



Community Alliance  
for the Homeless

2022 Annual Report

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# Letter to Memphis

*We believe that housing is a basic human right.*

*We believe that homelessness is a solvable problem.*

*We believe that our community is equipped with resources to impact positive change.*

These powerful words provided both vision and inspiration for our Continuum of Care over the last year. Across the nation and in Memphis & Shelby County, the pandemic has presented significant public health challenges and economic consequences, putting many people in our community at risk of homelessness. Our social service providers have been tasked with meeting the needs of a community where inequity and poverty must be faced head-on in order to protect the most vulnerable. Community collaboration to end homelessness is no longer a hope or a dream: it is now a necessity in order to protect the basic human rights of all our citizens.

In this spirit, 2021 was a year of increased systemic collaboration. With the launch of our 901 Home: Together Strategic Plan, the Memphis & Shelby County Homeless Consortium paved the way for our city & county governments and community service organizations to work together toward the common goal of ending homelessness. We have begun implementing the plan's strategic goals and benchmarks, and we are seeing incremental, steady progress towards our ultimate goal of making homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time experience. We have a long way to go, but we know that with strong collaboration across systems, homelessness is a solvable problem.

Positive change is happening every day. As the lead agency for the Consortium, Community Alliance for the Homeless has brought increased funding to our community, placing a renewed and equitable focus on youth, families, and special populations at risk of experiencing homelessness. We are grateful to lead the effort in carrying out this work, and we are thankful to all of our partners in the Continuum of Care who work side by side with us throughout the year. Together, we have the resources we need to change our community for the better.

D. Cheré Bradshaw  
Executive Director



# Who We Are

Community Alliance for the Homeless (CAFTH) is the Lead Agency for the Memphis/Shelby County Continuum of Care (CoC).

A CoC is a group of regional agencies that may include homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, public housing authorities, school districts, mental health providers, hospitals, affordable housing developers, formerly homeless individuals, and many other collaborative bodies.

Across Memphis/Shelby County, Community Alliance provides planning, technical assistance, and service coordination to public and private agencies that are working to end homelessness. We link planners, providers, data, and resources to develop an effective and outcomes-driven system for ending homelessness.



# 901 Home Together

The 901 Home, Together: Strategic Plan to End Homelessness in Memphis & Shelby County was developed by the Memphis & Shelby County Homeless Consortium in 2021. This complex and dynamic plan follows the structure of the national plan to end homelessness, which was released by the United States Inter-agency Council on Homelessness in 2018. The overarching goals of the plan are to ensure that homelessness is a rare, brief, and one-time experience, with the ultimate goal of sustaining an end to homelessness in our community.

Over the past year, good progress has been made on specific strategies and benchmarks that include cross-sector collaboration, data-sharing, increased funding, expansion of resources, improved service coordination, and strengthening of partnerships in order to bring an end to homelessness. The plan prioritizes the use of best practices and evidence-based approaches such as housing problem-solving, housing first, and formal partnerships with people who have lived experience.

While addressing issues of poverty and housing in our community is a daunting task, Community Alliance for the Homeless and the Memphis & Shelby County Homeless Consortium are committed to implementing this plan and creating systems-level change, one step at a time, to create a better future for all of our citizens.

