

Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care

May 2025 Minutes

05/06/2025

Members Present:

Airika Actouka | Westcare Tennessee – Community Outreach Coordinator
Sarah Bradsher | Knox County Public Safety
Blake Craft | Salvation Army of Knoxville
Rosie Cross | Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services – Creating Homes Initiative
Aaron Davies | McNabb Center Blount County
Michelle D Davis | Lighthouse Community Life Center
Shannon Dow | LCSW McNabb Center
Kaitlyn Elliott | A Place to Stay
Haley Emmitt | Positively Living & Choice Health Network
Karen Ferguson | TVCH
Kennith Hawkins | Positively Living & Choice Health Network
Sascha Henderson | Creating Homes Initiative/McNabb Center
Tiffany Higgenbotham | US Dept of Veteran Affairs
Candace Huddleston | Choice Health Network
Julia Kendrick | YWCA
Lindsey Krinks | Open Table Nashville – Davidson County
Macrea Love | TVCH
Nikki Lynn | TVCH
Andy O'Quinn | TORCH
Katelyn McGuire | TVCH
Taylor Pierce | MATS
Tonya Polidoro | MATS
Allie Cohn | Hellbender Harm Reduction
Kimberly Terry | TVCH
Blair Trout | The Salvation Army of Sevier and Cocke Counties

Call to Order: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

Katelyn called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

Guest Speaker

Lindsey Krinks – Housing for All Tennessee
Open Table Nashville
Lindsey Krinks, Co-Founder & Director of Advocacy
lindsey@opentablenashville.org
opentablenashville.org

Lindsey spoke about Open Table Nashville. Open Table Nashville is a homeless outreach and advocacy organization that works statewide.

New Business:

ESG Funding Delay:

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

THDA has stated that the Emergency Solution Grant funding will be delayed this year. THDA has allowed current ESG recipients to extend their grants until December 31 2025.

AmeriCorps Funding Cuts:

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

Across the state of Tennessee, AmeriCorps funding was cut without notice to countless nonprofits and AmeriCorps members.

Individual Agency News/Updates/Agency Successes:

Airika Actouka | Westcare Tennessee

May 17 is our Prevent and Prosper Community Wellness Fair that will be in Cocke County at the fairgrounds one to five pm.

Airika.actouka@westcare.com

Short Film Screening:

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

July's in person CoC meeting will feature a short film screening of "Until We're All Home". Breakfast and coffee will be provided. A virtual option is available also.

CoC Data Reports

Nikki Lynn | TVCH

Nikki gave information from the Data Reports for April. —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. Data Quality is at A (98.31%) THANK YOU! HMIS End User Office Hours Thursday May 22, 2025 1 pm to 3 pm. Nikki Lynn and Kimberly Terry are available if you need help.

CoC Updates:

Upcoming Trainings:

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

Rescheduled: TVCoC Compassion Fatigue Training by MDC

May 8 2025

12:00pm-12:30pm

Via zoom

TVCoC Tenant's Rights & Fair Housing Training by LAET

June 4 2025

11:00am-12pm

Via zoom

TVCoC Mental Health First Aid Training by MDC
June 13 2025
9:00 am – 4:30 pm
United Way Greater Knoxville

Fuse Model (Housing):

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

Frequently Used Systems Engagement is a proven model identifying frequent users of jails, shelters, hospitals and/or other crisis public services and then improving their lives through supportive housing. The pilot is in Nashville area. Katelyn gave more information on the FUSE Model.

CoC Membership & Dues

Anyone who is looking to become a CoC member, please send Katelyn an email at kmcguire@tvceh.org

CoC Committee Updates:

HMIS & Data Management – Chair: Andy O’Quinn andy.oquinn@oakridgetorch.org

We are working on policies and procedures. Next meeting is May 20 2025 10:00 am – 11:00 am. It is virtual.

Coordinated Entry Committee – Chair: Tiffany Higginbotham tiffany.higginbotham@va.gov

We are updating our policies and procedures. We are working on a new assessment tool. The next meeting is May 22 at 9:30 am

PIT/HIC Committee – Chair: Nikki Lynn nlynn@tvceh.org

We are working through the data. We cannot give the data out until it is submitted to HUD. HUD has not given a due date yet. Formal committee will be starting back up July or August.

Written Standards Committee – Chair: Tonya Polidoro directorofmats@gmail.com

Next meeting is May 22 2025. We are very close to finalizing the Written Standards.

Rank & Review Committee – Chair: Angela Stolpe astolpe@unitedwayblount.org

Katelyn McGuire | TVCH We are not sure if we are going to have an application cycle again this year. The NOFO for last year was to be for two years. The current administration does not agree with items mentioned in the original NOFO. So we are waiting to see what happens.

BFZ Improvement Committee – Co Chairs: Angela Stolpe astolpe@unitedwayblount.org

Katelyn McGuire kmcguire@tvceh.org

We will be taking a step back for a month or so. We will be reconvening for those meetings starting June 13 2025.

Closing: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

Katelyn closed the meeting at 11:06 am.

Dates for the upcoming COC meeting

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