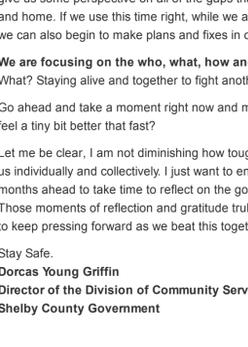




COVID-19 COMMUNITY RESOURCES | Financial Help | Seniors & Adults with Disabilities | Veterans | Crime Victims | Crime Victims | Justice Involved

How to Access Services Remotely During COVID-19. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. For Help with your bills, For Seniors and Adults with Disabilities, For Victims of All Crime, For Those Facing Incarceration, For Veterans, For Phone and Web Outreach.

How to Access Services Remotely During COVID-19. Essential Services from our Partners. MIFA for Shelby County residents, MHA for MHA assistance, MHA for MHA assistance, MHA for MHA assistance.



Director's Message Our Response to Coronavirus

It has been 5 weeks since the first Safe At Home order was issued in Shelby County. It has been 53 days since the first diagnosed case of COVID-19 was announced in Shelby County. It has been 1,296 hours and 24 minutes since my son last saw his class and teachers in person (but who's counting?).

In spite of all of this, I have found that there is much good that has also been born in the midst of so many challenges. Admittedly when I get little discouraged, I make a "List of Good" on my paper or in my head that I have personally found during these days and times:

We are finding new ways to stay connected. Zoom, Go To Meeting, Microsoft Teams, FaceTime and Facebook Live. Okay, it is a lot. I get it. I must admit though I actually get to interact with some co-workers, community partners and even my family and friends more now than I did before.

We realize that we are more interconnected than we realized or believed. There has never been a time that we understood more clearly that the choices that we make absolutely matter to each other. Case in point, social distancing.

We are figuring out things we had said "can't be done that way". It is amazing how out of the box we begin to think about everything when we have no way of continuing to do things as we are used to doing them.

We are thinking about what it really means to be prepared. Unprecedented times give us some perspective on all of the gaps that we may have in preparedness at work and home. If we use this time right, while we are responding to this overwhelming crisis, we can also begin to make plans and fixes in our future responses to potential.

We are focusing on the who, what, how and where matters. Who? Each Other. What? Stay alive and together to fight another day. How and Where? #TogetherApart

Go ahead and take a moment right now and make your own "List of Good". Don't you feel a tiny bit better that fast?

Let me be clear, I am not diminishing how tough this new abnormal has been for us individually and collectively. I just want to encourage us in the hard days, weeks and months ahead to take time to reflect on the good that has come even during this time. Those moments of reflection and gratitude truly will give us the momentum we will need to keep pressing forward as we beat this together.

Stay Safe. Dorcas Young Griffin Director of the Division of Community Services Shelby County Government



Aging Commission of the Mid-South Touching Lives One Meal at a Time

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, The Aging Commission of the Mid-south has been able to help provide meals to hundreds of seniors in need. The agency received special funding from The Families First Coronavirus Response Act and they were able to partner with locally owned restaurants to help ease the minds of Shelby County senior residents.

It was an amazing experience to be able to serve and help those in need. One caller said she had just said a prayer asking for help when her phone rang and it was The Aging Commission on the other end. The Aging Commission was able to answer many prayers and urgent requests with the help of the following restaurants: Sweet Peas, Stone Soup, and The Four Way Grill, just to name a few.

We are the single-entry point for seniors and adults with disabilities to make a connection in their lives. And we remain open. Because each person we serve has different needs, a phone call remains your best option. Call us at 901-222-4111.

Community Services Agency Assistance is Available Throughout the Division. The financial loss in Shelby County is stark and widespread but many have already received much needed help through the Division. The Community Services Agency continues to provide qualified Shelby County residents with financial assistance for your utility bills, rent/mortgage, and medical prescription payments for uninsured and under insured citizens.

Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center On the Frontlines of Sexual Violence

Even during this pandemic, our nurses and advocates are here for you. April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and the team at the CVRCC have been actively working to educate the community about sexual violence, helping those cope with the trauma who've experienced it, and prioritizing prevention.

1 in 5 women will experience sexual violence in the United States. 1 in 6 boys will be sexually assaulted by the age of 18. Girls and women age 16-19 are four times more likely to be sexually assaulted. 21% of transgender college students have been sexually assaulted and it is estimated that 47% of transgender people have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives. 80% of sexual assault victims know the perpetrator. It's estimated that only 30% of all elderly victims of sexual abuse report the crime to the police. 16% is the national reporting rate for all sexual assault.

