

# AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER



## HUD's \$9.7 Million Grant Fuels Housing Solutions Amid Rising Demand and Community Collaboration



The U.S Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has recently released a groundbreaking two-year competitive application for federal funding, marking a significant milestone in the nationwide battle against homelessness. Nashville service providers were granted an allocation of nearly \$9.7 million for the fiscal year 2023, an increase of \$5 million in the past 4 years.

This increase in funding was largely due HUD's recognition of Nashville's overall strategic plan to end homelessness through an encampment strategy, coordinated outreach efforts, and strengthening collaborative efforts with health care providers and the Consumer Advisory Board. With the rising demand for more housing and resources, the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) eagerly anticipates submitting this year's application for federal funding on behalf of Nashville Davidson County's Continuum of Care. These federal funds play a pivotal role in shaping a housing-first focused system for various vulnerable populations, including individuals and families fleeing domestic violence, unhoused veterans, unaccompanied youth, and families experiencing homelessness. Typically, families are in shelters or automobiles, living separately due to the family size or utilizing other methods that allow them to be hidden from plain sight. All of which have dire implications for the multiple generations represented in the family.

In the past two years, the demand for family housing has been on the rise and increases more during school calendar breaks. The Nashville emergency shelter systems that provide refuge for families expressed the stress of overcrowding. To address the immediate needs, OHS has deployed full-time employees to those locations to get families connected to housing. Operating the coordinated entry phone line to further connect families to housing. OHS, in collaboration with other service providers have noticed trends of high demand during breaks associated with the school calendar. In collaboration with other community service providers, OHS is committed to assisting with those demands.

Identified needs, such as sufficient staffing and specialized supportive services, underscore the ongoing challenges in addressing homelessness. In addition to deploying Metro funds to assist with family housing, the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) is actively working to alleviate the stress on the shelter system. This includes placing full-time employees at the location to help make family homelessness brief. OHS has also taken over the coordinated entry line for families, providing a systemwide access point for families. Our goal is to improve the outcomes of our unsheltered population through strategic processes that increased employment opportunities, housing options and supportive services.

July witnessed several notable celebrations in the realm of homelessness assistance. The Office of Homeless Services commemorated its one-year milestone, while the grand opening of Metro's Strobel House introduced permanent supportive housing for up to 90 unhoused individuals. Additionally, HUD Technical Advisors recognized Nashville as a trailblazer in national discussions during an on-site visit. The National Alliance to End Homelessness leader provided consulting work with the Community Advisory Board, and fruitful collaborations with two state departments for future funding and partnership were established. Furthermore, the Landlord Engagement team achieved record-breaking housing options.

As August approaches, the Office of Homeless Services gears up to welcome new members to the Homelessness Planning Council (HPC). We are excited about their active involvement in the ongoing efforts to end homelessness. With our sleeves rolled up and ready to work, we can make a difference and strengthen our collective resolve to combat homelessness. We are stronger together.

-April Calvin, Director.

# OHS Takes on Coordinated Entry Family Phone Line to Address Growing Demands for Family Housing



## ARE YOU IN A HOUSING CRISIS?

A HOUSING CRISIS IS ANYTHING THAT MAKES IT HARD FOR YOU TO GET HOUSING OR STAY HOUSED.

# 1

### WHAT IS COORDINATED ENTRY (CE)

Coordinated Entry makes it easier for you to find housing and support services. By having your information in Coordinated Entry, service providers will know you're in a housing crisis. Coordinated Entry is not a housing program. Having your information in Coordinated Entry does not guarantee housing or services, but it can make the process quicker and easier.

# 2

### HOW TO GET CONNECTED TO CE?

Family CE Line:

615-862-6444

Individuals Call: 615-862-6992

or click the link below for additional information.

# 3

### DO YOU NEED EMERGENCY SHELTER TONIGHT?

The only walk-in emergency shelter in Nashville Davidson Co. for women and minor children is Nashville Rescue Mission's Women's Campus  
Location: 1716 Rosa Parks Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37208  
Phone: (615) 312-1574

### FAMILY SHELTER AVAILABLE THROUGH CE

Salvation Army and Safe Haven only accept referrals through CE. To get connected, a family needs to be entered into Coordinated Entry.

## \*\*\* DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESOURCES \*\*\*

# 4

### IF YOU ARE FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

24/7 Walk-in: Family Safety Center  
Location: 610 Murfreesboro Pike  
Nashville, TN 37210  
Phone: (615) 880-1100 (9am-5pm, M-F)

This is not a shelter and does not have beds.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE EMERGENCY SHELTERS

YWCA 24/7 Crisis Line: 1-800-334-4628  
or TEXT 615-983-5170

Morning Star Sanctuary 24/7 Crisis Line:  
615-860-0003

Mary Parrish DV CE Line: (615)-955-0620

For Veteran Resources, call the Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VA) at 615-327-4751.