More

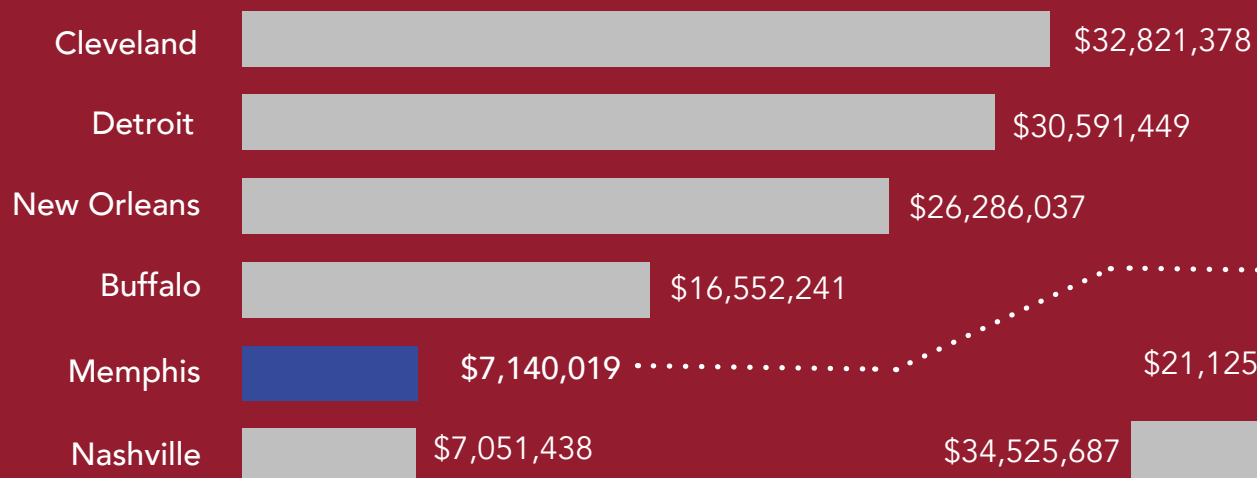
# More With Less

Each year, the Memphis/Shelby County community receives the maximum amount of CoC funds allowable. How this maximum is calculated is based on one of two amounts: the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) or the Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN). Memphis/Shelby County is eligible for whichever amount is greater, which is regularly the ARD calculation.

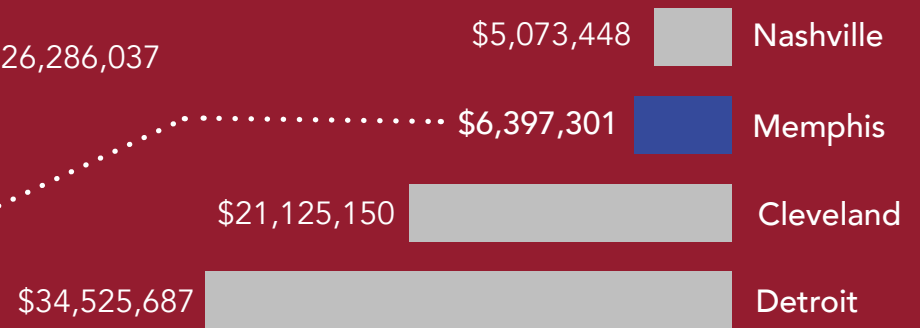
However, the PPRN calculation is far lower than any other comparably sized city, because it is based on the same outmoded formula as the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). CDBG utilizes two formulas (A and B) to determine the amount a grantee will receive. In recent years, there has been considerable attention paid to the poorly managed formula for CDBG, yet it's not often discussed that CoC funds may be detrimentally linked as well.

In other words, all of the funding streams that aim to invest in housing initiatives and an end to homelessness are handcuffed to CDBG. If CDBG changes its formula, Memphis/Shelby County may be able to elect a new maximum based on the PPRN and match up to other cities nationally, potentially bringing about a swifter end to homelessness.

## CoC Funds



## CDBG Funds



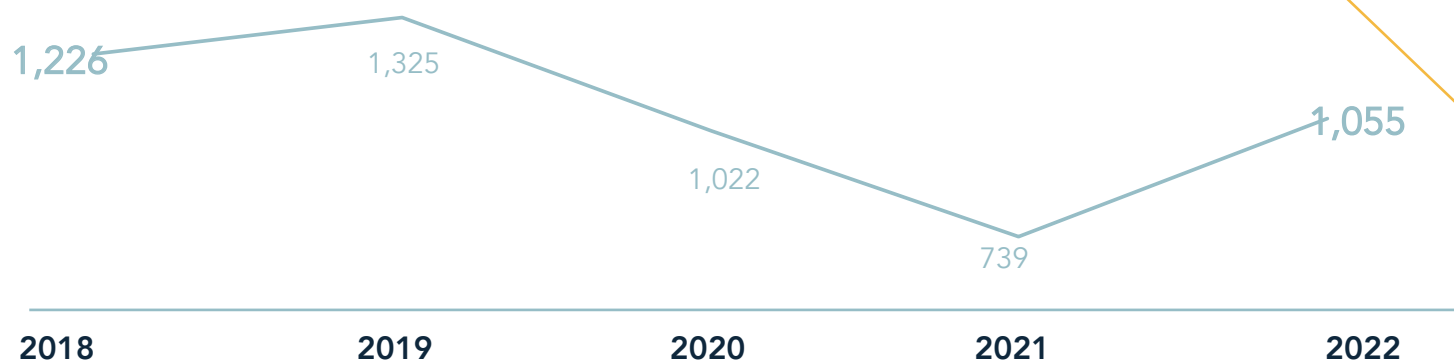
# By the Numbers

Each year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter and transitional housing on a single night. HUD also mandates that CoCs conduct a count of unsheltered homeless persons--those living in a place not meant for habitation--every other year. However, in Memphis, we complete a count of all every year.

Due to COVID, the last two PIT counts have spanned the course of a week, this year in February, with a total of 1,055 persons experiencing homelessness. This appears as a dramatic uptick from the previous year, but 2021 numbers were significantly impacted by COVID-19 and additional resources it brought forward.

