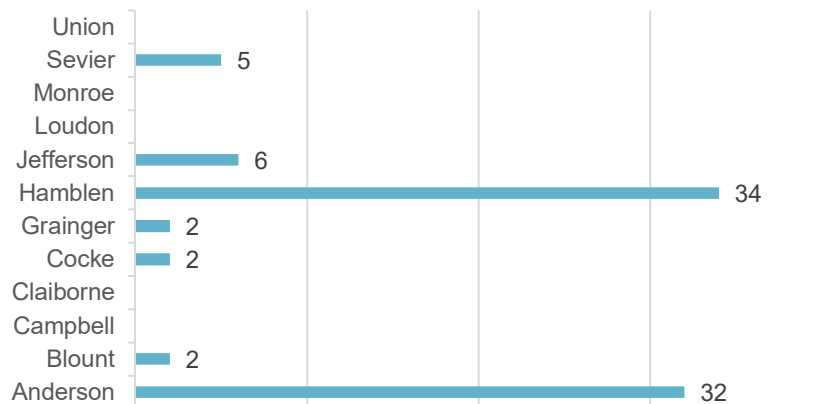
# CoC Data Reports

Total CES Participation



# CoC Data Reports

## CES by County for the Previous Month



**149 Coordinated Entry  
program intakes**

**655 Unduplicated  
individuals served in August**

## Help Line IVR System

**835 Help Line phone  
calls in August.**

**Avg. 27 calls per day**

Name	Total Calls	Avg. Calls/Day
ARCH	25	0.81
Buffalo Valley	30	0.97
Chatanooga	46	1.48
HART	28	0.9
Knox	91	2.94
Memphis	7	0.23
Nashville-Murfreesboro	20	0.65
TN Homeless Solutions	17	0.55
TVCH	344	11.10
No Answer	47	1.52

# CoC Data Reports



## Built for Zero Fall 2023 Learning Session

Washington, DC  
Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>

**Required!!!**

HMIS New Data Standards Training  
Look for an email from Nikki with  
dates to register for by Friday!



## 2023 NOFO – Katelyn McGuire

- NOFO, Notice and Timeline are available on website below and were sent via CoC Email Listserv
- Applications Submitted:
  - 5 Renewal Applications
  - 1 CoC Bonus New Project Application
- Full Application to be posted to website for CoC review by September 24, 2023
- The TVCH website will be updated accordingly to reflect CoC Program Competition information. Please check regularly for update.

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

## HUD Housing Problem Solving Workshop

- CoC representation for the 12-week Housing Problem Solving Community Workshop – TVCH staff and Governing Council member
- What is Housing Problem Solving?  
A system-wide approach for people experiencing a housing crisis that involves strengths-based conversations to empower households and help them to remain in current housing or to identify alternative housing options to either avoid homelessness or to exit homelessness as quickly as possible.

## HPS at the Program Level

BEFORE	NOW
Are you willing to enter shelter or receive a motel voucher?	What can we do to keep you from becoming or remaining homeless?
What programs are you eligible to enter and who has a bed?	What would resolve your current housing crisis?
Assessment/eligibility	Brain Storming and structured problem solving conversation about household situation and resources.
Intake or put on waitlist	Support crisis resolution to avoid shelter entry. Allow for client centered empowerment.

## HUD Housing Problem Solving Workshop

- Lessons learned from workshop

Goals to make equity-centered education available to CoC members

Goals to evaluate and improve Coordinated Entry processes to ensure equity, inclusion, and person-centric policies

Goals to incorporate more individuals with lived expertise to bring valuable perspective and input to conversations around CoC systems

## Member Suggestions for 2024 CoC Trainings

As we near the end of 2023, we are looking ahead to 2024.

Suggestions are welcomed for suggested trainings that the CoC can offer to CoC members.

Examples of trainings could include additional HMIS training, Equity training, and more.

If there are any trainings that you believe other CoC members could benefit from already happening in your community, please forward information to Katelyn McGuire at [kmcguire@tvceh.org](mailto:kmcguire@tvceh.org) to distribute information to the all CoC members. This information will likely be sent out at the beginning of the month with the CoC meeting agenda.

Please discuss desired trainings within your organization and submit suggestions to Katelyn McGuire at [kmcguire@tvceh.org](mailto:kmcguire@tvceh.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)

Rank & Review – Allie Cohn – [cohnab@ridgeview.com](mailto:cohnab@ridgeview.com)

PIT/HIC – Nikki Lynn – [nlynn@tvceh.org](mailto:nlynn@tvceh.org)

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

# Discussion/Questions

Oftentimes, there is stigma and assumptions made about those who receive homeless services from organizations that can cause conflict within communities.

Has your program or organizations received pushback in your community for providing homeless services? If so, how did you address this?

# Next Meeting



Virtual Meeting –

October 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10 am

Link will be provided prior  
to meeting along with  
agenda



# Thank you for attending!



## Proud CoC Members

