



Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development 2023-2024 – ThreeStar Resource Guide

If you find anything that needs correction or have ideas to add to this Guide, please let me know. ~ Jody Sliger, Community Development Director, TNECD

DRAFT DOCUMENT – JODY IS UPDATING NOW 5/1/23 (Spring 2023)

The Governor's ThreeStar Community Development Program has worked with cities and counties across the state since 1980 to provide assistance in aligning community needs with resources.

Mission: ThreeStar serves to promote economic and community prosperity through collaboration to positively impact every Tennessean.

➤ Community and Rural Development

Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development Community and Rural Development

Tennessee's vibrant communities are places that anyone would be proud to call home. TNECD's Community and Rural Development programs use established funding programs, and new initiatives to connect communities to funding and technical assistance, to identify and build off their assets, and to advance economic development across the state.

- ThreeStar
 - Tennessee Main Street
 - Downtown Improvements
 - Historic Development
 - TN Placemakers Entrepreneurship
 - Site Development
 - Broadband Accessibility
 - Infrastructure Planning
 - Federal Programs: Appalachian Regional Commission, Delta Regional Authority, Community Development Block Grants
- [Community and Rural Development Calendar](#)

➤ TNECD – Business Development

➤ TNECD – Center for Economic Research Tennessee

➤ Downtowns, Retail, Small Business, Entrepreneur

Resources to support the successful growth and expansion of DBEs, small businesses, microenterprises, and entrepreneurs¹

Downtown Vitality – National Main Streets and Tennessee Downtowns:

[Main Street – TN Downtowns](#): Nancy Williams - Nancy.Williams@tn.gov

Small Business:

Wisty Pender – [Business Enterprise Resource/SmartStart Guides](#) – Wisty.Pender@tn.gov

[Launch TN](#): TN Investco

[Opportunity Zones: Resource page](#)

TNECD contact for the above programs: Lamont Price – Lamont.Price@tn.gov

TN Chamber of Commerce and Industry: [Website](#)

Small Business Development Centers: [website](#)

Entrepreneurship:

Lamont Price – Lamont.Price@tn.gov

Wisty Pender – [Business Enterprise Resource](#) and [SmartStart Guides](#) – Wisty.Pender@tn.gov

Nancy Williams – Nancy.Williams@tn.gov

Placemakers - Placemakers leverage local assets (human and natural) in a way that impacts their community's cultural, economic and social aspects to intentionally create a good sense of place and enhance a strong sense of community and well-being.

TN [Placemakers Entrepreneurship Fund](#) – _____

Historic Development Grant Program: - Resource to assist redevelopment of shuttered historic buildings to create jobs and increase economic impact. Logan McCoy –

logan.mccoy@tn.gov

American Rescue Plan – Goal to assist communities in pandemic recovery through broadband expansion and investments in water and wastewater. Taylre Beaty –

Taylre.Beaty@tn.gov

➤ Health, Housing, Aging, and Disabilities

TN Housing Development Agency

THDA's purpose is to [THDA](#)

- Promote the production of more affordable new housing units for very low-, low-, and moderate-income individuals and families in Tennessee.
- Promote the preservation and rehabilitation of existing housing units for very low-, low-, and moderate-income individuals and families.
- Bring greater stability to the residential construction industry and related industries to assure a steady production of new housing units.

TN Commission on Aging and Disability –

Providing services for all Tennesseans aged 60+

- Program Information ([click link here](#))
- Regional offices ([click the link here](#))

TN Department of Human Services (DHS)

For a list of services and contact information: [click here](#)

- [Publications and Manuals](#) –
- [TANF Opportunity Act](#)
- [TDHS Self-Service Tools](#)
- [Contact TDHS](#)

DHS – Child Care and Adult Care resources

- Director of Licensing: Dana Glenn, Dana.N.Glenn@TN.gov; tn.gov/humanservices

TDHS supports childcare creation across the state of Tennessee.








