

Positively UC

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



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RIDE TO RECOVERY RECOGNIZED DURING ANNUAL TAHRA CONFERENCE



For the second consecutive year, UCHRA has received the Gordon Acuff Award of Excellence during the annual TAHRA (Tennessee Association of Human Resource Agencies) conference!

Ride to Recovery was recognized as an innovative service, providing a vital resource to residents of the Upper Cumberland by providing 90 days of transportation to desired recovery support service, treatment, meetings, mental health or probation appointments, and other recovery-related activities at no cost to the participants.

Ride-to-Recovery was developed following discussions, we found that many of our stakeholders lacked the staff, time, or means needed to transport their clients to needed recovery support services.

After speaking with clients, UCHRA staff received encouragement to provide a service that would help clients meet their early recovery goals by removing their transportation barriers. UCHRA Executive Director Mark Farley gave the green light

to begin building a recovery transportation system that would help the team gather quantitative data. Ride to Recovery began as an internally funded pilot project implemented in March of 2022. In June 2022, Ride-to-Recovery became a reimbursable recovery service in the TN Addictions Recovery Program within the Tennessee Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse.

As of July 2023, Ride to Recovery has provided 561 trips to 183 participants totaling more than 13,460 miles. Trips have consisted of transports from the local treatment center to various destinations such as treatment centers and long-term residential recovery programs inside and outside of the Upper Cumberland region.

The need for a more specialized program became evident leading to UCHRA applying for and receiving a grant from the National Center of Mobility Management. This funding allowed the agency to employ a state-certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS) to staff a Ride to Recovery specific vehicle. Having a CPRS driver has added tremendous value and community impact by filling gaps for those who utilize the Ride to Recovery Program as well as UCHRA as a whole.

This innovative program has created a resource to address a substantial problem in our region. By providing dedicated recovery transportation services our stakeholders are able to focus on the work they are meant to do while removing barriers for the people they serve.

Congratulations, team!

CANNON CO. SENIOR CENTER CELEBRATES VOLUNTEERS



2023 ROADEO WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Cannon County Senior Center recently held its Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. The theme, *You Keep Us Afloat*, consisted of a pool party-themed day with Beach Boys music, door prizes, and a catered meal along with ice-cream floats served by Deborah Leach, Senior Center Director.

Board members were recognized for their hard work and support along with the top 10 senior volunteers with the most volunteer hours. The Volunteer of the Year, 91-year-old Joyce Rice, had 795 volunteer hours. Their support and dedication to the senior center and the community is greatly appreciated!



Cutaway Division:

- 1: Jonny Maynard, Putnam County
- 2: John Carr, Putnam County
- 3: Lisa Woodard, Smith County

T350 Division:

- 1: Calvin Lawrenz, Cumberland County
- 2: Marshall York, Clay County
- 3: Ed Collins, Jackson County

Maintenance:

- 1: Joey Bitter, Mechanic
- 2: Ryan Slagle, Mechanic

County Coordinator Division:

- 1: Adam Knepp, Putnam, Commodities
- 2: Karen Phillips, Dekalb County Coordinator
- 3: Renea Stover, Overton County Coordinator



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.



SCENES FROM 2023 TAHRA CONFERENCE

