

Positively UC

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



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TRANSPORTATION TEAM CELEBRATES TPTA WINS

UCHRA's Public Transportation team made the Upper Cumberland proud during the recent statewide Tennessee Public Transportation Association (TPTA) Roadeo and Conference, an annual event that celebrates excellence, skill, and leadership in public transit across Tennessee.

Two UCHRA team members were recognized for their achievements:

- Joe Bitter earned second place in the Van Mechanic Division, demonstrating his technical expertise and commitment to vehicle safety and performance.
- Holly Montooth was named Rural Executive or Manager of the Year, a distinction recognizing her leadership, dedication, and contributions to rural transit operations in the Upper Cumberland region.

Congratulations, Holly, Joey, and the Upper Cumberland team on a job well done!



UCDD RECOGNIZED WITH NADO 2025 IMPACT AWARD



UCDD has been honored with a 2025 Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for its transitional homes for men and women in recovery.

Presented annually, the NADO Impact Awards recognize innovative projects that strengthen communities and regional economies. This year's awardees were celebrated during NADO's Annual Training Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

"I am incredibly proud of our team for providing a safe home for those committed to recovery," Mark Farley, UCDD and UCHRA Executive Director, added. "We're committed to helping individuals achieve self-sufficiency and grateful for the partnerships that make it all possible."

2025 SENIOR AND CAREGIVER EXPO A ROCKIN' SUCCESS

Elvis has left the Building!

While the final tally of attendees is still being counted, one thing is certain: the 2025 Senior & Caregiver Expo was a hit!

Special thanks go to everyone involved in planning and executing the event, which wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support of our volunteers.

From setting up the event to guiding attendees and keeping everything running smoothly, your dedication made this year's Expo a hit!



UC SENIOR CENTERS RECEIVE \$469,000 IN GRANTS

In September, the Department of Disability and Aging awarded a total of \$469,000 to 11 Upper Cumberland activity and senior centers. These grants will support capital projects, marketing initiatives, programs and activities, and routine operating expenses.

The recipients are:

- Cannon County Senior Center
- Clay County Senior Center
- Fair Park Activity Center (Cumberland County)
- Alexandria Activity Center
- Fentress County Senior Center
- Overton County Senior Center
- Monterey Activity Center
- Putnam County Senior Center (Cookeville)
- Smith County Senior Center
- McMinnville/Warren County Senior Center
- Sparta/White County Activity Center

These funds will help the centers continue providing valuable services and programs for seniors across the region.

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.



UPPER CUMBERLAND OCTOBER OUTREACH

In October, UCDD and UCHRA team members were busy connecting with the community at events across the region.

- Pickett County Coordinator Jennifer Flowers and Empower Navigator Shelia Parris joined the Pickett County LBJ&C Head Start Open House to share program information and resources.
- Representatives from the Upper Cumberland AAAD and UCHRA attended the inaugural Health Fair at the White County/Sparta Activity Center. Attendees received flu shots, blood pressure checks, glucose screenings, colorectal cancer screenings, and balance and strength assessments.
- Jessica Roberson and Loni Hitchcock hosted a health education seminar at Heritage Pointe Senior Living. Sponsored by Quality Home Health, UCDD, and SHIP, the session covered unbiased Medicare resources, including Parts A, B, C, and D, as well as other senior services available through our programs. The pair also provided training at the Cookeville Police Department; providing information on Medicare, SHIP, and other programs.
- AAAD's Connie Vassilev recorded an episode discussing long-term care and the CHOICES program, Tennessee's initiative for seniors and adults with disabilities. Listen at iono.fm/e/1599272.

