



Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition (RCADC)
November 1, 2023

Members/Guests Present: Sarah Harrison, Nathan Wray, Jessica Woodell, Matilyn Lands, Sandy Leavell, Demerius Bunch, Det. Marty Stanley, Jay Hernandez, Phil Merrill, Beth Sams, Victoria Knipp, Leonora Spangler, Jennifer Johnson, Mike Barber and LaDonna Booker.

Nathan Wray opened the meeting and gave an update on the Handle with Care program, which is part of our Drug Endangered Children grant through the Tennessee Bureau of Investigations (TBI). A meeting was held at our office last month with representatives from the TBI, local law enforcement representatives and first responders, Roane County Schools and other county agencies. Handle with Care provides communication between first responders and school administrators to give the school a “heads up” when a child has been identified at the scene of a traumatic event. We anticipate that this program will be initiated in Roane County within the next year.

Sarah Harrison reported that our coalition has been chosen to participate in a project with our national partner, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, to host a statewide webinar to provide education on opioid overdose prevention and response, with a special focus on Naloxone. The webinar is scheduled for early March. More information will be provided as the project progresses.

The DEA’s National Prescription Drug Take Back Day took place on Saturday, October 28th. There were four locations in Roane County including Kingston City Hall, Walgreens in Harriman, Rockwood Police Department and Food City in Oliver Springs. We do not have the total number of pounds collected yet, but will relay this information when we get it.

Sandy Leavell, the Executive Director of the United Way of Roane County was our speaker for the day. Sandy has been in this position since 2022. The three priority areas of the United Way are health, education and financial stability. They currently fund 14 local nonprofit agencies covering 16 programs.

The presentation slides are attached to the end of this document, but some highlights include:

Through meals, education, and advocacy the United Way of Roane County served over 4000 individuals with 67,000 services in 2022.

The local United Way is part of the United Way of Tennessee has four focus areas including human trafficking, homelessness, suicide awareness and prevention and domestic violence support.

Sandy reported on the most recent local Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) data- 39% in Roane County fall within the poverty guidelines or the ALICE guidelines; 8,274 households in Roane County fall below the ALICE threshold, which means they are unable to afford basic necessities.

For resource referrals you can dial 211.

The Tennessee Benefit Kitchen provides families with a list of services they qualify for. To begin this process text the word benefits to 211211.

The United Way is working on purchasing software to provide poverty simulation training. This is a three hour training that can be targeted to many different audiences. Two groups they would like to target are elected officials and local churches.

Community Updates

Leonora Spangler announced that the Community Action Board's teen stocking project is underway again. Donations are being collected at several sites across the county- the Juvenile Court office, RCADC, the Roane Alliance, the Spot, Harriman municipal building, Rockwood municipal building and the United Way.

We will not have a coalition meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 12pm at the RCADC office.



Raised Here. Stays Here.
Shared Here.



Who is the Roane County United Way – and What Do They Do?

It's all about health, education, and financial stability!

We are currently supporting 16 programs in 14 local non-profit agencies.



Our Impact in our Community this year:

- Addressing Hunger Needs—52,126 Meals provided for children and elders.
- Early Childhood Education—2,700 books delivered to homes and 102 children received early intervention visits.
- Tennessee Scholars—6 scholarships provided and 125 medallions for achievements.
- Transportation—2,899 trips for dialysis patients and senior citizens.
- Advocacy—309 clients received advocacy, shelter, or outreach services.
- Senior Citizen Care—280 Senior Citizens received 27,271 units of care.
- Health, Medical, Mental Health Services—310 clients received 4,521 services.
- Total Impact—4,167 individuals received 67,247 services from UW Impact Grants in 2022

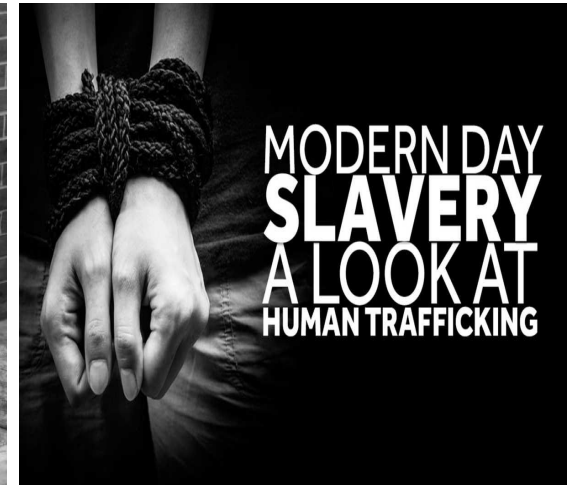


What Else do we do?

We also support those programs that aren't so pretty to look at!
The invisible populations, the ones none of us want to see in our community.



Suicide Awareness
and Prevention



ALICE IN THE CROSSCURRENTS: FINANCIAL HARDSHIP IN ROANE COUNTY



Caught in the Crosscurrents of Competing Forces

Households Below
the ALICE Threshold in
Roane County

2021: 8,274



Where is ALICE in Roane County?

Roane County, Tennessee, 2021

County Subdivision	Total Households	% Below ALICE Threshold
District 1, Roane County, Tennessee	3,963	45%
District 2, Roane County, Tennessee	4,183	55%
District 3, Roane County, Tennessee	1,450	30%
District 4, Roane County, Tennessee	2,992	28%
District 5, Roane County, Tennessee	1,622	42%
District 6, Roane County, Tennessee	4,732	30%
District 7, Roane County, Tennessee	2,831	32%

District 1, Rockwood, Eureka, Glen Alice. District 2 Harriman, South Harriman, Emory Heights, Midtown. District 3 Emory, Dickey Valley, and Dyllis. District 4 Oak Hills, Oliver Springs, Orchard View. District 5 Cave Creek, New Midway, Paw Paw. District 6 Kingston and Lawnville. District 7 Cherokee, Fairview, Paint Rock, Midway, Renfro, Johnson School.



Roane County United Way Responds!

211 Supports ALICE Households

Connections via phone call

Referrals made:

- **hunger and food insecurity**
- **utility bill assistance**
- **housing insecurity and homelessness**

Currently raising funds for Poverty Simulator for public education surrounding poverty and ALICE choices!



Roane County United Way Responds!

Tennessee Benefit Kitchen Supports ALICE Households - \$60,800 in first 9 months!

**Food Stamps (SNAP)
Cash Assistance (TANF)
Women Infants and Children (WIC)
Head Start
School Meals
Childcare Assistance
TennCare (Medicaid)
ACA (Affordable Care Act)
CHIP (Children's Health Insurance Program)
County Medical Services
Home Energy Assistance (HEAP)
Lifeline
Child Tax Credit
Childcare Tax Credit
Earned Income Tax Credit**



Data For Action in Tennessee

- Visit www.UnitedForALICE.org/Tennessee to dig deeper into the data.
- Encourage the use of this data to create change.
- Build awareness.
- Encourage those struggling to text benefits to 211-211. No personal data requested.
- Call 211 for referrals.
- Call 988 for mental health crisis or suicide.



Thank you for your support of the Roane County United Way!



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