

# Housing and Homeless Services



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### Community-Based Outreach

Efforts to connect people to mental health, substance abuse, case management, housing and other support services.

### Regional-level Effort

7 community-based mental health agencies provide PATH services across 10 regions in Tennessee, covering 33 counties.

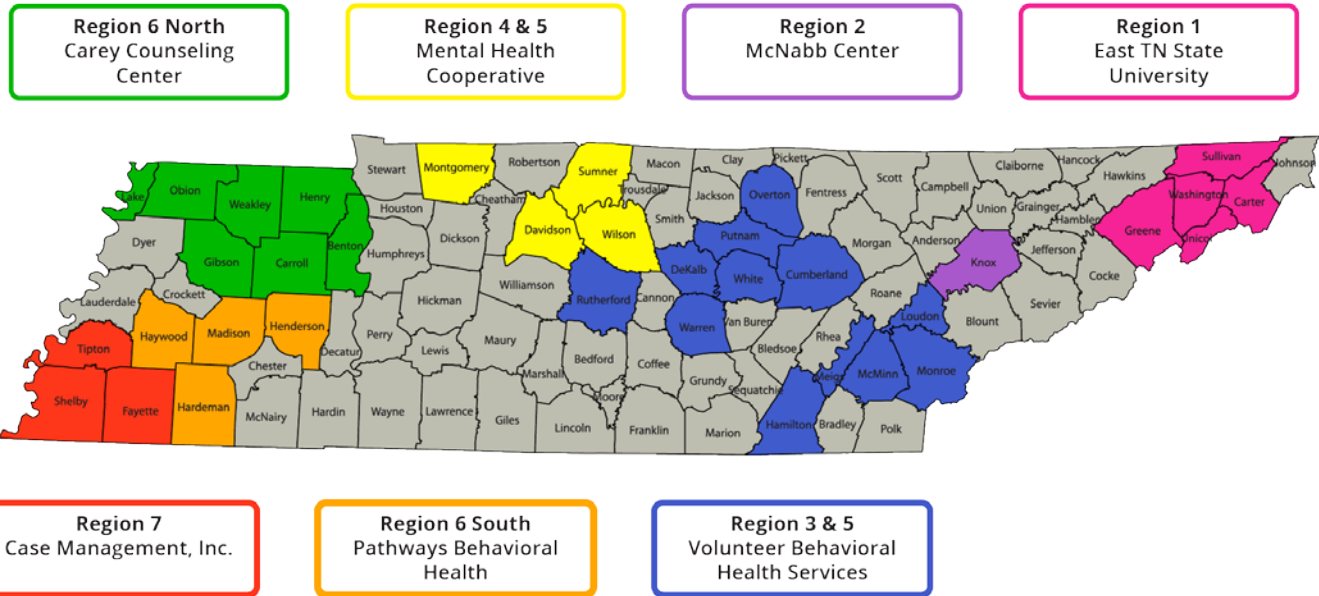
### Outcomes

During FY23, a total of 4,590 individuals were served by PATH in Tennessee.

## Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)

# PATH IN TENNESSEE

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness



PATH is a Federal Formula Grant program designed to provide outreach services to individuals experiencing homelessness who have mental illness or a co-occurring disorder.

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### **Children-Focused Outreach**

Provides community-based outreach to homeless families to identify children & youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) or at risk of SED.

### **Regional-level Effort**

5 community-based mental health agencies provide PATH services across 5 regions in Tennessee, covering 24 counties.

### **Support and Assistance**

Help parents to secure needed mental health services for children; help with limited financial assistance for rent, utilities, or other housing needs to help keep the family intact.



## **Children & Youth Homeless Outreach Project (CYHOP)**

CYHOP seeks to assist in securing mental health services for children and linkage to services to help keep their families intact.

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### **Specific Financial Assistance**

Provides specific, short-term financial assistance to help people get on their feet in new housing situations or prevent imminent homelessness.

### **In the Community (CTTS)**

Supports efforts of individuals in the community to attain or maintain safe and independent living.  
FY23: 3,274 individuals served

### **For Inpatient Discharge (ITTS)**

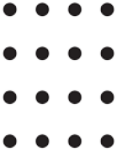
Assists persons discharging from the State's Regional Mental Health Institutes to support timely and successful transition to housing.  
FY23: 2,578 individuals served



## **Targeted Transitional Support (TTS)**

Assistance may be provided for rental deposits, rental assistance, utility deposits, utility payments, legal identification documents fees, eye care, and dental care.

