



SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES™

Addressing underlying conditions of wellbeing and justice, for all to reach their full potential

Community Connections

A Newsletter of the Shelby County Government's Division of Community Services

Vision Statement

The Shelby County Division of Community Services strives to be a highly organized team and partner, dedicated to promoting a strong community where all people are able to reach their full potential.

Mission Statement

The Division of Community Services promotes ongoing economic security and independence for the people of Shelby County. We do this by promoting, coordinating and delivering services that address the underlying conditions for wellbeing and justice.

An Anchor for Prosperity and Growth

A Message from the Director's Office



Several months ago, the Division of Community Services began taking intentional steps in our efforts to build greater community awareness of services we offer. Thanks to one of our incredible team members Flo Gibbs (Crime Victims Center and Rape Crisis Center) we now have our own logo that signifies the core of our mission and who we are.

The tree is a universally recognizable symbol that is used to represent life, prosperity and strength. Key to the health of each tree is its roots which, although beneath the surface, provide an anchor for the tree's growth. We in Community Services believe that each individual within our community has the potential to blossom if given the roots of basic opportunities, support and hope that are foundational to success. The services that we provide daily do this and more. Whether it is providing a stable home environment by assisting a family in a time of economic crisis, ensuring that a senior has access to a health care and consistent nutrition or connecting a veteran to earned benefits, our



division team works tirelessly to support individuals and to develop a community that encourages growth at every stage of life. We know that as important as these services are to those we help, there are many needs that we cannot meet due to capacity limitations.

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Our roots must therefore interlock with other community members, organizations and systems in continuous partnership to ensure that each individual can be paired with all available tools to aid in his or her growth and security.

In the coming weeks and months, you will see the Division of Community Services logo more and more throughout the community at events, within community publications and even on social media. I am hopeful that each time that you see the tree logo, you will be mindful of what it represents. I know that the "trees" in Shelby County are stronger because of the work you do individually and collaboration with others to enable those in need to not just stand, but to flourish and grow.

Find Us On Social Media





SHELBY COUNTY GOVERNMENT DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES™

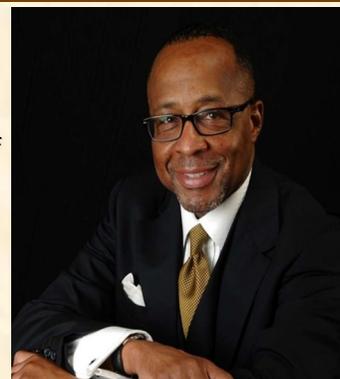
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Division Spotlight: Pretrial Services

Pretrial Services is a department of the Office of Justice Initiatives within the Shelby County Division of Community Services. The department provides a variety of diversion services to help in the effort to reduce the jail population. Its belief is that successful intervention rests on the premise of providing evidence based services meeting the needs of justice involved persons in Memphis.



Kenneth Osborne
Deputy Administrator
Pretrial Services

The department is led by Kenneth Osborne, Deputy Administrator who joined the Division of Community Services Fall of 2017 from Chicago, IL. Mr. Osborne has over 20 years' experience in addiction/behavioral health and corrections, holds state, national and international certification as an Addictions Counselor and is a Certified Public Manager. His top priorities for Pretrial Services include:

- 1) Moving talented individuals around within their organization to promote excitement, creativity and to enhance productivity; Ensuring that all staff have the opportunity to attend and participate in professional trainings to enhance their skills;
- 2) Training all staff on appropriate best practice methodologies to help set the course for dynamic and systemic changes within pretrial services to better serve their clients;
- 3) Informing General Session and Criminal Court Judges on program enhancements; and
- 4) Continuing to build strong partnerships with community service providers.

Focus Programs of Pretrial Services

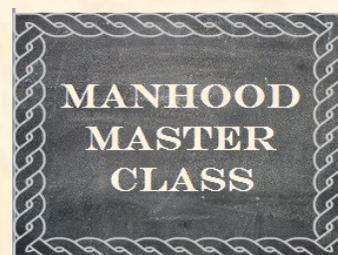
The LifeLight Program

- Tackles the issue of mental illness and substance use disorder. It is an intensive outpatient 4-6 months long program in partnership with Alliance Health Services who provides a Therapist, Nurse Practitioner and Tele-med services.