Resources include:

- [Pre-Licensure unit](#) – a team dedicated to supporting potential providers throughout the licensure process
- [Establishment grant](#) – a one-time start-up grant for equipment, materials, and supplies for new childcare agencies
- [Expansion grant](#) – \$1,000 per slot of expanded capacity to be used toward equipment, materials, and supplies
- [Enhancement grant](#) – a \$4,000+ grant available annually to all DHS licensed childcare agencies
Additional supports include quality coaches, access to bulk purchasing, professional development, and retention grants

TN Dept. of Health – [TN Vital Signs](#)

- TN Dept. of Health has [locations in each county](#).
- Healthy Development Coordinators serve through the Dept. of Health as regional resources.

[TN.gov website \(Health programs including Built Environment Grant info\)](#)

Healthy Development Coordinators Tennessee Department of Health		
 <p>West Tim King tim.king@tn.gov 731.884.2645</p>	 <p>Upper Cumberland John Copeland john.copeland@tn.gov 931.520.4226</p>	 <p>Northeast Ada Sloop ada.sloop@tn.gov 423.979.4648</p>
 <p>Mid-Cumberland Sara Cox sara.m.cox@tn.gov 615.253.4736</p>	 <p>South Central Shay Smith shay.l.smith@tn.gov 931.490.8373</p>	 <p>East Cameron Taylor cameron.taylor@tn.gov 865.549.5317</p>
	 <p>Southeast Kelly Ware kelly.ware@tn.gov 931.490.8353</p>	

The office of [Primary Prevention website](#) provides [Health and Built Environment Guides](#) including:

- [Access to Health Grants](#)
- [Project Diabetes Grants](#)
- [Built Environment Funding Options](#)
- [Healthy Community Design Training](#)
- [Livable Community Checklist](#)
- [Trauma-Informed Approach to Workforce](#)

➤ Education and Workforce Development

TNECD Workforce Development:

Charita Allen, Director of Workforce Development, TNECD charita.allen@tn.gov
Jennie McCabe, Workforce Development Consultant, jennie.a.mccbe@tn.gov

In-Demand Jobs by Region: [In Demand Occupation Info](#)

Labor Force Participation Rates: [Labor Force Participation Rate details](#)

Jobs4TN Labor Market Information Home Page (including latest publications and data releases on in-demand occupations): <https://www.jobs4tn.gov/vosnet/lmi/default.aspx?plang=E>

Annual Statewide Supply and Demand Report: *this report and accompanying materials identify in-demand occupations and aligned academic programs in Tennessee. The report's intent is to assist in the alignment of education, training, and employment in Tennessee:* <https://www.tn.gov/thec/research/supply-and-demand.html>



Governor's Early Literacy Foundation

- **Imagination Library**
- **K-3rd Grade Summer Reading**
- **Caregiver Engagement**
- **Book Bus**
- **Storybook Trail**

Governor's Early Literacy Foundation – formerly known as [Governor's Books from Birth Foundation](#). This link will take you directly to the county-specific affiliate contact search

TN Department of Labor and Workforce Development

[Dept. of Labor and Workforce - Workforce Development](#)

Adult Education: Adult Education, as part of the Workforce Innovations and Opportunity Act (WIOA), provides services to adults to build the knowledge and skills necessary for high school equivalency (HiSET), employment, post-secondary opportunities, and economic self-sustainability. <https://www.tn.gov/workforce/jobs-and-education/ae.html>

Office of Reentry: [Office of Reentry](#)

Office for Refugees: [Office for Refugees](#)

Tennessee Higher Education Commission

THEC – [County Profiles link](#)