# Landlord Engagement Team Secures More Housing Options for Community Partners in a Collective Effort to End Homelessness in Our City

The Landlord Engagement Team increased the Low Barrier Housing Collective from 145 locations to 198 locations in 1 year. These additional housing options support the work of our community partners and our overall mission to end homelessness in Nashville.

As an ongoing initiative, Landlord Engagement hosts regular workshops for landlords and community agencies interested in learning more about our efforts or way to join. The last workshop was held on August 14, 2024 and hosted 29 landlords.



## Low Barrier Housing Collective Incentives !!



### Sign-On Bonuses

New Landlord members may receive the following sign-on bonus amounts...

|                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Shared Living: \$1000 | 2 Bedroom: \$3000 |
| Studio: \$1500        | 3 Bedroom: \$3500 |
| 1 Bedroom: \$2500     | 4 Bedroom: \$4000 |

New Member Sign-On Bonus amounts are limited to the first 5 units leased-up to a tenant exiting homelessness.

Existing Landlord members receive an ongoing \$1000 sign-on bonus per lease up.

### Minor Repairs

Landlords may receive up to \$2500 per unit for minor repairs to make a unit move-in ready (maximum of 5 units).

### Application fees & Security Deposits

Landlords may receive up to \$500 per household to cover application fees and security deposits.

### Furniture Allowance

Clients may be eligible to receive a one-time furniture allowance of up to \$1500 via our local furniture vendor partnership.

[www.lowbarrierhousingcollective.org](http://www.lowbarrierhousingcollective.org)

(615) 800-0195

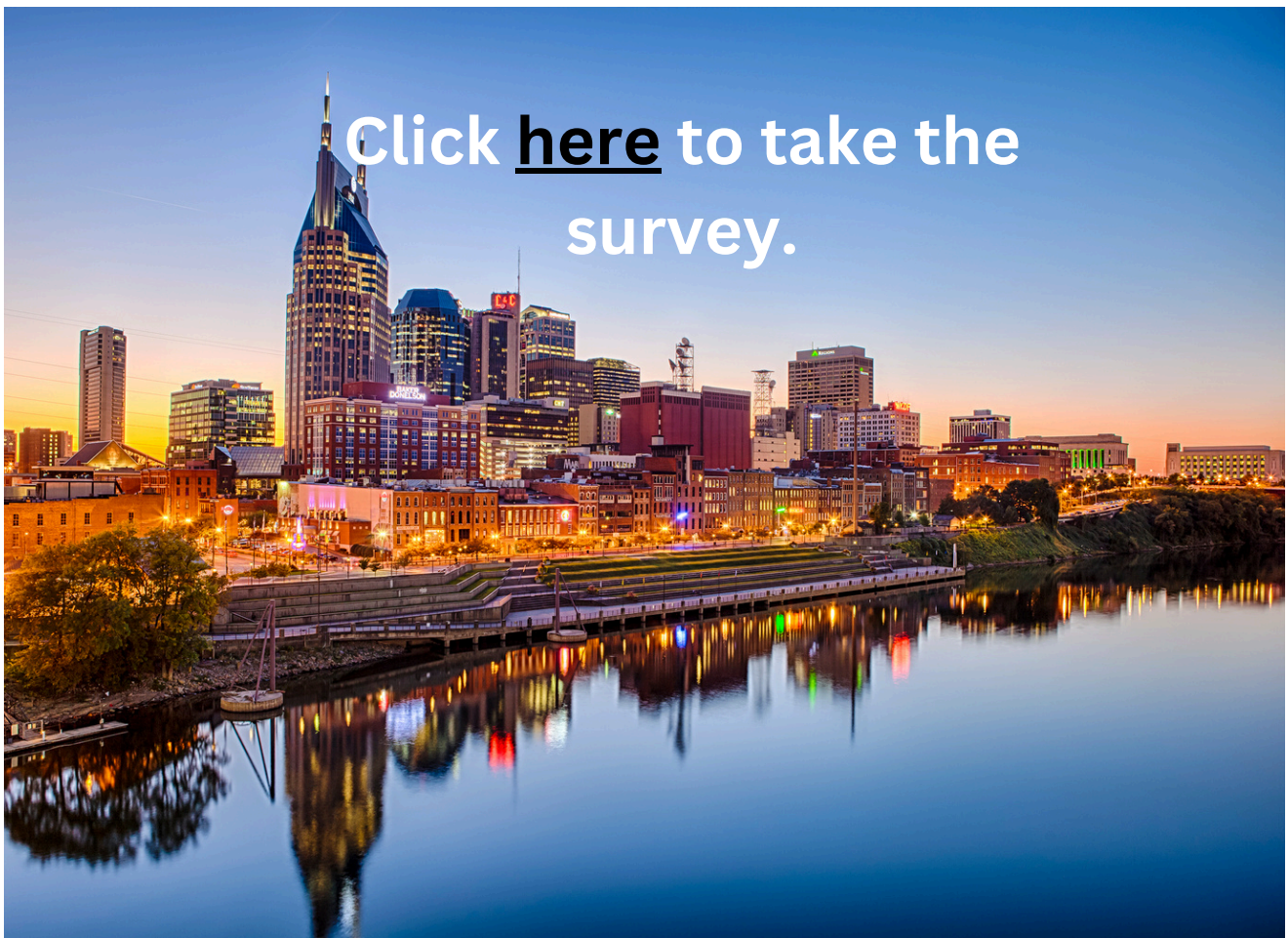
[OHSlandlordsupport@nashville.gov](mailto:OHSlandlordsupport@nashville.gov)

