

Positively UC

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



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LAY ANNOUNCES ACCEPTANCE TO HARVARD LAW

UCDD's Aaron Lay has been accepted to Harvard Law School! Founded in 1817, Harvard Law School is the oldest continuously operating law school in the United States.

Aaron first joined the UCDD team as a Special Projects intern before being hired full-time as an Economic Development Planner. He graduated from Tennessee Tech University in 2022 with a bachelor's degree in Agriculture

Communications with minors in Political Science and Journalism. He is also the recipient of the university's prestigious Derryberry Award.

While he will be greatly missed around the office, we are incredibly proud of Aaron and wish him and his family all the best in the journey ahead.

Congratulations, Aaron, and thank you for your dedicated service to the Upper Cumberland!



RECOGNIZING HEAD START STAFF



Congratulations to staff members at UCHRA's Van Buren County Head Start for earning credentials and certificates.

These credentials and certificates are earned through Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance at Tennessee Tech University. Dollie Thompson and Jamie Wood both earned the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential, and Briana Huddleston earned the Early Childhood Technical Certificate.

Way to go, ladies!

COMMITTEES APPROVE STAFF PAY INCREASES



The Upper Cumberland Development District and Human Resource Agency Executive Committees approved both budgets, for UCDD and UCHRA respectively, for the 2024 fiscal year.

Both budgets included a cost of living adjustment. Employees within both agencies will be receiving a 3 percent cost of living raise.

Also included in the UCDD budget, the addition of approximately 40 new parking spaces at the UCDD office.

UCHRA RECOGNIZES TUTCO FOR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERISM



Tutco, LLC, recently invited members of the UCHRA team to visit their facility and to see their community project in action!

UCHRA Deputy Director/Community Services Director LaNelle Godsey presented the TUTCO team with a certificate recognizing the team's continued support of UCHRA's commodities program. Several TUTCO employees regularly volunteer to pack commodities bags - they have even established an assembly area on-site to facilitate the process. Additionally, they have announced plans to begin assisting with distribution events as well.



We are incredibly grateful and thankful for their support and look forward to a continued partnership with our friends at TUTCO!



CASA PROGRAM MOVING OCT. 1

The Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency's (UCHRA) Court Appointed Special Advocates program, or CASA, will soon have a new administrator.



UCHRA's Executive Committee voted in favor of relinquishing the administrative and oversight of the agency's CASA program, which currently serves Cumberland, Overton, and Putnam counties, to CASA of Tennessee Valley later this year.

The decision was made amicably with the desire to see this program grow and flourish for many more years by aligning it with another CASA program thus strengthening both. As part of the transfer, UCHRA will also transfer all property and fundraising to CASA of Tennessee Valley as of Oct. 1, 2023.

TWICE AS NICE

Check out Pat Riley and LaNelle Godsey showing up to the office wearing nearly identical color palettes on Tuesday!

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.



Follow us on social media for the latest updates.



REMEMBERING JIM

Jim McCaleb passed away Monday, June 19, 2023. Jim dedicated over 20 years as an Options Counselor for the Area Agency on Aging and Disability. His caring and compassionate demeanor were the driving force that led to the positive impact he had on so many people. Jim improved the lives of many older adults and others with disabilities, primarily those in Cumberland, Putnam and White counties who were in need of in-home services and other types of assistance.

In addition to working at the Development District, he worked at Dyer Funeral Home and spent countless hours sharing his gifts of singing and piano playing at many churches in the area. Jim was a veteran having served our country in the Air Force division of the United States Armed Forces.

He will be dearly missed and never forgotten by his coworkers, his clients, and so many others!

