



UNITED WAY OF THE MID-SOUTH

DRIVING THE DREAM

POVERTY to PROSPERITY NEWS

July 2020



Driving The Dream: Impacting Critical Needs

From multi-domain crisis to living the life of her choosing

Katherine was referred to one of DTD's five Care Coordination Hubs by a family member in December 2019. During that time, Katherine reported being in a crisis for housing, credit repair, and transportation. The only home Katherine knew, was now being sold, which left her desperate to find a place of her own. This concerned Katherine as she applied for an apartment because her credit was not the best. Not only that, but Katherine also faced several other challenges as well as she is intellectually disabled. Although faced with these challenges, Katherine was able to find a full-time job at a national hardware store, earning the income needed to support herself financially. After enrollment into the program in January 2020, Katherine agreed to work intensively with the Care Coordinator to reach her goals and stability. Katherine then applied for housing at an apartment complex located by the Care Coordinator, where she received approval in March 2020. Katherine is excited to move into her new apartment at the end of the month. Her Care Coordinator is continuing to support her throughout this process and all other goals.

Driving The Dream is the solution:

83% of DTD Care Coordination clients reported increased stability in housing

66% of DTD reported improvements in employment

76% reported increased income

73% reported improvements in transportation or mobility

77% reported improved financial management skills

United Way's Relief Call Center Powered by Driving The Dream

- 609 requests total (since April)
- 345 calls received July 1-17
- Top requests:
 - Income (236)
 - Shelter/Housing (241)
 - Food & Nutrition (48)
 - Healthcare (16)
 - Employment (14)

Tennessee Department of Human Services COVID-19 Relief Programs

TDHS is supporting essential workers by offering **Essential Worker Child Care Payment Assistance**. Applications and details on Child Care Payment Assistance for Essential Workers is also available on our [website](#).

Emergency Cash Assistance for Families Affected by COVID-19 offers two monthly cash payments to Tennessee families that experienced a loss of income (50% or more) due to COVID-19. Read qualifications and additional details on the TDHS [website](#). Our goal is to help as many of our fellow Tennesseans who qualify as possible by the **extended August 29, 2020 application deadline**.

Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) provides parents with \$5.70 in food benefits per child for each day that child qualifies and is designed to replace meals lost during the months of March, April and May due to COVID-19 school closures. **The application period has been extended to July 27, 2020 at 4:30 pm.** [Learn more](#)

Individuals who need assistance completing their P-EBT application or have general questions about the program are encouraged to call the TDHS hotline at 1-833-496-0661.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Dress for Success Memphis - Join the women and volunteers of Dress for Success for an hour of networking and learning at these upcoming Virtual Workshops.

- Upskill with Technology for a Purpose Driven Career - [Register](#)

Driving The Dream Systems Training: CaseWorthy - [Register](#)

For assistance with the CaseWorthy system, including training and login issues, please contact Candace.Sanders@uwmidssouth.org. For all other questions or concerns related to DTD technical systems, please contact Eric.Burden@uwmidssouth.org.

Momentum Nonprofit Partners and the Community Foundation are partnering to offer virtual trainings, free and open to any Mid-South nonprofit - [Register](#) for an upcoming session

Momentum Nonprofit Partners, in partnership with The Institute of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership in the University of Memphis Department of Nonprofit Administration, is hosting their annual nonprofit conference as a virtual summit--Now & Beyond! Virtual Summit. [Learn more & Register](#)

Partner Agency Updates

For now, almost all of our DTD partner agencies are staying put and have not yet implemented plans to reopen. We will share status and reopening plans as they become available from our partners.

- **Community Foundation of Greater Memphis** will award Mid-South COVID-19 Regional Response Fund grants to stabilize nonprofit organizations that are directly responding to the significant consequences of, and disparities exacerbated by, this public health crisis. [Learn more](#)
- **Memphis/Shelby County Eviction Settlement Fund** - The Eviction Settlement Fund aims to provide rental assistance, legal support, and housing counseling services to people currently facing an eviction proceeding. Tenants facing eviction can submit an intake form [here](#).
- **Shelby County Community Services Agency** has funding available through its [Utility Assistance Program](#) and is currently accepting applications by drop-off, mail, or email. Returning individuals who previously received assistance between 10/1/2017 and 9/30/2019 are eligible to apply [online at this link](#).
- **Shelby County Schools (SCS) Return Stronger S.A.F.E. Plan for 2021 School Re-Entry** - In an effort to better support our families, we are extending the period for parents to select a fall learning option. The deadline for parents to submit their choice will now be 11:59pm on July 24.

In addition to allowing more time, we will be extending our call center hours (901-416-5300) to 7am-7pm Monday through Friday to assist families with questions about the option or accessing their PowerSchool account. We will also continue to update our FAQs so families have as much information as possible to make an informed choice for their child.

Find more information and a video PowerSchool walkthrough at scsk12.org/learningoptions.

DTD Updates

If your agency has an update to share, please email Chelsea.Brock@uwmidssouth.org or Karlescia.Brookins@uwmidssouth.org so we can maintain accurate information. Additionally, you can contact your associate to provide, or receive, updated information.

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