

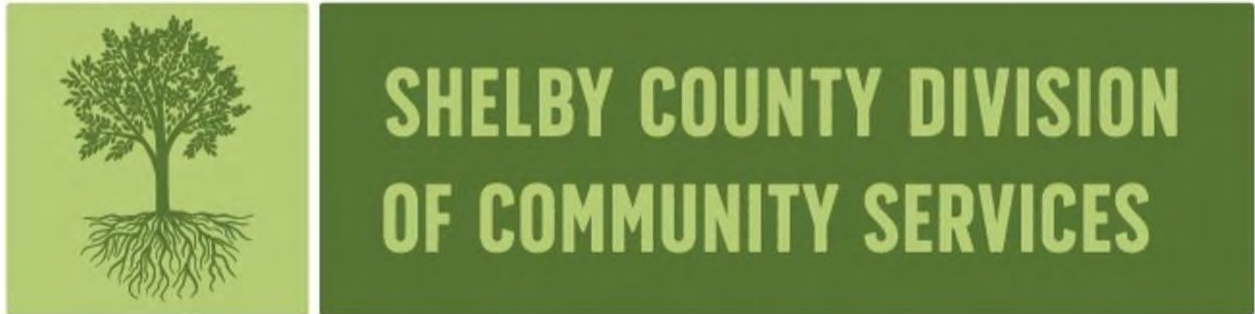
Shelby County News - Community Partners Issue - September 2022

Shelby County Division of Community Services <NoReply@lists.shelbycountyttn.gov>

Fri 9/30/2022 10:31 AM

To: Linc Hub <linchub@memphistn.gov>

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[Crime Victims](#) | [Justice Involved](#) | [HOME901](#)



Director's Message

Healing Power of Community

September has been a challenging one for Memphis and Shelby County. We have felt a collective sense of grief, fear and anger that results from the consequences of trauma, crime and poverty that have converged in far too many parts of our community. In the heaviness in these all too frequent moments, it probably is the clearest to me, the necessity and power that community has to heal us in a current crisis but also to prevent future ones.

Within the Division of Community Services' guiding principles, we recognize that the partnerships that we have with our residents, neighborhoods and organizations are essential if we can even begin to tackle any challenges that we face. One of our pillars, **Collaborating With Community**, charges us to be

intentional in our efforts to convene and partner with the community to develop solutions. True collaboration recognizes that no one institution, organization or individual can do it all. It is impossible. Collaboration also requires that we authentically recognize that we all have a right and responsibility to have a voice and act towards our collective good.

I am proud that each day the division team prioritizes collaboration with the community and has woven it into the fabric of our culture. I know that we all also recognize that it is not a one-time effort, but is ongoing and ever evolving. It is my hope that as you get a glimpse at just a few of the ways that we are collaborating with the community, that you are inspired and encouraged about the power that we have through collaboration to make this a community one of hope for every resident of Shelby County.

Office of Community Engagement and
Outreach

Collective Impact: Shelby County Nonprofit Committee

We're all about pulling more seats to the table.

Shelby County Government and the nonprofit sector share common goals -- to address local needs and to improve the lives of Shelby County Residents. In order to improve our collective work, the county created the [Shelby County Nonprofit Committee](#) so that we could improve collaboration, sharing of information, and advocacy on behalf of the communities and people that we serve. Together, government and nonprofit leaders collectively identify problems and create coordinated solutions that are achievable in one year but lead toward systemic changes.

Our first round of work has led toward:

- The hire of the county's inaugural [Liaison for Art and Culture](#),
- A [Language Connection](#) program that provides interpreters to nonprofits,
- A [Mental Health and Destigmatization](#) campaign,
- A [workforce screener](#), and
- [Mental health telesuites](#) in schools so children who need mental health care have access where they are, among other initiatives.

Our second round of work has just started and we'd like any nonprofits who want to join the effort to pull up a chair. We have begun to identify priorities across four sectors: Children, Youth and Education, Art & Culture, Health & Human Services, and Workforce Development. For more information, click [here](#), and to join the Shelby County Nonprofit Committee, click [here](#).



Crime Victims & Rape Crisis
Center

Partnering for Hope & Healing

There are over 1 million residents in Shelby County and no single agency has the capacity to comprehensively serve those 1



million people – thus community partnerships are an essential component of meeting needs, changing lives, and building resiliency in Shelby County.