TN Department of Education

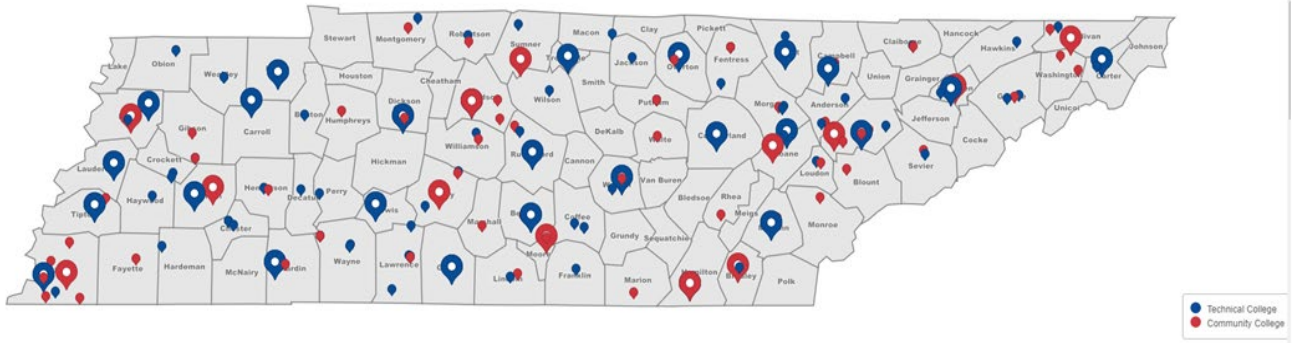
TN Department of Education – [Vision, and Priorities](#)

Tennessee Workforce Development System

Apprenticeship TN <https://www.tn.gov/apprenticeshiptn.html>

Tennessee Board of Regents

TBR.edu



** Blue: Technical College - Red: Community College

[Click here for more information on Community Colleges -](#)



[Tennessee Colleges of Applied Technology](#)

[TN Promise](#)

[TN Reconnect](#)

➤ Industrial Development, Sites, Infrastructure, Broadband, Roadways

TNECD - Broadband: Taylre Beaty Taylre.Beaty@tn.gov

TNECD - Select TN / Site Development / Property Evaluation: [Site Development](#) – Kirby Lewis – kirby.lewis-Gill@tn.gov

TNECD - Infrastructure Planning Grant: Brooxie Carlton - brooxie.carlton@tn.gov

TNECD - Federal Programs: Community Development Block Grants, Appalachian Regional Commission, Delta Regional Authority –
Brooxie Carlton – brooxie.carlton@tn.gov
Kent Archer – kent.archer@tn.gov
Logan McCoy – logan.mccoy@tn.gov

Tennessee Department of Transportation

[TDOT assists in community planning](#), transportation plans, regional planning, guidance for signage, transportation-related ADA compliance, and more.

TDOT [State Industrial Access Program](#) –

The Strategic Transportation Investments Division provides strategic support for projects that address safety, congestion, and economic development needs across the state.

Strategic Transportation Investments Division – Economic Development Office **State Industrial Access Act**

The State Industrial Access (SIA) Program provides funding and technical assistance for highway access to new and expanding industries across the state. The Tennessee Department of Transportation contracts with local governments for projects that will be developed under the SIA Program. The State Industrial Access Act, formerly known as the Industrial Highway Act, make these partnerships possible.

Statewide Program Contacts: **Danielle Hagewood** – Danielle.Hagewood@tn.gov
Tintin Czach – Tintin.Czach@tn.gov

[Transportation Planning Grants \(tn.gov\)](#)

[Rural Planning Organization \(RPO\) Coordination \(tn.gov\)](#)

[Metropolitan Planning Organization \(MPO\) Coordination \(tn.gov\)](#)

Office of Community Transportation [Office of Community Transportation \(OCT\) \(tn.gov\)](#)

D. Stacy Morrison | OCT Planning Manager [c] (423) 413-1332 - stacy.morrison@tn.gov



The **Community Transportation Planning Supervisors** for each region can be found here: [Office of Community Transportation Staff \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/office-of-community-transportation-staff)