To learn more about the Low Barrier Housing Collective. Click [here](#)



# Metro Housing Division Launches Unified Housing Strategy

The Metro Housing Division is launching an ambitious Unified Housing Strategy (UHS) to tackle Nashville's housing challenges head-on. This strategy will chart a clear path forward, ensuring housing security for every Nashvillian. We're calling on you—our residents and housing professionals—to lend your voice to this vital effort.



“We are stronger together.”-April Calvin

# OHS Activates Interim Supportive Services Plan for the Unhoused Population During the Main Library Closure

This list of resources is a working document that will be updated on a weekly basis as more resource connections are identified and service deliveries are confirmed. (Last updated: 8/9/24)

## Nashville Public Libraries

20 locations across the city. Hours and addresses can be found [here](#). All locations have air conditioning, restrooms, and drinking fountains, as well as computers and power outlets for charging phones and other devices.

- Madison Branch
- Bordeaux Branch
- Southeast Branch

## Room in The Inn: 705 Drexel Street

- **Hours & Services:** RITI is open M-F from 6AM-2PM and serves lunch. Frozen Pops & Ice Cream encourage folks to come inside and cool off.
- **Getting there:** #8 bus
- **Other Services:** **SHOWERS** are available from 6 am to 11am. People should get there at 6 AM to reserve a spot.

## Office of Homeless Services

- **Services:** The Office of Homeless Services will be coordinating outreach responses by providing:
  1. Cool Rides
  2. Water Distribution
  3. Service Provider Coordination
  4. Scheduled Encampment Support

**BUS Passes/ Cool Rides:** OHS will make "All day Single Use" bus passes available for nonprofits to pick up at OHS. Please utilize HMIS for appropriate distribution of bus passes. Email [Tytiauna.Ruffin@Nashville.Gov](mailto:Tytiauna.Ruffin@Nashville.Gov) to arrange for pickup.

To view or download the full list of Interim Supportive Services, click [here](#).

# Strobel House Grand Opening Highlights

## Ribbon Cutting



# Strobel House Grand Opening Highlights

Director, April Calvin and Amelia Strobel,  
niece of Charlie Strobel



# Strobel House Grand Opening Highlights



Rachel Hester, Room In The Inn



Jaha Martin,  
Homelessness Planning Council Chair



Alice Strobel Eadler, Charlie  
Strobel's sister



Mayor Freddie O'Connell



## Strobel House Grand Opening Highlights Metro Council Members



To view more Grand Opening photos, click [here](#).

## Strobel House Grand Opening Highlights



To learn more about Strobel House, click [here](#).

# Broadcast Media Highlights

To view coverage, click the media icons.



OFFICE OF  
HOMELESS SERVICES

View Recorded Live Stream  
[here.](#)



Reporter Amanda Chin



Reporter Brendan Tierney



To schedule an interview, scan or click the QR-code.

# Continuum of Care

The Continuum of Care is a community planning body responsible for coordinating resources and services to end homelessness in Nashville and Davidson County.

## FY2024 & 2025 Continuum of Care Program Competition

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) has released the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Continuum of Care Competition, which will cover fiscal years 2024 and 2025. HUD has not yet announced the total or bonus amounts that Nashville will receive.

As the Continuum of Care's Collaborative Applicant, the Office of Homeless Services is working to prepare the Consolidated Application to submit on behalf of Nashville-Davidson County. In anticipation for the NOFO and to streamline the rating and ranking process, new and renewal local applications for CoC program funding were due on July 25, 2025. The Continuum of Care's Performance Evaluation Committee is currently in the process of reviewing the applications that were submitted.

## Engaging People with Lived Experience

The Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) is dedicated Continuum of Care committee for people with lived experience of homelessness to advise and guide local strategies for preventing and ending homelessness. A new Youth Action Board has also been established to create a space for people 18-24 to work on a targeted response to youth homelessness. The Office of Homeless Services recently hosted the Albert Townsend, the Director of Lived Experience with the National Alliance to End Homelessness, to provide on-site support to strengthen and grow our community's lived experience partnerships.

**SCAN HERE**



**For Upcoming  
Continuum of  
Care Meetings**

# Congratulations to OHS on 1-Year as a Metro Department!



“Don’t grow weary in doing the most good.”-April Calvin

OHS is Outside for “Metro Makes A Difference!”



COMING  
SOON  
*Stay Tuned*

*for more details!*

