



Newsletter

Office of Homeless Services

• August 13, 2025

• Issue 15

• Written by: April Calvin, Director

Two Years of Change: Stories, Solutions, and Second Chances

As we step into a new fiscal year, I want to take a moment to look back. The story of the last two years is not just about numbers, but about people, hope, and the belief that our Nashville neighbors deserves a safe place to call home.

In Nashville, the people who've lived through homelessness are not just part of the conversation, they're helping lead the solutions. Individuals with lived experience hold key leadership roles in our Continuum of Care, including chairing five of fourteen committees and participating in up to two dozen Consumer Advisory Board meetings each year. Mentorship from nationally recognized leaders, who also have lived experience was secured to support our lived experience chairs in their leadership roles.

Meeting People Where They Are

Our outreach teams hosted **43 resource fairs** —**33 directly in encampments** connecting unhoused residents to housing, healthcare, employment, and ID recovery services.

From Streets to Housing Solutions

Over **512 people** have been relocated from outdoor encampments:

- Jefferson Street Bridge: 182
- Brookmeade/Wentworth-Caldwell/T.A. Truck Stop/Hermitage: 186
- Anthes Drive (Old Tent City): 107
- River Camp: 37

Moving people inside is about saving lives. Summer heat is as detrimental as winter frost.

Responding in Every Season

Winter Emergency Shelter: **46** activation nights, with **51 individuals** moving into permanent housing.

Extreme Heat Response: 2 year average

- **20-22** service days
- **3,800 +** bottles of water
- **1,700 +** WeGo bus passes

A Landmark in Housing: Strobel House

One year ago, we opened Metro's first Permanent Supportive Housing development, now home to 90 Nashville neighbors. Early resident successes inspire us daily:

- D.M. – registered at Nashville State this semester as a freshman with a goal of becoming a social worker.
- J.W. – Graduated from Remington College, now working as a medical assistant.
- L.A. – Nine months sober after completing treatment. "The staff here care about me. I just needed someone to care."

With the support of Metro Council, the Mayor's Office, our provider network, and countless community members, we've made progress. In 2 years, our community **moved 3,868** Nashville neighbors from homelessness to housing. I am proud of the lives we've touched and the foundations we've built together. While there is still more work to be done and more challenges to face, we are resolved in our commitment to continue building supports that strengthen Nashville's efforts to end homelessness in our city.

-April Calvin
Director, Office of Homeless Services

Community Highlights

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• Written by: Demetris Chaney

Metro Welcomes New Homelessness Planning Council Chair



Photo of Rico X, Homelessness Planning Council Chair

Metro is proud to welcome Rico X as the new Chair of the Continuum of Care Homelessness Planning Council.

With more than 15 years of leadership experience, Rico has dedicated his career to serving communities in Nashville, Detroit, and Philadelphia. He currently serves as Chief Mission Delivery Officer for the Girl Scouts of Middle Tennessee, leading programming across 39 counties. His previous roles include CEO of Project Return Inc. and Vice President of School Age Services at the YMCA of Middle Tennessee.

Beyond his professional achievements, Rico is actively engaged in service, from his leadership in the Homelessness Planning Council to his board roles with Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. (Nashville Alumni Chapter) and the World Afri-Cultural Community Project. In his own words: “Don’t work for recognition but do work worthy of recognition.”

Welcome, Rico!

Strobel House Resident Earns Degree

Johnnie Williams, a resident of Strobel House, Nashville’s first Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) development, recently graduated from Remington College with a 4.0 GPA as a Medical Assistant. Johnnie is now employed as a Medical Assistant with Well Child. “Strobel House gave me a safe place to breathe, think, and believe in my future again,” Johnnie shared. Johnnie has been a resident of Strobel House since it opened in July of 2024. She says she looks forward to continuing her education.



Graduation day photo of Johnnie

Stay Connected & Informed

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Renew Your Weather Alert Subscription-One Time Only

Have you renewed your OHS weather alerts subscription yet? This is the **ONLY** TIME you'll need to do it to keep receiving life-saving information.

Stay informed about extreme weather
Get updates on emergency resources like shelters, cooling stations, and more
Text OHSALERT to 888-777 now to continue receiving alerts. It's fast, free, and could save a life.



Stay Informed
Renew Your Weather Alerts Today!

Extreme weather can strike at any moment. Stay prepared and informed by subscribing to our text alerts for timely updates on severe weather conditions and available resources.

Renew your subscription now!

Text OHSALERT to 888-777

The graphic includes the Office of Homeless Services logo and a smartphone screen showing a text conversation with 888777 about the OHSALERT subscription.

Are You In a Housing Crisis?

If you or someone you know is facing housing instability, a housing crisis, or experiencing homelessness, please reach out. Help is just a phone call away.

When you call, a trained specialist will take time to listen and complete a housing assessment to connect you with appropriate resources.

This service is free, confidential, and available to anyone in Davidson County in need of support.



HOW TO ACCESS THE COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

If you are facing housing instability, a housing crisis or literal homelessness, please call to speak with a Coordinated Entry Phone Line Specialist for available resource options.

Coordinated Entry Phone Line:
615-862-6444

- Hours: Monday-Friday 8a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Coordinated Entry Specialist assess all calls.
- The assessment can take up to an hour.

The graphic includes the Office of Homeless Services logo and a phone icon.

Have You Heard About The Shared Housing Lunch And Learn?



For more information on current events and ways to connect, visit our socials:

 @OHSNashville

 @officeofhomelesservices.nash

 @OHSNashville