When we focus on building and maintaining strong partnerships, we are sharing the responsibility of caring for people, engaging in meaningful and strategic ways, and

actively involving a diverse thread of people from all walks of life to create solutions, challenge status quos, and evolve our ways of life.

That's exactly what CVRCC's Community Engagement Team is doing through our newly-launched **Hope and Healing Collaborative**. This group of nonprofit and government agencies, faith-based leaders, and grassroots organizations are building trust in one another, breaking up silos in the work of violence prevention and intervention, and changing the culture of violence as a social norm in Shelby County. This new initiative will push us all to go beyond ego/pride to bring help, healing, and hope for our community.

For more information about the Hope and Healing Collaborative, or other violence prevention or intervention work at the CVRCC, please call 901-222-3950.



Office of Community Engagement and Outreach

Self-Care Plans with Dr. Archandria Owens

Empathy is a strong emotion; one that Division employees feel daily when providing services to our clients.

The Division of Community Services is in the business of helping people in their time of need, providing services, advocacy and resources to improve their quality of life. We are often the only thing standing between them and despair. That is an

incredible responsibility, one which our employees take to heart.

There is a saying, "you can't pour from an empty cup." As a part of the Division's self-care program, we recognize the toll that our work may have on staff. Our self-care program, "Working Towards Wellness: A Lifelong Season of Self-Care," provides opportunities, on a quarterly basis, to encourage and provide opportunities for its employees to engage in self-care. We often partner with outside entities to engage our staff.

This quarter, we offered a two-part series called “Self-Care Isn’t Selfish,” presented by Dr. Archandria Owens of the Collective Healing Space. Dr. Owens guided employees through the process of creating individualized self-care plans. Participants learned the key components of a self-care plan and concrete ways to carry them out. Those who participated were additionally offered an opportunity to have 1 on 1 sessions with Dr. Owens to further refine their plans.

Veteran's Services

Building Partnerships

Working under the umbrella of Shelby County Community Services, the Veterans Services Office has created community partnerships with other agencies to aid us in addressing the needs of our clients, Veterans residing in Shelby County.

Partnerships in the Veteran community are essential and we’ve worked with Veteran organizations and nonprofits to make us aware of what other organizations can offer Veterans. We partner with the VA Hospital, American Legion posts, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) posts and Catholic Charities to name a few. We also maintain community

partnerships with individuals who are aware of our services. Through partnerships, we’ve been made aware of needs, saved time in assisting our clients, and been educated on topics that assist us in serving Veterans.



To learn more about Veterans Services and how the office is growing, visit: [Shelby County has 55,000 veterans and 2 service officers. Here's how it will get another \(msn.com\)](#).



Community Services Agency

Let's Do It Together

In an effort to address the needs of the community, CSA offers standard programs that provide financial assistance, counseling and advocacy. Additionally, we partner with a host of organizations throughout the county to provide service continuity. Community Partnerships are instrumental and necessary to ensure that the residents of Shelby County have access to all available resources.

CSA is proud to announce two new community partnerships that will provide additional opportunities for customers to access our services. Beginning in the month of October, CSA will provide on-site services at Maximus Child Support Office, 3915 Mendenhall, each 1st and 3rd Monday from 9 am – 3 pm, and at the North Branch Library, 1192 Vollintine, each 1st and 3rd Thursday from 11 am – 4 pm.

Together we are strong, and partnerships help us continue to fulfill our mantra of “Helping People, Changing Lives.” Call 901-222-4212 for more information.

Aging Commission

Meals on Wheels and other Partnerships

The Aging Commission works with over twenty-five vendors throughout Fayette, Lauderdale, Shelby, and Tipton counties. These partners deliver services such as adult day care, meals, counseling, homemaker services, in-home respite, legal services, personal care, senior centers, pest control, personal emergency response systems, and transportation. With their help



we provided over 770,000 units of services to over 14,000 persons who are aging and vulnerable due to disability. Many aren't aware of the partnership between the Metropolitan Interfaith Association (MIFA) and ACMS to provide meals on wheels. Through that partnership alone we provided 496,032 meals to 3,836 people.

For meals on wheels or other services, reach us at 901-222-4111.