TDOT also has jurisdiction concerning:

- **Signage:** [Sign Policy, Design, and Programs Section \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/sign-policy-design-and-programs-section) Joseph Sweat – Section Manager (615) 532-3431 joseph.sweat@tn.gov
- **ADA compliance** on roadway-related items: Shanna Chevalier, ADA/504 Coordinator shanna.chevalier@tn.gov -TDOT.ADA@tn.gov

Tennessee Code Annotated 7-31-114, "Every incorporated city and town shall install ramps at crosswalks, in both business and residential areas, when making new installations of sidewalks, curbs or gutters, or improving or replacing existing sidewalks, curbs or gutters, to make the transition from street to sidewalk easily negotiable for persons with disabilities in wheelchairs and for other persons who may have difficulty in making the required step up or down from curb level to street level."

Additional ADA resources: Brett Heising – [BrettApproved.com](https://www.brettapproved.com)

➤ Tourism, Recreation, Parks, Historical/Cultural, Arts

Tourist Development

TN Dept. of Tourist Development

[TNVacation.com](https://www.tn.gov/tnvacation.com)

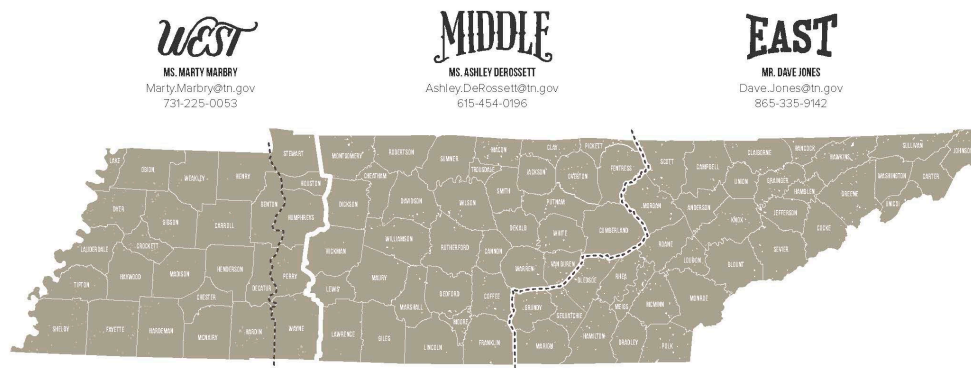
Zach Ledbetter – Director of Outreach and Engagement: zach.ledbetter@tn.gov

Jenni Veal – Rural Destination Development Manager jenni.veal@tn.gov

Silas Stoddart – Rural Tourism Program Manager silas.stoddart@tn.gov

Tennessee Dept. of Tourist Development has Division Managers for the three Grand Divisions that serve the counties within the state. Each community can create pages within the [TNVacation.com](https://www.tn.gov/tnvacation.com) website to promote their attractions and events.

- Dave Jones, East TN Division Manager – Dave.Jones@tn.gov
- Marty Mabry, West TN Division Manager – Marty.Marbry@tn.gov
- Ashley DeRossett, Middle TN Division Manager – Ashley.DeRossett@tn.gov



TDTD provides assistance and grants to assist with [Marketing Assistance Grant](https://www.tn.gov/marketing-assistance-grant)

Andi Grindley, Outreach Projects Coordinator – andi.grindley@tn.gov

There are also nine Tourism Regional Directors that are recognized by the state as the official regional tourism organizations, however, they are not state departments.

