Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

Community and Rural Development

- Community and Rural Development Calendar

➢ Agriculture, Agribusiness

TN Department of Agriculture – TN Dept of Agriculture Department Contacts

TN Department of Agriculture – Regional Coordinators:

West – Colleen Coury – colleen.coury@tn.gov
Middle – Boyd Barker – boyd.barker@tn.gov
East – Jessie Campbell – jessie.campbell@tn.gov

Dept of Agriculture overview

Division of Forestry

Pick TN Products

Agribusiness – Business Development – Keith Harrison – Keith.Harrison@tn.gov

UT Extension offices in every county – click on link to go directly to county

UT Extension regions:
Community Development, Health, Housing, Safety

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development
Community and Rural Development
- Community and Rural Development Calendar

TN Dept. of Health – TN Vital Signs
TN Dept. of Health has locations in each county.
Healthy Development Coordinators serve through the Dept. of Health as regional resources.
TN.gov website (Health programs including Built Environment Grant info)

Healthy Development Coordinators
Tennessee Department of Health

- West
  Tim King
tim.king@tn.gov
731.884.2645

- Upper Cumberland
  Currently Hiring

- East
  Cameron Taylor
cameron.taylor@tn.gov
865.549.5317

- Mid-Cumberland
  Sara Cox
sara.m.cox@tn.gov
615.263.4736

- South Central
  Shay Smith
shay.l.smith@tn.gov
931.490.6373

- Southeast
  Kelly Ware
kelly.ware@tn.gov
931.490.8353

The office of Primary Prevention website provides Health and Built Environment Guides including:
- Access to Health Grants
- Built Environment Funding Options
- Project Diabetes Grants
  - Healthy Community Design Training
  - Livable Community Checklist

Trauma Informed Approach to Workforce

TN Housing Development Agency
Housing was identified as a priority need across the state as TNECD held the community listening forums in the fall of 2021. If you have a success story around housing to share with us, please call or email me.
THDA
TN Commission on Aging and Disability –
Regional offices (click link here)

TN Department of Human Services
Here is a list of services and contact information: click here
Publications and Manuals

➢ Downtowns, Retail, Small Business, Entrepreneur

Downtown Vitality:
Main Street – TN Downtowns: Nancy Williams - Nancy.Williams@tn.gov

Small Business:
Wisty Pender – Business Enterprise Resource/SmartStart Guides – Wisty.Pender@tn.gov
Launch TN: TN Investco
Opportunity Zones: Resource page
TNECD contact for the above programs: Lamont Price – Lamont.Price@tn.gov
TN Chamber of Commerce and Industry: Website
Pathway Lending: website
Small Business Development Centers: website

Entrepreneurship: Various resources and contacts include:
Lamont Price – Lamont.Price@tn.gov
Wisty Pender – Business Enterprise Resource and SmartStart Guides – Wisty.Pender@tn.gov
Nancy Williams – Nancy.Williams@tn.gov

Placemakers - Placemakers leverage local assets (human and natural) in a way that impacts the cultural, economic and social aspects of their community to intentionally create a good sense of place and enhance a strong sense of community and well-being.
TN Placemakers Entrepreneurship Fund –

Historic Development Grant Program: - Resource to assist redevelopment of shuttered historic buildings to create jobs and increase economic impact. Logan McCoy – logan.mccoy@tn.gov

American Rescue Plan – Goal to assist communities in pandemic recovery through broadband expansion and investments in water and wastewater. Taylre Beaty – Taylre.Beaty@tn.gov
Education and Workforce Development

**TNECD Workforce Development:** Director - Ann Thompson – ann.thompson@tn.gov


**Governor’s Early Literacy Foundation**

- Imagination Library
- K-3rd Grade Summer Reading
- Caregiver Engagement
- Book Bus
- Storybook Trail

Governor’s Early Literacy Foundation – formerly known as: Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation. This link will take you directly to the county specific affiliate contact search

**TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development**

Dept. of Labor and Workforce - Workforce Development

**Tennessee Higher Education Commission**

THEC – [County Profiles link](#)

**TN Department of Education**

TN Department of Education – [Vision and Priorities](#)

**TN Pathways** [https://www.tbr.edu/tennessee-pathways/](https://www.tbr.edu/tennessee-pathways/)

Program Directors: Ellen Bohle [Ellen.Bohle@tbr.edu](mailto:Ellen.Bohle@tbr.edu) and Pam Sieffert [Pamela.Sieffert@tbr.edu](mailto:Pamela.Sieffert@tbr.edu)

Regional Coordinators

Greater Memphis: Kenderek Harris – [kenderek.harris@tbr.edu](mailto:kenderek.harris@tbr.edu)

Northwest: vacant

Southwest: Lori Burdine – [lori.burdine@tbr.edu](mailto:lori.burdine@tbr.edu)

Southern Middle: vacant

Northern Middle: Ellen Gomez – [ellen.gomez@tbr.edu](mailto:ellen.gomez@tbr.edu)

Upper Cumberland: Amy Profant – [amy.profant@tbr.edu](mailto:amy.profant@tbr.edu)

Southeast: Cydnie Strahan – [cydnie.strahan@tbr.edu](mailto:cydnie.strahan@tbr.edu)
East: Danny Satterfield – daniel.satterfield@tbr.edu
Northeast: Mary Beth Oxendine Woodby – mary.oxendinewoodby@tbr.edu

** Tennessee Workforce Development System **
Apprenticeship TN

https://www.tn.gov/apprenticeshiptn.html

** Tennessee Board of Regents **
TBR.edu

** Blue: Technical College  -  Red: Community College **

Click here for more information Community Colleges -
 ➢ **Industrial Development, Sites, Infrastructure, Broadband, Roadways**

**TNECD - Broadband:** Taylre Beaty [Taylre.Beaty@tn.gov](mailto:Taylre.Beaty@tn.gov) and Emily You [Emily.H.You@tn.gov](mailto:Emily.H.You@tn.gov)

**TNECD - Select TN / Site Development / Property Evaluation:** Site Development – Kirby Lewis – [kirby.lewis@tn.gov](mailto:kirby.lewis@tn.gov)

**TNECD - Infrastructure Planning Grant:** Brooxie Carlton - [brooxie.carlton@tn.gov](mailto:brooxie.carlton@tn.gov)

**TNECD - Federal Programs:** Community Development Block Grants, Appalachian Regional Commission, Delta Regional Authority – Brooxie Carlton – [brooxie.carlton@tn.gov](mailto:brooxie.carlton@tn.gov)  
Kent Archer – [kent.archer@tn.gov](mailto:kent.archer@tn.gov)  
Logan McCoy – [logan.mccoy@tn.gov](mailto:logan.mccoy@tn.gov)

**Tennessee Department of Transportation**

TDOT provides assistance in community planning, transportation plans, regional planning, guidance for signage, transportation related ADA compliance, and more.

**TDOT State Industrial Access Program** –  
The Strategic Transportation Investments Division provides strategic support for projects that addresses safety, congestion, and economic development needs across the state.

**TDOT Office of Community Transportation**

D. STACY MORRISON | OCT Planning Manager  
[0] 615-532-3456  
[stacy.morrison@tn.gov](mailto:stacy.morrison@tn.gov)

The **Community Transportation Planning Supervisor** for each region are:
- Region 1: Troy Ebbert – [Troy.J.Ebbert@tn.gov](mailto:Troy.J.Ebbert@tn.gov)  
- Region 2: Andrea Noel – [Andrea.Noel@tn.gov](mailto:Andrea.Noel@tn.gov)  
- Region 3: Jonathan Russell – [Jonathan.Russell@tn.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Russell@tn.gov)  
- Region 4: Antoine Hawkins – [Antoine.Hawkins@tn.gov](mailto:Antoine.Hawkins@tn.gov)
TDOT also has jurisdiction concerning:

- **Signage**: Joseph Sweat – Joseph.Sweat@tn.gov
- **ADA compliance** on roadway related items: Margaret Mahler - TDOT.ADA@tn.gov

*Tennessee Code Annotated 7-31-114*, “Every incorporated city and town shall install ramps at crosswalks, in both business and residential areas, when making new installations of sidewalks, curbs or gutters, or improving or replacing existing sidewalks, curbs or gutters, so as to make the transition from street to sidewalk easily negotiable for persons with disabilities in wheelchairs and for other persons who may have difficulty in making the required step up or down from curb level to street level.”

Additional ADA resources: Brett Heising – BrettApproved.com

➢ **Tourism, Recreation, Parks, Historical/Cultural, Arts**

**Tourist Development**

TN Dept. of Tourist Development

TNVacation.com

Zach Ledbetter – Director of Outreach and Engagement:

Tennessee Dept. of Tourist Development has Division Managers for the three Grand Divisions that serve the counties within the state. Each community can create pages within the TNVacation.com website to promote their attractions and events.

- Dave Jones, East TN Division Manager – Dave.Jones@tn.gov
- Marty Mabry, West TN Division Manager – Marty.Marbry@tn.gov
- Ashley DeRossett, Middle TN Division Manager – Ashley.DeRossett@tn.gov

TDTD provides assistance and grants to assist with Marketing Assistance Grant

There are also nine Tourism Regional Directors that are recognized by the state as the official regional tourism organizations, however they are not state departments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>Julie Graham</td>
<td><a href="mailto:9lakes.easttn@gmail.com">9lakes.easttn@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>865-585-0811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Nashville</td>
<td>Michelle Lacewell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlacewell@qnr.org">mlacewell@qnr.org</a></td>
<td>615-527-4203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memphis Area</td>
<td>Kesley Lamkin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:klamkin@maagov.org">klamkin@maagov.org</a></td>
<td>901-729-2871 x103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>Alicia Phelps</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alicia@northeasttennessee.org">alicia@northeasttennessee.org</a></td>
<td>423-262-0238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest</td>
<td>Interim: Caroline Gurton</td>
<td><a href="mailto:caregurt@ut.utm.edu">caregurt@ut.utm.edu</a></td>
<td>731-225-0053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>Amy Anderson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aanderson@sedev.org">aanderson@sedev.org</a></td>
<td>423-424-4222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>Ryan French</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ryan@experiencetn.com">ryan@experiencetn.com</a></td>
<td>931-273-6639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Cumberland</td>
<td>Patti Purdy</td>
<td><a href="mailto:uctourism@gmail.com">uctourism@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>931-510-7002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southwest</td>
<td>Mary Beth Hopper</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@visitswtenn.com">info@visitswtenn.com</a></td>
<td>731-616-7474</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hospitality TN (HTN)
The advocacy voice and source of information and education for the lodging, dining, and tourism establishments in Tennessee. Not a state department, this association assist hospitality related industry across Tennessee.

TN Arts Commission –
Not a state department, this commission is set by legislation and dedicated to improving the Arts throughout the state.

Arts Commission website
“The Tennessee Arts Commission was created in 1967 by the Tennessee General Assembly with the special mandate to stimulate and encourage the presentation of the visual, literary, music and performing arts and to encourage public interest in the cultural heritage of Tennessee.”

Available program and Grant info can be found here

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
Resources for parks, planning, recreation and infrastructure needs
- State Parks
- Recreation Services
- Water Resources

TWRA – Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency

TWRA website
Chris Richardson – (615) 837-6016 – chris.richardson@tn.gov
- Asian Carp
- Fishing and Boating access

Tennessee Development Districts

Tennessee Development Districts are regional planning and economic development organizations owned and operated by the cities and counties of Tennessee. The nine districts were established by the general assembly under the TN Development District Act of 1965.