Office of Justice Initiatives

Serving Children with Mental Illness

Shelby Connects Network (SCN) has collaborative partnerships in four areas that provide services to children with mental illness and their families. Those areas are: mental health, education, justice/child welfare, and community services and supports. Each partnership opens a door to share vital information about available resources and the benefits of a wraparound approach to help target families manage the challenges they face. SCN offers a non-traditional, community-based, “no wrong door” approach to mental health services that are family-driven, youth-guided, individualized, strength-based and tailored to the language and cultural needs of each family. The families and partner organizations hold the system accountable through our work groups and the governing council. We use SAMHSA's evidence-based System of Care model of community engagement to create a sustainability plan that will be successful in Shelby County and serve as a model for other mental health programs serving our youth and families. Contact us at 901-448-4200.

Pretrial Services

Bridge Between Agency and Community

Community Partnerships are a very important to Pretrial Services. Community partnerships allow us to provide much needed resources to our clients. Community partnerships sometimes serve as the bridge between our agency and the community at large. Let's face it, the pandemic and rising inflation have put many people between a rock and a hard place. The Court Operations unit has in the last year provided bus passes, grocery gift cards and other much needed things to clients. Community partnerships are essential to the core values that our agency holds so dear. Our sole purpose is to help our clients do better so that they have a better quality of life once their case is over. Our mantra for this month is:

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own." – Cesar Chavez





Congratulations to this month's "Employee Spotlight" winner, Geretta Hollins. Ms. Hollins is focused on meeting program goals by understanding the significance of data and outcomes. The data collected during outreach events enables her to gain insight into the community's needs and the potential impact made when given the necessary resources and services for them to utilize. Ms. Hollins shares constantly with her team to ensure they understand their roles, information changes if any, and equipping them with the tools needed to service clients while working in the community.

Ms. Hollins believes in continuous improvement and is a champion of data driven outcomes. Each quarter, she analyzes performance data and presents outcomes to all grant partners. A cheerleader with and for the Vaccine Equity Community Outreach team, her efforts directly support the Pillar objectives of being employee engaged, people focused, collaborating with community and being guided by data and outcomes.

Again, CONGRATULATIONS Geretta Hollins, on being "Employee Spotlight" for the month!

DCS Popsicle Pause

The Ambassadors of the Division of Community Services hosted a "Popsicle Pause" for Division employees. This event served two purposes: to mark the end of summer and to allow employees a collective exhale from the traumatic events experienced by the City of Memphis this month. On Friday, Sept 16, Division Ambassadors passed out popsicles and encouraged employees to



pause, savor the sweet treat and enjoy the simple pleasures of life.

The Division Ambassadors are composed of volunteers from each department within the Division of Community Services who seek to improve the quality of the work lives of Division employees and increase employee engagement. They host several events throughout the year. Past events have included the 12 Days of Giving, the Send-A Smile Campaign, the Valentine's Day Photobooth and more.



Upcoming Veterans Events

October 3 – 21: Nominations Open for Shelby County Government Employee Veteran of the Year Award

October 11: Veterans' Seminar | Pact Act: Everything You Need to Know to Claim Your Benefits

November 4-: Shelby County Government Employee Veteran's Breakfast

November 8: 20th Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon.

November 11: Look for the Shelby County Veterans Services Office in the Veterans Day Parade!

SHELBY COUNTY
VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE
PRESENTS

PACT ACT:

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW
TO CLAIM YOUR BENEFITS



Presented by Ron Dvorsky,
Training Officer
Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs

11 OCTOBER 2022
12PM - 1PM

Join in-person, on Zoom, or on Facebook Live.
(limited in-person seating available.)



Scan or go to
<https://bit.ly/SCGPactAct>

**RSVP
REQUIRED**

Shelby County Government's 5TH ANNUAL VETERAN EMPLOYEES BREAKFAST

Friday, Nov 4th | 8:30am - 9:30am

Mahogany Restaurant

3092 Poplar Ave., Ste. 11
(Chickasaw Plaza)
Memphis, TN 38111

Menu

Chicken & Waffles
Choice of Coffee, Milk, Juice,
Water, or Fountain Drink

Reservations are required and will be strictly enforced.
Scan now or email Quin.Taylor@shelbycountyttn.gov to RSVP.

<https://bit.ly/SCGEmpVet>

