Positively UC

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

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EMPOWERMENT NIGHT IN FENTRESS

Families and community leaders recently gathered in Jamestown for the Fentress County EmpowerMENT monthly meeting, highlighting the power of peer support and local partnership through UCHRA.

Hosted at Highlands Church of the Cumberlands, the evening brought together five local Empower families along with agency staff, community partners, and volunteers.

Participants focused on sharing their personal journeys and celebrating the meaningful relationships and support networks they have formed through the ongoing monthly gatherings.

The gathering was supported by the Quality Family of Companies, which generously sponsored dinner for all attendees.

Community investments of this kind play an essential role in bolstering UCHRA initiatives, ensuring local families feel valued, uplifted, and connected to their community.

CALLING ALL STAFF **VETERANS**

We would love to feature you in our upcoming newsletter and on social media in honor of Veterans Day. If you have served, please email a photo of yourself in uniform or fatigues to connect@ucdd.org by Nov. 5, along with your branch of military, rank, and years or term of service.

Thank you for your service!



HOUSECALL STAFF LEVEL UP THEIR SKILLS



Al Ashburn



Andy Meadows

UCHRA's HouseCall home repair team continues to raise the bar for technical craftsmanship, community service, and workplace safety. In a major step forward for the program, team members Andy Meadows and Al Ashburn have both recently earned prestigious industry credentials, demonstrating a shared commitment to building healthier, more efficient homes while upholding the highest standards on the job.

Leading the charge in home performance, Andy Meadows has officially earned his Building Performance Institute (BPI) Energy Auditor Certification for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). Recognized across the industry as the gold standard for home performance credentialing, this designation requires passing both a rigorous written examination and an exhaustive, hands-on field assessment.

Through this intensive training, Andy mastered critical building science competencies that directly benefit local residents. His credentialing covers advanced diagnostic testing—using blower doors and infrared cameras to pinpoint hidden envelope air leaks—as well as thorough combustion safety checks on heating systems and gas lines to eliminate carbon monoxide hazards. Additionally, Andy's expertise in energy modeling allows the team to analyze structural data and target the most cost-effective weatherization improvements. Ultimately, this elite certification ensures that HouseCall projects meet the highest national benchmarks for efficiency, resulting in safer living spaces and deeper utility savings for clients.

Alongside advanced building diagnostics, maintaining an uncompromising focus on job-site protection remains vital to the team's mission, an area recently reinforced by Al Ashburn earning his OSHA 30-Hour Certification. Far beyond routine safety briefings, the OSHA 30 program is an intensive curriculum designed specifically for field coordinators and safety leaders. Over the course of 30 hours of dedicated training, Al mastered advanced hazard recognition, strict avoidance protocols, and modern safety management practices.

By investing in this comprehensive coursework, Al brings a heightened level of safety leadership to daily HouseCall and weatherization operations. His specialized oversight ensures that every job site is managed proactively, protecting both the field crew and the families who welcome the team into their homes.

Together, these achievements highlight the HouseCall team's dedication to pairing cutting-edge building science with rigorous safety standards to deliver the best possible service across the Upper Cumberland. Please join us in congratulating both Andy and Al on reaching these impressive professional milestones!

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.



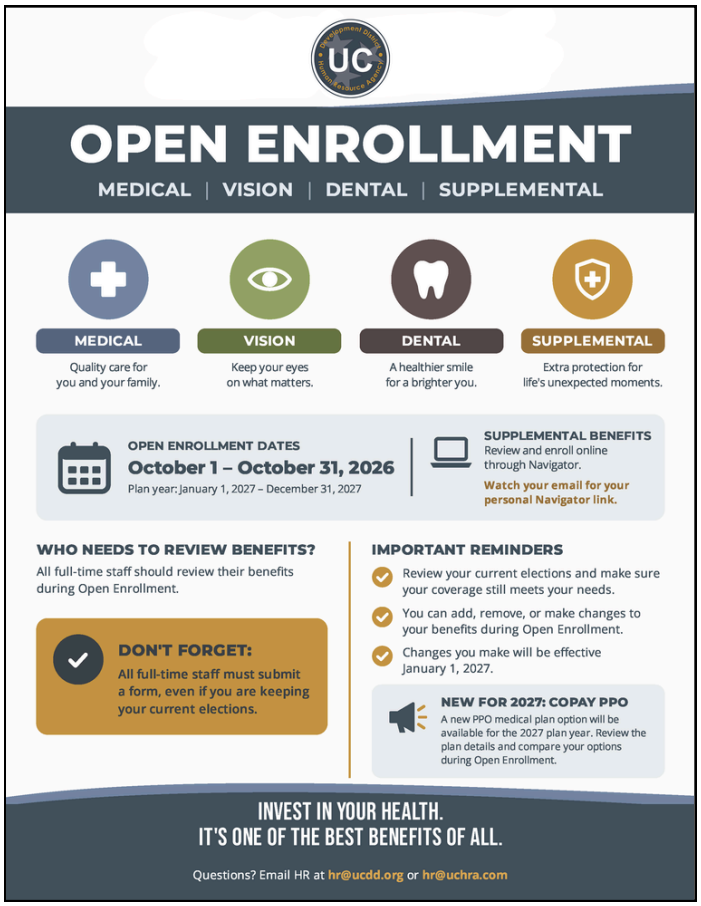
UCHRA HOSTS MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING FOR CIS TEAM

Coordinated by Community Services Assistant Director Jordan Herald, UCHRA recently hosted Communities In Schools of Tennessee (CISTN) for a professional development session led by Jordan Young and Elizabeth Fredericks of the Tennessee Mental Health Consumers' Association (TMHCA).

CISTN Program Manager Allison Ledford expressed appreciation for UCHRA's hospitality and partnership, noting that the mental health awareness and advocacy resources shared will directly strengthen support for area students and families.

ENDING TODAY (OCT. 30)

Open Enrollment is almost over! Today is the deadline to make changes to your 2027 Medical, Dental, Vision, and Supplemental benefits. Check your email for more information.



2026 SENIOR, CAREGIVER EXPO IN THE BOOKS

Another Senior and Caregiver Expo is in the books. *Resource City* brought together an estimated 1,000 individuals (we're awaiting final numbers) at Life Church Cookeville for a day filled with fun, music, and, of course, an opportunity to connect with more than 70 vendors.

The 2027 Senior and Caregiver Expo is slated for Oct. 26 at Life Church Cookeville.

Have photos or videos from the 2026 event you'd like to share? Send them to Marketing and Communications by visiting ucsupport.happyfox.com or email them to connect@ucdd.org.