# Work is the Best Treatment



Work is the best treatment we have for serious mental illness (i.e., people with schizophrenia spectrum disorder, bipolar, or depression). Two-thirds of people with serious mental illness want to work but only 15% are employed. (Luciano, Bond, & Drake, 2014).

## Benefits of Steady, Competitive Employment

- Increased income
- Increased quality of life
- Improved self-esteem
- Improved social networks
- Better control of symptoms
- Reduced substance use
- Reduced use of mental health services



Governor Bill Lee speaks at the 2022 Expect Employment report presentation highlighting IPS successes in Tennessee.

# Individual Placement and Support (IPS)



IPS is an evidence-based model of supported employment, designed for persons living with serious mental illness. 66% of people with living with mental illness say they want to work, 15% are working and less than 2% have access to evidence-based employment services.

## Multiple Research Studies show effectiveness

Currently, there are 28 random controlled trial studies showing its effectiveness. In fact, SAMHSA issued a brief exploring the use of IPS for people experiencing homelessness.

## Zero Exclusion

Consumers are not excluded because they are “not ready” or because of prior work history, hospitalization history, substance use, mental health symptoms, or other characteristics.





### **Effort to Acquire Income**

Serves people with a mental health and/or co-occurring substance use disorder, and/or a medical impairment which prevents them from being able to work.

### **Serves All State Psychiatric Hospitals**

Assists individuals who are discharging from one of the state's 4 Regional Mental Health Institutes (RMHI) through the disability application process.

### **Outcomes**

During FY22, 134 individuals discharging from the Regional Mental Health Institutes received SOAR Liaison services.



Implemented by SAMHSA, SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) is a model designed to increase access to disability income benefits for individuals who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

# **SOAR Liaison**



2023

# National Outcomes

The SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance (TA) Center is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SOAR is a national program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

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## 2023 Outcomes

INITIAL APPLICATIONS    APPEALS



## Financial Outcomes



**\$717M**

Brought into the economies of participating localities

## Cumulative Outcomes



## Top States

81%

APPROVAL RATE

### TOP 10 STATES\*

- |                |            |
|----------------|------------|
| Tennessee      | Wyoming    |
| Pennsylvania   | Oklahoma   |
| Maryland       | Virginia   |
| Arkansas       | Nevada     |
| North Carolina | New Mexico |