Teens are most at risk of experiencing sexual violence. That's why CVRCC prioritizes prevention efforts and works closely with Shelby County Schools, Girls Inc, A Step Ahead, Heal 901, Restore Corps, and Bridges so that we can talk about consent and healthy relationships with our community's most vulnerable. Our staff and families collected donations for Restore Corps Memphis who help to empower survivors of human trafficking. There are so many partners providing much needed services during this pandemic and we applaud them all.

The CVRCC is here for all victims of crime and is taking necessary precautions to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 for our partners, staff, and victims of crime. But we remain open by telephone, video, and online.

We will continue to provide sexual assault forensic exams for victims of sexual violence 24/7/365. Law enforcement will proceed as usual calling dispatch to request an exam. We will continue to monitor updates from General Sessions court and assess the safety concerns for each client seeking an order of protection.

Reach us by phone 901-222-3950 or online: www.shelbycountyttn.gov/cvccc and scroll down for access to our online request for help.

Division of Community Services Mental and Behavioral Health Resources during COVID-19. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. Mental and Behavioral Health Resources during COVID-19. DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES. How to Access Services Remotely During COVID-19.

Division of Community Services FRESH KITS

WE WILL PROVIDE YOUTH FRESH KITS AT THE LISTED MEAL SITES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE YMCA OF MEMPHIS & THE MID-SOUTH AND OUR YOUTH PROGRAM PARTNERS. MAY 8, 2020 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

- FRESH KITS: SHAMPOO, DEODORANT, TOOTHBRUSH, TOOTH PASTE, DENTAL FLOSS, LAUNDRY DETERGENT, RESOURCE GUIDE. LOCATIONS: DAVIS YMCA, HICKORY HILL COMMUNITY CENTER, LESTER CENTER, OAK GROVE M.B.

Fresh Kits for Youth

During these times of unprecedented need, we are happy to be able to support program partners in the delivery of essential items for youth living in Shelby County. Up to 1,000 Fresh Kits will be distributed to program partners and distributed in collaboration with several upcoming meal distributions through the YMCA of Memphis and the Mid-South.

For more information about the availability of Fresh Kits, please contact Jamal Whitlow, Youth Initiatives Program Manager at Jamal.Whitlow@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Veterans Services Veterans Must Act by May 5 for Additional Benefits. Veterans Receiving Disability Benefits Automatically Receive up to \$1200 Stimulus Payments, But Must File for Dependents - by MAY 5, 2020.

Our Office Is Still Open To Serve You During the Pandemic. You served us during tough times, and we are here to serve you during these tough times.

Meet Our New Veterans Services Officer, Mike Davis. Shelby County Veterans Services Office is pleased to announce the addition of Mike Davis. Serving along with current VSO, Mike Ellis, Mike Davis can help you file for benefits claims, obtain service records, and provide counsel and other assistance to veterans and their families.

- If you think you are eligible for compensation, disability, survivors, death or other benefits. If you are already receiving benefits and think that you are entitled to more benefits. If you need a copy of your DD214 or other service records.

Division of Community Services Social Distanced But Still CONNECTED

We are open, and we're still connecting with our community in ways old and new. Please share our page to friends and partners on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for the most up-to-date information and to send direct messages to get answers to your questions.

Our staff is using phone, email, online information, video chatting, and social media to continue to serve you. Email CommunityServicesInfo@shelbycountyttn.gov, call 901-222-3990, or visit us at www.shelbycountyttn.gov/community-services.

Where Human Needs and Government Intersect

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 well-being and justice. We strive to be a highly organized team and partner, dedicated to promoting a strong community where all people are able to reach their full potential.

STAFF NEWS

Wishing you a very HAPPY BIRTHDAY. PAULA JONES Community Services Agency, TIFFANY HILSON Office of Justice Initiatives, ANNETTE MATHEWS Aging Commission, DYLAN KENNEDY Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center, TOYA MASON Director's Office, ERICA WATSON Aging Commission, WILLA HILL Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center, LAURA POUNDER Aging Commission, ADRIENNE WAITS Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center, RAFAELLA ANGELIDOU Pretrial Services, GENINA NEWMON Community Services Agency, AYANA BAKER Community Engagement & Outreach, REKITA MILAN Pretrial Services, TEMESA LEWIS Pretrial Services, GEORGE RUTHERFORD Community Services Agency, FRANKIE NUNNERY Aging Commission.

Shelby County Government Division of Community Services Office of Community Engagement & Outreach 1060 Madison Avenue, Memphis TN 38104 901-222-3990 | CommunityServicesInfo@ShelbyCountyTN.gov

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