

OHS Launches Strategic Initiatives: Enhanced Data Collection, New Funding Opportunities, and Cold Weather Shelter Support

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As Nashville's unhoused community faces the winter season, Metro's Office of Homeless Services (OHS) is moving forward with three separate but complementary initiatives: securing a new operations partner for the hotel conversion model at Rodeway Inn, managing this year's Overflow Cold Weather Shelter, and increasing comprehensive data collection.

We are embarking on comprehensive community data collection for the first time in our community's history. For far too many years, our community operated with the assumption of our homelessness number based on limited data. Currently, OHS and community partners have increased Outreach data input and.... Breaking news: OHS funded an electronic bridge to sync the data for the largest homeless shelter in Nashville. Securing vast data coverage may appear as a negative increase but is necessary for improved accuracy that allows our community to plan effectively, increase funding options, and update local strategies.

OHS is actively seeking a new operations partner for the Rodeway Inn in South Nashville, an essential bridge housing facility supporting unsheltered residents in their transition to permanent homes.

During this process, The Salvation Army has assured OHS that they will continue to provide critical services for the remaining residents, assisting them with case management and financial guidance to help them achieve stable, long-term housing. OHS will work closely with The Salvation Army to ensure a seamless transition as the search for a new partner progresses.

OHS is set to operate Nashville's Overflow Cold Weather Shelter this winter, which will activate when temperatures fall to or below 32°F for three consecutive hours. This seasonal shelter serves as an emergency refuge for individuals without stable housing, offering hot meals and other basic services.

This year's shelter also includes several enhancements, such as:

- Onsite Triage Services: Coordinated intake and housing support services.
- Data Collection: Real-time data gathered through HMIS, with daily occupancy metrics shared publicly.
- Pet Accommodations: Pets are welcome, with kennels available.
- Community Alerts: The "Metro MEANS" text alert system will keep residents informed of shelter activation and available services.

Shelby House Partners with Metro to offer Reduced-Barrier Housing Units

Shelby House marked a significant milestone with a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating its expanded mission to bring affordable housing to Nashville's heart. Metro has partnered with Shelby House to offer reduced-barrier housing units designed to provide permanent, supportive housing for residents earning 30% or less of the area median income (AMI).

This expansion represents a major step in the city's efforts to ensure affordable, quality housing for Nashville's most vulnerable residents. Shelby House's modern studio, one and two-bedroom apartments offer a blend of comfort, affordability, and community. Nestled in East Nashville, these units are just a short walk from the vibrant cultural scene, allowing residents to enjoy the city without straining their budgets. With features that encourage camaraderie and stability, Shelby House exemplifies how thoughtfully designed spaces can enrich lives and foster a sense of belonging.

This partnership reflects Nashville's commitment to addressing housing challenges with solutions that bring lasting impact, offering residents a place they can call home right in the heart of the city.

Join our Low-Barrier Housing Collective Today!
Click [HERE](#) to learn more.



Shelby House Ribbon Cutting, October 29, 2024



Community Volunteer Engagement Opportunities

Our camp clean-ups are more than just a service—they're a meaningful way to support our unhoused neighbors, helping to preserve dignity and strengthen community connections. These clean-ups allow our team to provide essential resources to individuals in need, while also giving volunteers the chance to make a real impact.

We invite college students, churches, sororities, fraternities, and all community members eager to help to join us!

Reach out to tytiauna.ruffin@nashville.gov to get involved. Let's lend a helping hand and show our neighbors we care!



Metro Increases Safety and Housing Support for Unhoused Residents Near Silliman Evans Overpass

In October, hazardous structures near the Silliman Evans Bridge were removed due to growing safety concerns and the need for bridge repairs. Metro agencies joined forces to address hazardous conditions of the bridge while also connecting residents to critical services and housing support. OHS has prioritized weekly outreach events designed to connect residents with available resources, including entry into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to facilitate housing placements and comprehensive case management.

As part of its broader mission to address homelessness, OHS is collaborating with the community's prioritization team to identify the next site for a focused housing surge. Assessments are ongoing, with the goal of addressing homelessness on a citywide scale by prioritizing sites most in need of support and intervention.



Resource Fair Near Silliman Evans Bridge



A heartfelt thank you to our dedicated team who showed up at Hope Fest, ready to connect as many people as possible to essential services! As we move into the colder months, we know the challenges are even greater for our unhoused neighbors seeking warmth and shelter. Cold temperatures often lead to overcrowded shelters, highlighting the urgent need for increased access to housing—a priority we're tackling every day.

To stay informed about cold weather shelter openings, transportation options, and other emergency resources this season, sign up for our text alerts! Simply text "OHSALERTS" to 888-777 to receive timely updates.

If you or someone you know is experiencing homelessness, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our Coordinated Entry Line can help connect you to the right resources:

- Family Homelessness: 615-862-6444
- Individual Homelessness: 615-862-6992



Celebrating Top Scoring Agencies in HMIS Data Quality

The HMIS team at the Office of Homeless Services is thrilled to recognize the top-scoring agencies on the latest Data Quality Self-Check! Each agency's project was scored out of 50 points, evaluating key areas of data completeness, timeliness, accuracy, and consistency. These outstanding agencies have met our benchmark for good data quality, showing a strong commitment to accurate and reliable data that enhances our collective ability to serve the community effectively.

We extend our appreciation to all HMIS users for their dedication to high-quality data and look forward to seeing continued improvement and impact across the Nashville community. Thank you for helping us advance our mission to support Nashville's unhoused population!

Top Scoring Agencies in Data Quality:

1. Mending Hearts
2. The Village at Glenclyff
3. Park Center
4. Operation Stand Down Tennessee
5. Yaipak
6. Community Care Fellowship
7. Dismas House
8. People Loving Nashville
9. Safe Haven Family Shelter
10. Matthew 25
11. The Contributor
12. Room In The Inn
13. Office of Homeless Services
14. Oasis Center
15. Catholic Charities
16. Nashville CARES

Stay Connected: Upcoming Events & Office Contacts



OHS ENCAMPMENT CLEAN UP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you are interested in giving back to the community, then you are at the right place!
More info, email us at:
Tytiauna.Ruffin@nashville.gov



Join us for our November Camp Clean-Up Event! Click the link below to learn more. Hope to see you there!

Sign up [HERE](#) or paste the link below into your browser.




<https://tinyurl.com/3xnwcvy6>

☀️ Join Us for a Resource Fair!

☀️ This event is designed to help NRM families connect with housing options, essential resources, and support services to build a brighter, more stable future.

Spread the word and help build a stronger Nashville.

Stay connected with us!

-  [@OfficeofhomelesservicesNash](#)
-  [@OHSNashville](#)
-  [@OHSNashville](#)



Text "OHSALERT" to 888777

OHS Weather and Community Alerts are moving to MEANS (Metro Emergency Alert & Notification System)
Please text "OHSALERT" to 888-777 to register



For questions on registering, please contact
Tytiauna.Ruffin@Nashville.Gov



RESOURCE Fair

Nashville RESCUE MISSION

1716 Rosa L. Parks Blvd.

DEC | 4th | 2024

10AM-12PM

For More Information email
James.Clay@nashville.gov