



CHANCE RESIDENTS SHARE THE LOVE THIS VALENTINE'S DAY

Valentine's Day is all about sharing love and kindness, and CHANCE has found a special way to celebrate!

This year, CHANCE donated thoughtful gift bags to the community service clients of Jen Knepp, spreading joy to those in need. Each bag was filled with word search books and pens, offering a simple yet meaningful way for recipients to engage their minds, relax, and enjoy a little entertainment.

UCHRA operates the CHANCE group home for girls, providing a safe, structured, and therapeutic environment for youth in need. CHANCE focuses on stability, personal growth, and relationship restoration. Through counseling, education, and life skills training, residents gain the



gain the tools and confidence needed to build productive futures. The program is designed to help young women recognize their strengths and prepare for independent, healthy lives.

A big thank you to the young ladies at Chance for this thoughtful gesture!









UCHRA DRIVERS BRAVE THE RAIN IN STYLE

Say goodbye to makeshift ponchos for UCHRA Public Transportation drivers!

Take a look at the brand-new ponchos, proudly displaying the UCHRA Public Transportation logo, which have recently been distributed for drivers to wear on rainy days.

Below, at right, is a photo of Charles Oldham, who last year fashioned a poncho from a garbage bag.

It's clear from his expression that he is pleased with the new gear!



UCHRA'S CHOICES PROGRAM RAMPS UP

UCHRA is excited to announce that our CHOICES program is making great strides, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our new CHOICES Specialist, Megan Oakley!

In just 20 days on the job, Megan has conducted 11 interviews, welcomed three new hires, and assisted two new clients—an impressive start to a program designed to make a real difference in our community.

If you see Megan around the office, be sure to give her a well-deserved shout-out for her efforts. We look forward to seeing the continued success of the CHOICES program under her leadership!

UCHRA's CHOICES program, administered by the Community Services Department, provides essential support to those in need including attendant care and respite. Visit www.uchra.org for more information.



Megan Oakley, UCHRA's new CHOICES Specialist







UCHRA PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION WELL-REPRESENTED AT DAY ON THE HILL

UCHRA Public Transportation recently participated in the Tennessee Public Transportation Association's Day on the Hill. We're thankful for the opportunity to meet with State Representatives Ed Butler and Kelly Keisling and Senator Paul Bailey to discuss the vital role of rural transit.

Our team highlighted how our services connect communities across the Upper Cumberland, providing thousands of residents with reliable transportation to work, medical appointments, and other essential destinations.

From July through December 2024, UCHRA Public Transportation served more than 6,00 clients; providing an average of 1,227 daily trips with an on-time arrival rate of 94 percent.

Visit <u>www.ucpublictransit.com</u> to learn more about UCHRA Public Transportation's programs and services.

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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.











Our offices will be closed on Monday, Feb. 17, in observance of Presidents' Day. UCHRA Public Transportation services, including Go Routes and Connect 1-40/1-24, will not operate that day.



SPURGEON WINS UCHRA SOUP-ER BOWL

Congratulations to Megan Spurgeon on winning the UCHRA Central Office's third-annual Soup-er Bowl!







SECOND-ANNUAL UCDD CHILI CONTEST COMING SOON

Calling all chili lovers, culinary creators, and flavor aficionados! We are excited to announce the second annual UCDD Chili Cookoff, where the competition is fierce, and the flavors are even bolder.

In addition to earning the prestigious title of top chili chef, there will be awards and prizes for the winning recipes.

Join us on February 27 at 12:30 p.m. in the UCDD kitchen for this exciting event.

For inquiries or additional information, please reach out to Marcie Ackerman via phone at (931) 476-4175 or email at mackerman@ucdd.org.

