

Tennessee Valley Continuum of Care

October 7, 2025 Minutes

Members Present:

Sarah Bradsher | Knox County Public Safety\TN Homeland Security D2
Jan Cagle | US Dept of Veteran Affairs
Allie Cohn | Overdose Prevention Director Hellbender Harm Reduction
Erika Chiruck | Blount County McNabb Center
Rosie Cross | Creating Homes Initiative\Ridgeview
Kristen Deichert | Volunteer Behavioral Health
Haley Emmitt | 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
Shandi Hill | Westcare
Julia Kendrick | YWCA
Nikki Lynn | TVCH
Matt Magrans-Tillery | River Valley Health
Katelyn McGuire | TVCH
Brennen Morrow | RTAB
Andy O'Quinn | TORCH
Kaitlyn Peeples | MATS
Tonya Polidoro | MATS
Mandy Proffitt | APTS
Samantha Brantley Smith | Shiloh Recovery Services
Angela Stolpe | TVCH YHSI Coordinator
Kimberly Terry | TVCH

Call to Order: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

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

Partner Spotlight

Andy O'Quinn | TORCH

Executive Director andy.oquinn@oakridgetorch.org

Andy told the CoC members about himself and how he ended up at TORCH. Andy spoke about the many ways TORCH provides homeless services in Anderson County. The services TORCH provides is Coordinated Entry, Street Outreach, Rapid Recovery Program (which helps with Drug and Alcohol treatment), Rapid Rehousing Program and our Shelter.

Individual Agency News/Updates/Agency Successes

Matt Magrans-Tillery | River Valley Health

We are still hiring for our Mobile Service we are looking for individuals in the Nursing arena. Our Get Well Now Mode, which is an urgent care site, is doing very well. We are looking for frontline clinical, front staff and clerical staff.

Haley Emitt | Choice Health Network

Choice Health Network is hiring for a therapist and a Ryan White Case Manager at the Knoxville Office <https://choicehealthnetwork.org/careers/>

New Business

Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

CoC Newsletter

If you are not getting the CoC Newsletter, please shoot me an email at kmcguire@tvceh.org

Governing Council Nominations

Governing Council Nominations are open to all categories. Forms are due by October 27, 2025. The forms will be on the TVCH website under the CoC tab. If you have any questions about the Governing Council please reach out to Katelyn McGuire at kmcguire@tvceh.org.

CoC Data Reports & Updates

Nikki Lynn | TVCH

Nikki went over all CoC data reports. Total CE Participation is high for the month of September in comparison to previous years. CE enrollments are much smaller than Street Outreach and Nikki believes that is because everyone is having trouble housing folks because there is no affordable housing. HMIS End User Office Hours is Thursday October 23, 2025 1:00pm-3:00pm. The topic is: Reading Data Quality Reports and Addressing Data Errors.

Upcoming Trainings:

TVCOC Orders of Protection/DV Training by LAET

October 15, 2025

12:00pm-1:00 pm via zoom

CoC Committee Updates:

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

Next Data Management meeting is October 21, 2025 at 10:00am.

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

Next meeting is October 16, 2025 at 1:30 pm and then our regular scheduled meeting is October 23, 2025 at 9:30 am. Chair position is opening after the October 23, 2025 meeting.

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

We have a proposal of January 28 for the night of the pit count. Our next meeting is October 27 2025 at 10:00 am.

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

We are meeting every two weeks. We hope to have them done and voted on by January.

Rank & Review Committee – Chair: Open Position; Katelyn McGuire | TVCH

kmcguire@tvceh.org

This committee is in a holding pattern until the NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) drops.

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

Katelyn McGuire kmcguire@tvceh.org

This committee is trying to figure out the best strategy to work with the Built for Zero initiative.

Dates for the upcoming COC meeting

November 4 2025 @ 10:00am Virtual

**Voting on annual review of governmental documents, documents will be sent out for review before the meeting.

Closing: Katelyn McGuire – Lead Agency

Katelyn closed the meeting at 11:11 am.