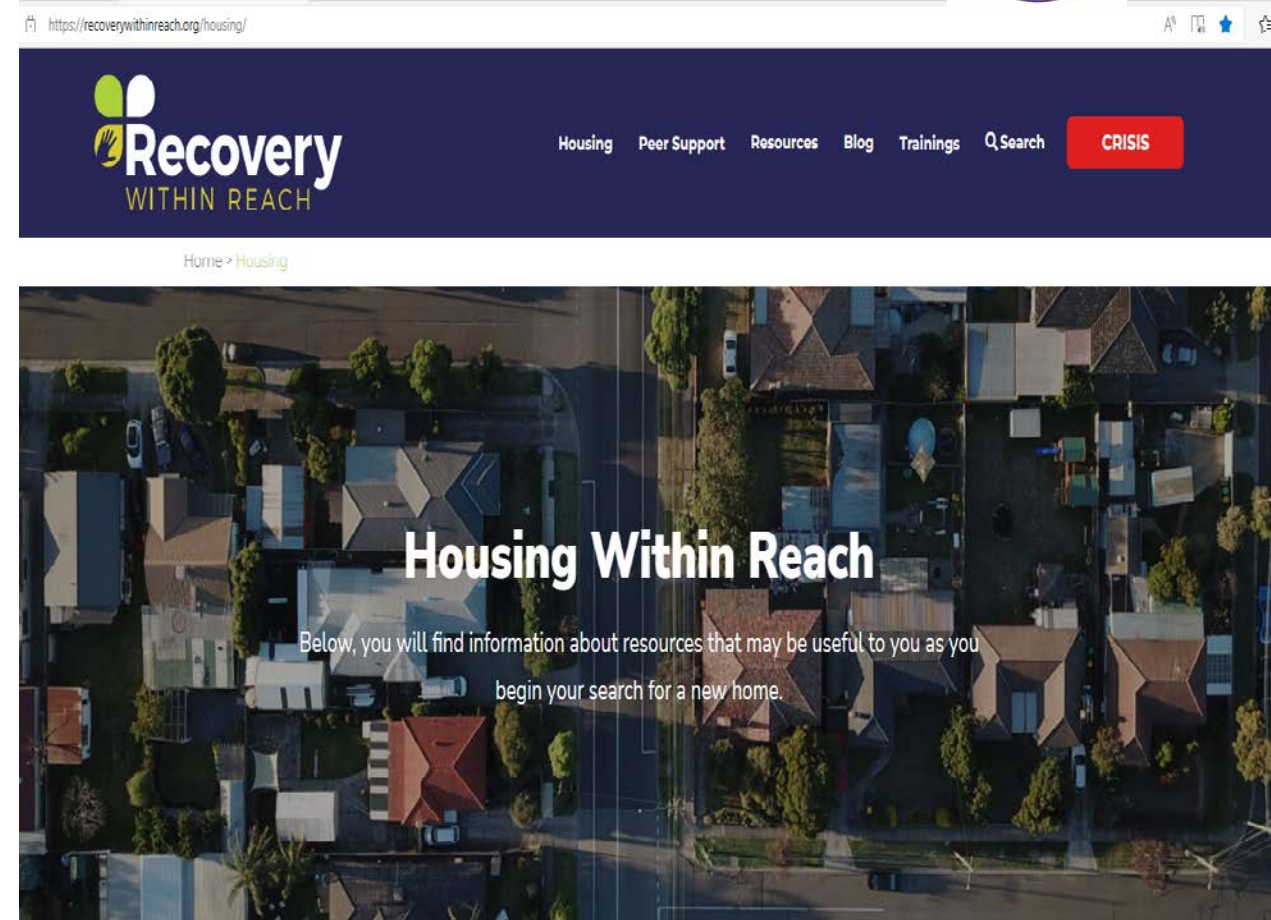
\*Inclusion: Highest cumulative approval rates on initial application for states with at least 250 cumulative decisions; at least 24 decisions in 2023 (2 per month), and a 2023 approval rate above the national average. Combined, these states had 22,245 decisions.



# Consumer Housing Specialists



- Peer professionals
- Community engagement and participation
- Affordable housing information and resource sharing; Housing Within Reach
- Community education efforts
- Increase public understanding and support for individuals with mental illness and/or substance use disorders; combating NIMBY (Not In My Back Yard)
- SOAR



Pictured: HWR webpage on Recovery Within Reach Website: [recoverywithinreach.org](https://recoverywithinreach.org)

# Creating Homes Initiative (CHI)

- Seeks to assertively and strategically partner with local communities to educate, inform, and expand quality, safe, affordable, and permanent housing options for people with mental illness and/or substance use disorder.
- Created in 2000 by Marie Williams, LCSW, current Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, in response to the lack of safe, decent, quality, permanent, and affordable housing opportunities
- Regional Housing Facilitators work in collaboration with a vast array of community partners, including the TN HUD Continua of Care, to support efforts to increase the stock of housing opportunities for the targeted population



# Regional Housing Facilitators & CHI 2.0 Regional Substance Use Housing Facilitators



- “Hands on” collaborators with grassroots community partners and task forces to stimulate the preservation, development, and enhancement of housing options
- Affordable housing development expertise
- Identifies and recommends financing strategies and grants to provide support for the development of permanent housing options and associated support services
- Conducts assessments to identify current availability and unmet need for permanent housing and support services
- Grant writing



Pictured: Regional Housing Facilitators attend the 2023 THDA Housing Conference



# CHI 2.0 Partnership with THDA (2020)

- THDA: One-time funding of \$3M to match TDMHSAS 1st year budget appropriation
- Create housing options for Tennesseans in opioid use recovery
- Competitive grant
  - Funding announcement
  - Application workshop
  - Grantee workshop
- 5 awardees
- 74 units to be created



Pictured: Neru Gobin with THDA partners, including Executive Director Ralph Perrey (2<sup>nd</sup> from right)  
Photo courtesy of TN Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services



## 2+ Decades of Success

More than **34,700** housing opportunities created and more than **\$1.2 Billion** leveraged since 2000

## An Innovative Model

CHI uses initial state investment to leverage federal, local, community, foundational, etc. sources for people living with mental health challenges and co-occurring disorders.

