



2025 Tennessee Conference on  
Volunteerism & Service-Learning

## Higher Education Track

Monday, February 17 | Cool Springs Marriot, Franklin, TN

Room: Franklin

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

**Continental Breakfast**

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

**Higher Ed Track Registration**

8:00 – 9:00 a.m.

**Conference Welcome:** Terry Sliver, Volunteer Tennessee Commission Chair, & Kristin Henning, Miss Tennessee Teen Volunteer

**Plenary:** The Power of Belonging: How Volunteer Identity and the Psychology of Belongingness Shape Recruitment

Speaker: Dr. Kevin Dean, Executive Director, [Tennessee Nonprofit Network](#)

9:15 – 9:30 a.m.

**Track Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Higher Ed Track Committee

9:30 – 10:15 a.m.

**Focusing on Tennessee Student Engagement**

Presenters: Hannah McKay, Miss Tennessee Volunteer; Kristin Henning, Miss Tennessee Teen Volunteer; Jamie Cyphers, UTK; Scott Jenkinson, ETSU

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Workshop 1: Student Success and Graduation Rates Associated with Enrollment in Multiple Experiential Learning High Impact Courses (MTSU)**

Presenters: Janet McCormick, Dr. Jim Rost, & Carol Swayze

**Workshop 2: Caring for Community...A Discovery of Service-Learning (MTSU)**

Presenters: Dr. Barbara Whitman & Elaine Covington

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Lunch & Panel Discussion: Multigenerational Panel Discussion around Volunteer Recruitment, Retention and Recognition**

Moderator: Rebecca Nofi, Greater Nashville Regional Council

1:15 – 2:15 p.m.

**Workshop 1: Developing Online Courses with Virtual Service-Learning Opportunities (UT-Knox)**

Presenter: Jamie Cyphers

**Workshop 2: Increasing the emphasis on service-learning in future STEM graduates: a workshop on building cross-campus partnerships (UT-Knox)**

Presenters: Laura Knight, Jessica Jeffries & Dr. Betsy Chesnutt

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Workshop 1: Building Effective Community Partnerships for Successful Community-Based Learning & Career Readiness (ETSU)**

Presenter: Teresa Taylor

**Workshop 2: Beyond the Blood Drives: Youth Engagement with the American Red Cross (MTSU)**

Presenters: Madison Staggs & Amy Atchinson

3:45 – 4:45 p.m.

**Resource Fair/Poster Presentations**

*(A poster presentation is a visual and interactive way for college students to showcase their research, projects, or ideas. Students create a large-format poster summarizing their work, including key points such as the purpose, methods, results, and conclusions. During the event, students stand by their posters to engage with attendees, answer questions, and discuss their findings. This format allows for dynamic exchanges and networking while giving students experience in effectively communicating their work.)*

***Register today!***

*Encouraging Volunteerism & Community Service*

[tn.gov/volunteer-tennessee](http://tn.gov/volunteer-tennessee) | [volunteer.tennessee@tn.gov](mailto:volunteer.tennessee@tn.gov)