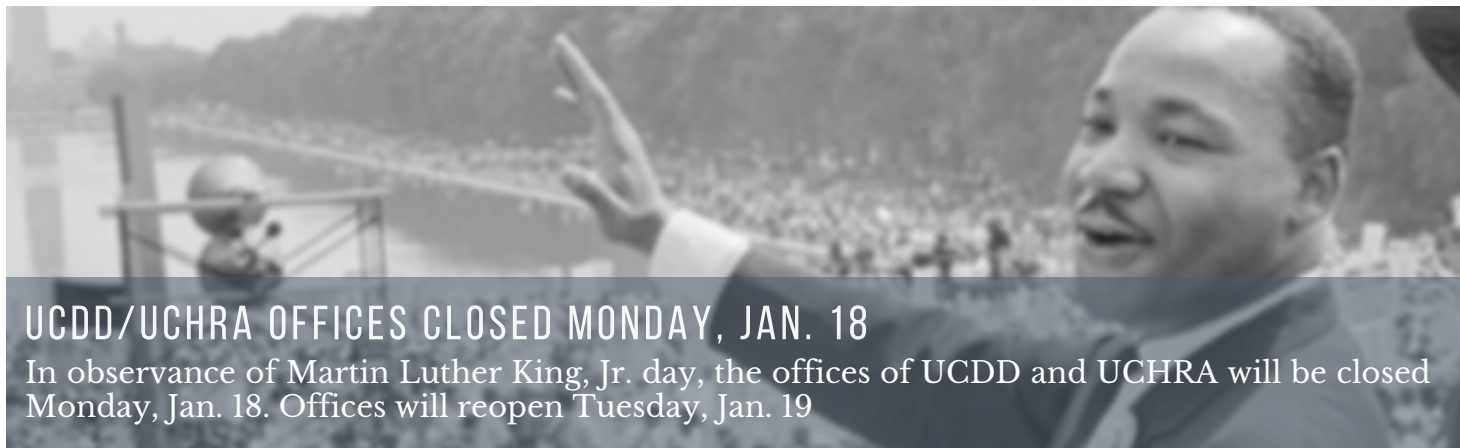




*A moment to focus on the good our team is doing every day*



## UCDD/UCHRA OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY, JAN. 18

In observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day, the offices of UCDD and UCHRA will be closed Monday, Jan. 18. Offices will reopen Tuesday, Jan. 19

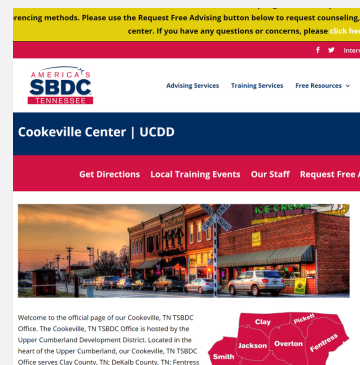
### *Out in the Field*

#### UCDD/SBDC CONTINUES OFFERING ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY COVID-19

UCDD/SBDC has COVID money available for businesses to bolster their websites for free. Business owners work closely with a contractor to create a personalized product. Clients may also take advantage of accounting and legal assistance.

In addition to website development, accounting, and legal services, SBDC can also help connect business owners to other available resources. A second round of paycheck protection funds or PPP money was recently announced. SBDC is also working collaboratively to offer a Restaurant Recovery program for the owners and operators of eateries in the Upper Cumberland.

For more information, contact SBDC at UCDD by calling (931) 520-6081.



## UCHRA CASE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST CIARA PHARRIS RECEIVES HUMAN SERVICES B.A. DEGREE



Ciara Pharris recently completed her studies to receive her Bachelor of Arts degree. Her major, Human Services, ties closely with the work Ciara does for UCHRA. She says this opportunity has provided her with the education necessary to better deliver support to the individuals and families UCHRA serves; to stabilize their life and assist them in obtaining self-sufficiency.

As a Community Services Case Management Specialist I, Ciara works closely with individuals and families who need assistance navigating through community resources by identifying goals and overcoming barriers preventing them from achieving employment and education goals, and obtaining self-sufficiency. Ciara says a degree in Human Services seemed like the best fit for her career; providing her with the education necessary to better deliver support to the individuals and families UCHRA serves; to

stabilize their life and assist them in obtaining self-sufficiency. It's a subject Ciara says also dives deeply into the role of government and non-profit agencies' funding, structure, and how they impact our communities. Ciara says she cannot begin to describe any success or accomplishment in her life without first giving thanks to her husband and family. Her coworkers also provided plenty of support along the way.

"Balinda Westmoreland, my co-worker, has been my friend, mentor, and biggest cheerleader at work, Ciara said. "She has a wonderful way of bringing out confidence and encouraging you to succeed. Lastly, I would like to thank UCHRA for providing me the opportunity to work here while not only completing my degree but gaining even more experience in this field as well."