

Positively UC

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



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TEAMWORK! EMPLOYEES STEP IN TO ASSIST WITH COMMODITIES

The commodities program, which is part of UCHRA's Community Services department, needed help bagging commodities. The call went out and UCHRA answered! Thanks to all the Community Services, Empower Upper Cumberland, UCHRA Public Transportation, and Administrative staff that came out and helped bag commodities items. We appreciate you!

\$15K GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR SOMEONE IN RECOVERY WITH SMALL BUSINESS IDEA

UCDD in conjunction with Recovery2Work and The Biz Foundry has announced an opportunity to make the small business dreams of someone in recovery a reality with a \$15,000 grant! The grant will be administered by The Biz Foundry.

Submissions are due Sept. 19. Visit facebook.com/ucddconnect for full details and contact Mikel Miller at mmiller@ucdd.org for more information.



Thank you to all who attended the kickoff planning meeting for the 2022 Senior & Caregiver Expo earlier this week!

We were thrilled to see representatives from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Buckeye Home Medical Equipment/Quality Home Health, Upper Cumberland Habitat for Humanity, Avalon Hospice, Heritage Pointe Senior Living, Cookeville Regional Medical Center, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency, Kindred Hospice, and Home Instead - Cookeville, Crossville, and the Upper Cumberland.

2022 SENIOR & CAREGIVER EXPO PLANNING UNDERWAY



UCDD/AAAD'S HITCHCOCK NAMED SMP FRAUD PREVENTION'S FINEST

Upper Cumberland Development District (UCDD) and Area Agency on Aging and Disability (AAAD) employee Loni Hitchcock has received national recognition for her work; being named Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Fraud Prevention's Finest for the month of August 2022.

According to the Administration for Community Living (ACL), the Fraud Prevention's Finest award goes to an SMP team member who consistently excels in casework, outreach, or partnership, models best practices, and encourages their SMP peers to improve upon their efforts in these areas.

"You are receiving this award because of the fantastic SMP partnership and casework-related efforts that you have done for the Tennessee SMP," the notice from ACL continued. "Loni, overall, you are dedicated to helping beneficiaries with their complaints, and it shows through your complex casework."

Hitchcock, a nine-year employee of the Development District, serves as the State SMP Coordinator, tracking Medicare fraud and helping beneficiaries avoid falling victim to scams. She also serves as Chair of the Tennessee Vulnerable Adult Coalition, Secretary of the Upper Cumberland Adult Abuse Coalition, and Tennessee's Federation on Aging Conference Planning Committee.



In addition to her dedication to her role and those served, Hitchcock excels in delivering her complex cases, ensuring they are always complete and easy to understand. She has also completed complex interactions-related training, evident in her SMP-related-referral processes, and shares her casework experiences and provides feedback to her SMP peers on the SMP Monthly Networking Calls and in the most recent conference sessions.

"This is a remarkable national recognition," said Holly Williams, UC AAAD Director, said. We are proud of the work that Loni has accomplished and continues to accomplish through casework, educational outreach, and partnerships to help empower and assist Medicare beneficiaries and their families. Loni is a great asset to the State of Tennessee and the Upper Cumberland."

WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION

To help the Upper Cumberland region cultivate self-sufficiency and build true wealth through innovation, collaboration, and leadership.

OUR VISION

A region abundant in resources, fostering a productive and vibrant life for the people of the Upper Cumberland.

get  plugged in.

Follow us on social media for the latest updates.





SIXTEEN UC SENIOR CENTERS AWARDED \$8K GRANTS

The Upper Cumberland Area Agency on Aging and Disability (UCAAAD) is happy to announce that 16 of our 19 contracted senior centers received an \$8,000 grant provided by the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD). TCAD received a non-recurring allocation in the amount of \$1 million from the Tennessee General Assembly to distribute to senior centers across the state through a competitive grant process. The following Upper Cumberland Senior Centers received the grant:

- ALEXANDRIA SENIOR CENTER IN DEKALB COUNTY
- ALGOOD SENIOR CENTER
- BAXTER SENIOR CENTER
- BYRDSTOWN SENIOR CENTER
- CANNON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
- CLAY COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
- FAIR PARK SENIOR CENTER IN CUMBERLAND COUNTY
- FENTRESS COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
- FAIRVIEW AND GRANVILLE CENTERS IN JACKSON COUNTY
- MCMINNVILLE-WARREN COUNTY CENTER
- MONTEREY SENIOR CENTER OVERTON COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
- PUTNAM COUNTY SENIOR CENTER IN COOKEVILLE
- VAN BUREN COUNTY SENIOR CENTER
- SPARTA-WHITE COUNTY SENIOR CENTER

It was encouraged that the funding through this grant opportunity could be used to support goals such as, but not limited to: capital projects (building improvements/equipment, outreach, and education, programming/activities, and/or routine operating expenses).

Thank You

The following excerpt was taken from a thank you letter submitted to UCHRA Public Transportation by a Shuttle UC client.

“

I WANT TO THANK UCHRA FOR PROVIDING EFFICIENT AND VERY AFFORDABLE SUBSIDIZED COOKEVILLE-NASHVILLE-COOKEVILLE BUS SHUTTLE SERVICE ... INDEED, UCHRA IS SO BLESSED WITH SUCH GOOD, KIND, HELPFUL, CARING, THOUGHTFUL, AND RESPONSIBLE EMPLOYEES WHICH ARE VERY HARD TO FIND THESE DAYS!

Cindy Lim