The Manhood Master Class

- A collaborative effort with the Shelby County Health Department addressing the issue of fatherhood and other male mental, physical and spiritual health related matters.



The Safety and Justice Challenge Initiative

- Addresses ways to reduce jail overcrowding and service enhancement to better identify risk, need, and responsivity concerns of our justice involved population.



Other programs of Pretrial Services include the following:

Domestic Violence Intervention (DVI) - a 27 week program designed to instruct clients in the area of conflict and emotional management in a relationship (marriage, common-law, girlfriend, boyfriend). The program uses the Duluth Model and Men Stopping Violence Model as a guide. The sessions are to be completed one per week for the duration of the program.

Pretrial Services Programs continued on page 2





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Division Spotlight: Pretrial Services Continued

Clients are allowed to miss a maximum of two consecutive classes without penalty. Missing three (3) consecutive classes or 5 missed classes will result in automatic discharge from the program. This program is facilitated by Shelby County Pretrial Services Staff.

Substance Use/Addiction Counseling— a 16 sessions program for individuals addressing substance use and addiction issues. Using the evidence based New Directions Cognitive Behavioral curriculum from Hazelden, participants work through various sessions that include: addressing myths about addiction, effects of drugs on the body, the disease of addiction and change and relapse prevention.



Men Stopping Violence— an 18 sessions cognitive based curriculum addressing male violence and anger. The curriculum is divided into three specific areas of focus: defining the problem, The Impact of Male Violence against Women and Manhood revisited. The curriculum also focuses on the fact that violence is the direct result of men’s socialization into a cultural, political and historical system that assigns inferior status to women and children demands their dominance and control.



Bringing Peace to Relationships — a 27-29 week cognitive behavioral Anger and Domestic Violence program designed for women. Among the topics addressed within the 27 weeks are: issues of power and control, relationship equality and acceptance, beliefs and thoughts, personal identity and what will you do to change.

Pathway to Freedom (Prostitution/Solicitation)- a 6 to12 month Cognitive Behavioral Program for defendant’s who have pled guilty to loitering, solicitation, and/or prostitution. This program will link defendants to community services upon discharge which will reinforce health lifestyle choices to include but not limited to: housing, economic stability, emotional; literacy, mental health services, education and family reunification.



Criminal Thinking Errors— a 16-20 session evidence based program for individuals addressing criminal thinking errors and conduct. Although the errors discussed are considered “criminal thinking” they are present in all persons to varying degrees. Offenders take these errors to the extreme which then develops into patterns of thinking and behavior that continually victimize and harm others.

Pretrial Services Staff



LifeLight Program Facilitators
Danielle Neal and LaShonda Dancy



Deneka Kirby Supervisor Clerical Services
Nakia Kirkwood Supervisor Court Operations

For more information regarding Pretrial Services contact
Kenneth Osborne at Kenneth.Osborne@shelbycountyttn.gov.





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Investment in Knowledge Pays the Best Interest

Ben Franklin once said that “an investment in knowledge pays the best interest.” Child and social service advocates have recommended funding pre-kindergarten for our children. Both County and City Mayors have funded or committed funding to support the growth and development of our youngest minds. With the dedication of tax dollars devoted to educating the minds of our youth, one must question the impact that having access to pre-kindergarten has on a child.

Tamera Malone, a Lead Education Specialist for Aspire Public Schools in the Achievement School District at Hanley Ele-

mentary, notes that early learning and early literacy are critical for children’s long-term success. Research suggests that there should be a solid educational foundation in place before entering kindergarten. Students should enter kindergarten already knowing fundamentals such as the alphabet, numbers and colors.



Sadly, in many cases, students are not afforded the opportunities to learn due to circumstances such as parents not devoting time to toddlers due to work, the parent’s lack of education, or other situations such as struggles with poverty. Memphis’s high poverty rates place the city in a unique

position to promote change. Research shows that at-risk or disadvantaged students make real progress once they enter Pre-K, giving our community the opportunity to raise the literacy rates in the county’s most poverty stricken areas.

