

Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care

February 2025 Minutes

02/04/2025

Members Present:

Charlie Auer | UT Extension Family and Consumer Sciences
Laurel Bowen | A Place to Stay
Katherine Burnette | YWCA
Rosie Cross | Ridgeview – Creating Homes Initiative
Aaron Davies | McNabb Center Blount County
Michelle Davis | True Purpose Lighthouse
Kaitlyn Elliott | A Place to Stay
Karen Ferguson | TVCH
Sierra Finley | Clinch Powell Resource Conservation and Development
Patty Harris | Community Member
Kennith Hawkins | Positively Living & Choice Health Network
Sascha Henderson | Creating Homes Initiative/McNabb Center
Tiffany Higgenbotham | US Dept of Veteran Affairs
Julia Kendrick | YWCA
Macrea Love | TVCH
Nikki Lynn | TVCH
Matt Magrans-Tillery | Cherokee Health Systems
Katelyn McGuire | TVCH
Andy O'Quinn | TORCH
Samantha Peach | Clinch Powell Resource Conservation and Development
Taylor Pierce | MATS
Tonya Polidoro | MATS
Sabrina Seamon | Clinch Powell Resource Conservation and Development
Angela Stolpe | United Way Blount County
Kimberly Terry | TVCH
Blair Trout | The Salvation Army of Sevier and Cocke Counties
Jean Vance | YWCA
Jennifer Whitehead | Mountain Home VA
Autumn Williford | UT Extension Skill Up TN

Call to Order: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

Katelyn called the meeting to order 10:02 a.m.

Partner Spotlight:

Autumn Williford Career Navigator with Skill Up Tennessee

Autumn.williford@utk.edu

865-200-4534

Autumn spoke about overview, eligibility, outreach and connect with Skill Up Tennessee. They are statewide. SNAP Employment and Training. They are funded by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development. They have Supportive Services.

New Business:

How Executive Orders Impact Nonprofits:

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

Katelyn spoke about the Federal Funding Freeze, Executive Orders and how they will impact Non Profits.

Individual Agency News/Updates/Agency Successes:

Matt Magrans-Tillery | Cherokee Health Systems

Matt spoke about a conversation with Commissioner Alvarado (The Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner). Commissioner Alvarado is committed to rural healthcare and sees a need for funding for rural healthcare, people who are unhoused, who have food insecurities, and anything in between.

Tiffany Higgenbotham | US Dept of Veteran Affairs

Tiffany introduced their new coordinated entry specialist, Jennifer Whitehead. Also see spoke about Liberty Place and open HUD vash vouchers in Anderson County.

Jennifer Whitehead | Mountain Home VA

Jennifer introduced herself to everyone

Kaitlyn Elliott | A Place to Stay

Our SOS is April 12, 2025. Their PSH program is up and running. They have nine spots,

Aaron Davies | McNabb Center Blount County

Aaron spoke about their transitional housing. They are on track to have four recovery homes opening around June of this year. They will also have a crisis stabilization unit and an outpatient services building.

CoC Data Reports

Nikki Lynn | TVCH

Nikki gave information from the Data Reports.—Total CE Participation by Month and Year, Number of Active Program Participants by County, Percentage of Total Active Enrolments by Program Type, and Data Quality Report.

CoC Updates

Nikki Lynn | TVCH

Nikki gave a TVCoC Calendar subscription tutorial to subscribe to the CoC Calendar.

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

Training Updates---The TVCoC calendar will be updated as training is scheduled throughout the year. Katelyn also gave a list of trainings that are scheduled.

CoC Membership & Dues----Katelyn spoke about what you would do to become a TVCoC member and be able to vote. Also she spoke about the application, and how it is different this year.

2025 Partner Spotlights----If you are interested in spotlighting your organization, email Katelyn McGuire at kmcguire@tvceh.org

Housing & Homelessness Day on the Hill----February 18 2025. This is an advocacy opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact kmcguire@tvceh.org Register at bit.ly/doth2025

CoC Committee Updates:

HMIS & Data Management – Chair: Andy O’Quinn andy.oquinn@oakridgetorch.org
Nikki Lynn | TVCH – Next meeting is Tuesday February 18 2025 at 10:00 am via zoom. They will be discussing a new section that clarifies corrective actions.

Coordinated Entry Committee – Chair: Tiffany Higginbotham tiffany.higginbotham@va.gov
Next meeting is 2:00pm on February 25 it is virtual. They are working on finalizing the collaborative assessment for coordinated entry.

PIT/HIC Committee – Chair: Nikki Lynn nlynn@tvceh.org
Nikki gave a Point in Time timeline for the 2025 PIT and thanked everyone for helping with the count.

Written Standards Committee – Chair: Tonya Polidoro directorofmats@gmail.com
We are still working on the first draft of the written standards. Our next meeting is February 7, 2025.

Rank & Review Committee – Chair: Angela Stolpe astolpe@unitedwayblount.org
They are looking for anyone who has grant experience. We are working on our written standards to be more clear.

BFZ Improvement Committee – Co Chairs: Angela Stolpe astolpe@unitedwayblount.org
Katelyn McGuire kmcguire@tvceh.org
They are looking into landlord engagement, to be able to use vouchers and utilize housing programs.

QUESTIONS/OPEN DISCUSSION

Closing: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency
Katelyn closed the meeting at 11:00 am.

Dates for the upcoming COC meeting

March 4 2025 Virtual @ 10:00 am

April 1 2025 In-Person

May 6 2025 Virtual

June 3 2025 Virtual
July 8 2025 In-Person
August 5 2025 Virtual
September 2 2025 Virtual
October 7 2025 In-Person
November 4 2025 Virtual