East	Julie Graham	9lakes.easttn@gmail.com	865-585-0811
Greater Nashville	Amy Napoli	anapoli@gnrc.org	615-880-3542
Memphis Area	Kelvin Willis	kwillis@maagov.org	901-729-2871
Northeast	Alicia Phelps	alicia@northeasttennessee.org	423-262-0238
Northwest	Kasey Muench	kasey@nwtntourism.com	731-697-5367
Southeast	Amy Anderson	aanderson@sedev.org	423-424-4222
South Central	Ryan French	ryan@experiencetn.com	931-273-6639
Upper Cumberland	Patti Purdy	uctourism@gmail.com	931-510-7002
Southwest	Mary Beth Hopper	info@visitswtenn.com	731-616-7474

Hospitality TN ([HTN](#))

Not a state department, this association assists hospitality-related industries across Tennessee. The advocacy voice and source of information and education for Tennessee's lodging, dining, and tourism establishments.

TN Arts Commission – [Arts Commission Website](#)

Not a state department, The Tennessee Arts Commission is a state agency charged with cultivating the arts for the benefit of all Tennesseans and their communities.

The Tennessee Arts Commission was created in 1967 by the Tennessee General Assembly with the special mandate to stimulate and encourage the presentation of the visual, literary, music and performing arts and to encourage public interest in the cultural heritage of Tennessee.

The Tennessee Arts Commission offers grants for project and operating support, arts education, creative placemaking, and more. Popular grant categories include [Arts Project Support](#), [Rural Arts Project Support](#), [Arts Build Communities](#), [Arts Access](#) and the [Rural Arts Facilities Fund](#). More information on additional grant programs can be found [here](#).

Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

Resources for parks, planning, recreation, and infrastructure needs

- [State Parks](#)
- [Recreation Resources Division](#)
- [Water Resources](#)

TWRA – Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency

[TWRA website](#)

- [Asian Carp](#)
- [Fishing and Boating access](#)

Tennessee Development Districts

Tennessee [Development Districts](#) are regional planning and economic development organizations owned and operated by the cities and counties of Tennessee. The nine districts were established by the general assembly under the TN Development District Act of 1965.



UT CIS - Solutions Consultants.

<https://www.cis.tennessee.edu/manufacturing-excellence/contact-solutions-consultant>

➤ Agriculture, Agribusiness

TN Department of Agriculture – [TN Dept of Agriculture Department Contacts](#)

TN Department of Agriculture – Regional Coordinators:

- West – Colleen Coury – colleen.coury@tn.gov
- Middle – Boyd Barker – boyd.barker@tn.gov
- East – Jessie McBride – jessie.mcbride@tn.gov

[Dept of Agriculture overview](#)

[Division of Forestry](#)

[Pick TN Products](#)

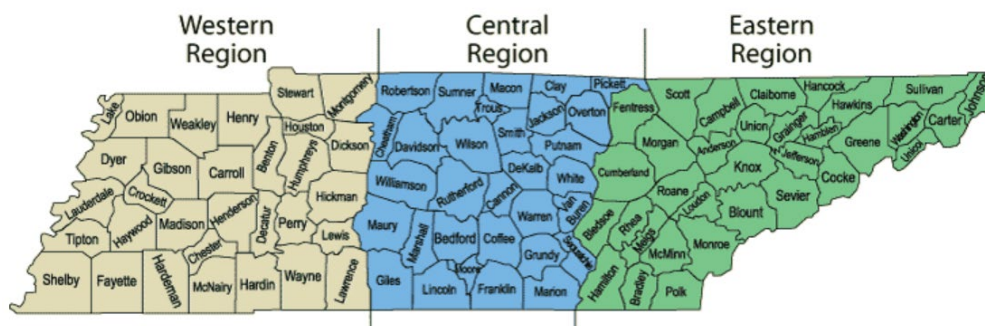
Agribusiness – [Business Development](#) – Andy Holt Andy.H.Holt@tn.gov

Farm to Table: <https://tennesseeagritourism.org/category/activity/farm-to-table>

Find a Farm: <https://tennesseeagritourism.org/find-a-farm>

[UT Extension offices in every county](#) – click on the link to go directly to the county

UT Extension regions:



➤ Federal Programs and other identified Partners

- **USDA**
- **TVA**
 - <https://www.tva.com/economic-development/our-team>