Although increasing literacy rates is an important goal of early childhood education, the benefits of pre-kindergarten go beyond learning shapes, addition and reading. The benefits extend to social and cultural learning. Entering a Pre-K classroom gives students the opportunity to experience a more racially and economically diverse environment and to be exposed to

new and different ways of life. Children can learn to effectively interact with others who are similar and different from them. All of these factors have an effect on their long-term success. Research has shown that students who had access to and attended pre-kindergarten programs had positive developmental experiences and more easily transitioned through following grade levels. This research supports the case that pre-kindergarten is critical to our children’s education and to our city’s future.

Want to learn more about the discussion concerning Pre-K in Memphis? Click [here](#) to read the 2018 Early Education Plan.

Hunting for Great Talent

The Shelby County Division of Community Services has an immediate opening for the following position:

Manager A - Youth Assessment Center
Open until August 10th

To apply click [here](#) and to learn more about the Youth Assessment Center Framework, click [here](#).





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Operation Feed 2018




MID-SOUTH FOOD BANK
FEEDING THE NEED

The food and money you give to

Operation FEED

will be distributed to feeding programs in 31 counties to feed hungry people across West Tennessee, North Mississippi and East Arkansas.

For more information, visit www.midsouthfoodbank.org

In Mid-South Food Bank's service area, 23.3 percent of children are food insecure, according to the 2017 *Map the Meal Gap Hunger Study*. This study indicates that nearly one in every five (5) children are suffering from food deficiencies.

Even short-term nutritional deficiency can affect a child's health and ability to learn. The Mid-South Food Bank serves children in our region by distributing food through its partner agencies, and through hunger programs, such as Operation Feed.

Employees of Shelby County Government can help decrease these numbers by donating to the Mid-South Food Bank. With \$1.00, the Food Bank can supply three (3) meals.

Please consider making an online donation to the Mid-South Food Bank by going to www.midsouthfoodbank.org, click Donate and fill in the required information. In the Special Designation drop box, click on Shelby County Government.

National Intern Day

Thursday, July 26th was National Intern Day. We are so proud of our interns and consider it an incredible honor and responsibility to nurture and mentor our next generation leaders and employees. Check out this picture from our summer intern celebration.



Left to right: Justice Johnson, Joshua Adams, Khila Anderson and Daijah Brown.





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Community Spotlight: Remote Area Medical Clinic

Remote Area Medical (RAM) is a major nonprofit provider of mobile medical clinics. Their mission is to prevent pain and alleviate suffering by providing free, quality healthcare to those in need. They do this by delivering free dental, vision, and medical services to underserved and uninsured individuals. RAM's Corps of more than 120,000 Humanitarian Volunteers—licensed dental, vision, medical, and veterinary professionals—have treated more than 740,000 people and 67,000



animals, delivering \$120 million worth of free health care services for the past 33 years. This year Word of Life Seventh Day Adventist Church served as the host site for RAM to bring these much needed services to our community. The Shelby County Division of Community Services provided information on how access social services, such as counseling, veterans services, utility, rent, and mortgage assistance, and services for seniors. Click on the following links to learn more about [RAM](#), the [Shelby County Division of Community Services](#), or to [make a request for participation in your community event](#).

Find Us Around Town !

Shelby County Division of Community Services is Coming to a Location Near You!

Join Us at One of the Community Events Listed Here to receive information about the following :

- Services for older adults & adults with disabilities
- Rent , mortgage, utility & medical prescription assistance
- Services for multicultural & Hispanic individuals
- Mental health services
- Veterans services
- Crime Victim services

***Services available on site at these events

Click here to invite us to your event or organization.

**AUGUST 10TH
8:30AM**

**MLGW NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERS CONFERENCE
4949 RALEIGH-LAGRANGE**

**AUGUST 18TH
10AM**

MEMPHIS HEALTH CENTER BACK TO SCHOOL COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR, 360 E.H. CRUMP

**AUGUST
TIME TBA**

WKNO – THE BEST TIME – FEATURE EPISODE ON CREA (COORDINATED RESPONSE TO ELDER ABUSE) PARTNERSHIP WITH SANDY BROMLEY, CVC/ RCC ON WITH FAMILY SAFETY CENTER AND BAPTIST HOSPITAL

**SEPTEMBER
12TH 1PM**

METHODIST LEBONHEUR HEALTH FAIR, RIVERVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER, 1891 KANSAS SR

**SEPTEMBER
15TH 9AM**

PRE-OCTOBER FEST KINGDOM FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, 3735 NORTH TREZEVA NT

