

TDH Opportunities: Supporting Older Adults

STATEWIDE INITIATIVES

TDH's Office of Healthy Aging: Focuses on promoting healthy aging across the lifespan and strengthening dementia infrastructure through proactive, population-based health and well-being initiatives statewide. **Contacts: Sally Pitt, Director, Sally.Pitt@tn.gov, Chelsea Ridley, Aging Strategic Initiatives Director, Chelsea.Ridley@tn.gov, Rochelle Roberts, State Dementia Director, Rochelle.L.Roberts@tn.gov**

EngAGING Communities TN: To promote age and dementia-friendly communities, TDH is partnering with UT-Chattanooga's School of Nursing to provide faith-based organizations with education and resources on topics such as disaster planning, intergenerational activities, needs assessments, and educational workshops. **Contact: Dr. Kristi Wick, UT-Chattanooga School of Nursing at kristina-wick@utc.edu**

Tennessee Community Compass: Join the Tennessee Community Compass resource directory today and become an integral part of a statewide initiative dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Tennesseans. Trainings on how to get your programs listed and use the system are held every 2nd Tuesday and 4th Tuesday here. **Contact Allie Haynes allie@tnruralhealth.org for guidance on how to add your organizations free and reduced cost services to the resource directory.**

Health Council Community Connections: Tennessee's County Health Councils, active for 20 years, are crucial grassroots partners for local public health change. Comprised of diverse community members, they possess deep local knowledge to identify needs and implement tailored solutions. **Contact TDH at health.councils@tn.gov.**

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) Find App developed with Alzheimer's TN, enhances missing persons support, especially for older adults with cognitive impairments. It provides alerts, resources, and secure storage for critical information, including the TNCareKit feature for emergency preparedness. **For more information: <https://www.tn.gov/tbi/tennessees-missing-children/tbi-find-app.html>**



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Blue Zones: Blue Zones Projects, inspired by longevity hotspots, transform communities to promote well-being through healthy food, social connections, and walkable environments. By collaborating with local stakeholders, they implement changes to create a culture of healthy living.

Contact: Dr. Emma Davis at Emma.Davis2@tn.gov

Tennessee Department of Health: Nutrition Security Initiatives: We can address food needs by helping TDH identify food pantries and participating in a statewide coalition to prioritize nutrition security for all Tennesseans. **Contact: paige.h.summers@tn.gov**

Building Community: Faith-Based Housing Solutions for Tennessee: A Webinar Series (April- June 2025): The Tennessee Department of Health is launching an initiative to help faith-based organizations support their communities by developing affordable housing. Places of worship are community cornerstones. An institution's faithful stewardship of its underutilized space can help provide stable, healthy housing for those in need. Be part of a movement that builds healthier, more stable communities! **Contact: Donna Williams at Donna.Williams@tn.gov**

or Adriane Harris at aharris@harcoconsulting.com