## Expanding to New Populations

New recurring state investments totaling \$6.6M have expanded CHI 2.0 to **addiction recovery** (FY20) and CHI 3.0 **reentry populations** (FY22).



The CrossBRIDGE Connection Center in Nashville funded by CHI, Amazon, and city dollars.

# Creating Homes Initiative



The Creating Homes Initiative was started in 2000 by current Commissioner Marie Williams with support and leadership from then-Commissioner Elizabeth Rukeyser.



### **FY20: CHI 2.0**

New funding in the FY20 budget expanded the original CHI model to support the needs of people in recovery from substance use disorder, especially opioids.

### **FY22: CHI 3.0**

New funding in the FY22 budget expanded the CHI model yet again to support the needs of people re-entering communities after incarceration



Kirkland House at Aspell Recovery in Jackson was one of the first projects funded under CHI 2.0.

# **Lee Administration Investments**

TDMHSAS has successfully expanded the Creating Homes Initiative model to new populations in recent years with support of Governor Bill Lee and the TN General Assembly.



### **Creating Affordable Housing**

Infrastructure costs for development of new housing for people experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

#### **CHI 2.0**

Infrastructure & operational costs to establish new housing for people living with substance use disorder, in particular opioid use disorder.

#### **CHI 3.0**

Infrastructure & operational costs to establish new housing for people living experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorder who re-enter the community from prisons or jails.



These opportunities aim to develop & expand the number of safe, affordable, and quality permanent supportive housing options for Tennesseans living with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

## **Grant Funding Opportunities**



### **80+ Sites, 800+ beds Statewide**

Supervised; Partially Supervised; Independent settings integrated into the community

### **Behavioral Health Provider Agencies**

Serves Tennesseans diagnosed with mental illness and co-occurring (mental illness and concurrent substance use) disorders

### **Wrap-Around Support Services**

Peer recovery support, life skills development, community engagement opportunities, access to supported employment services, etc.



## **Community Supportive Housing**

- The Community Supportive Housing program includes housing developed through the original Creating Homes Initiative (“CHI 1.0”).





### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

10 sites, 220 beds for quality affordable housing with support services

### **Recovery Housing**

Array of recovery services to support the substance use, including opioid use, recovery of adults in Tennessee.

### **Wrap-around Recovery Support**

Includes case management, drug test, recovery skills development, relapse prevention, peer recovery, supported employment, and community engagement



The Supportive Recovery Housing program includes housing developed through the Creating Homes Initiative 2.0 (CHI 2.0) grant. More projects are currently under development.

# **Supportive Recovery Housing**



### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

10 sites, 145 beds for quality affordable housing with support services

### **Serving the Justice Involved**

Tennesseans experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorder who re-enter the community from prisons and jails or have been previously incarcerated.

### **Wrap-around Support Services**

Quality recovery support services may include recovery & life skills development, recidivism prevention, peer recovery, supported employment, and community engagement.



The Supportive Re-entry Housing program includes housing developed through the Creating Homes Initiative 3.0 (CHI 3.0) grant. New projects are currently under development.

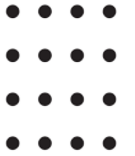
## **Supportive Re-entry Housing**

# Intensive Long-term Support (ILS)

- Licensed, enhanced supportive housing for Tennesseans discharging from the state's Regional Mental Health Institutes after extended hospitalization stays.
- Current expansion: adding 41 beds
  - Jackson: 20 new beds (WMHI) – now operational
  - Chattanooga: 21 new beds (MBMHI) – near complete
  - New Bed Capacity Total: 154

# Residential Reentry Housing Program (RRHP)

- Licensed, enhanced supportive housing for Tennesseans with SPMI who re-enter the community from custody of the TDOC, incarceration in county jails, or are justice involved.
- New for FY 2024; AOF released; 7 proposals received; 3 projects selected for funding to create 54 new beds



## Filling The Gaps

Individuals served would otherwise not be able to successfully live in the community due to the lack of available housing with the capacity for support to meet their specific needs.

# Additional Resources

Find more information about our supportive housing programs on our website at [TN.gov/behavioral-health](https://www.tn.gov/behavioral-health).

We also have a one-pager on the CHI program and several video success stories.



**Housing for Veterans**  
Butterfly Moments, Inc. in Montgomery County used CHI 2.0 funding to create supportive housing for veterans in recovery from addiction.