2022 Point-in-Time Count

Note  
include  
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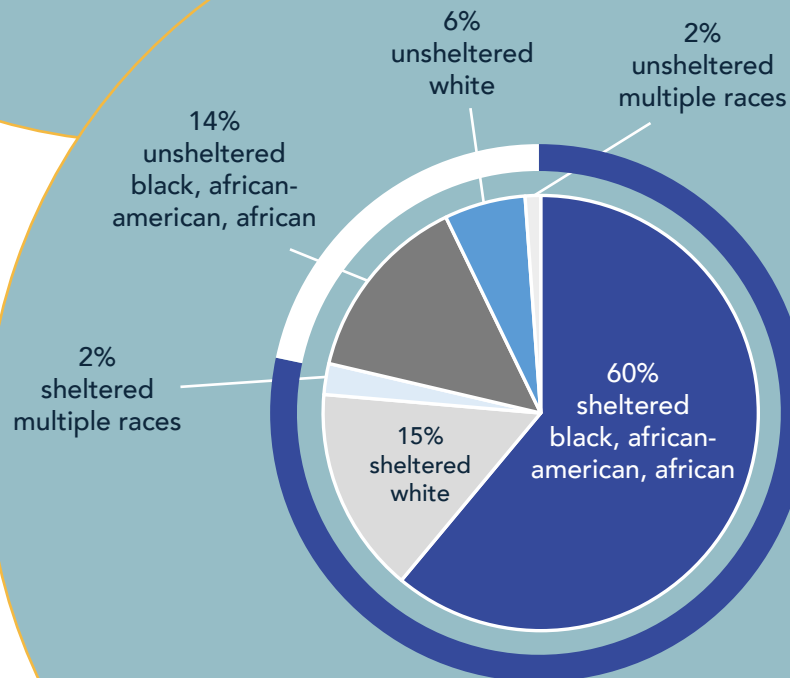




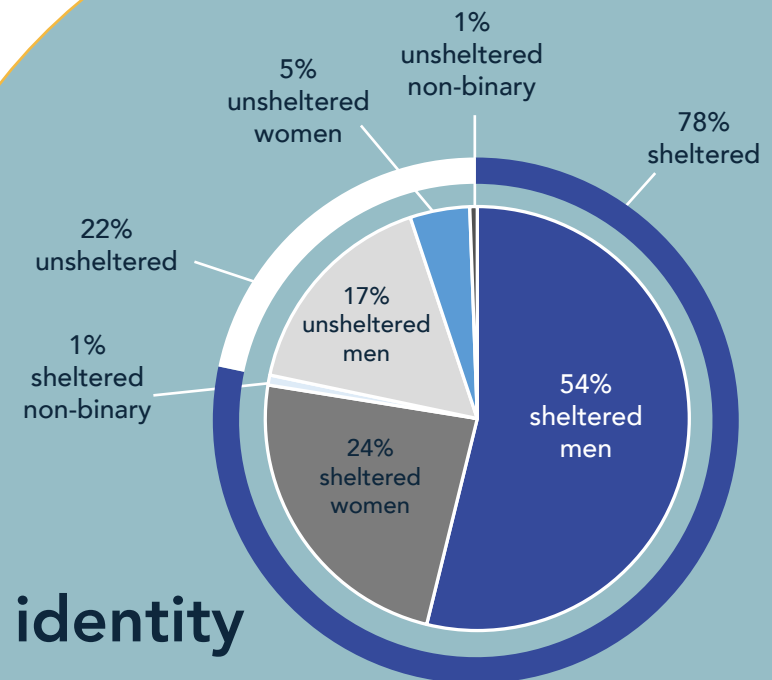
**on Demographics:** These graphs only e percentages of the highest reporting raphics. During the count, all identities/ sions are self-reported. With regards to the 2022 count, there were 6 American , Indigenous, or Native Alaskan individ- and 3 Asian or Asian-American individu- rting, each accounting for <1% of the red count; with regards to ethnicity, 16 uals identified as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x), nting for 1.5% of the overall count; all ers reporting are represented below.

Sheltered			
826 individuals	247 in families	102 veterans	33 youth households
Unsheltered			
229 individuals	0 in families	19 veterans	3 youth (ages 18-24)

## race



## identity



# Single Adults

> Last year, 1,359 individuals, including Veteran and Youths, were assessed through the community's Coordinated Entry Process.

	TOTAL	BIPOC Men	BIPOC Women	BIPOC Gender Diverse	White Men	White Women	White Gender Diverse	Exit to PH	Safe Exit Destination	Still Active	Negative/Unknown Exit Destination
TOTAL		51%	27%	2%	12%	9%	0%	33%	5%	36%	26%
BIPOC Men	51%		-	-	-	-	-	34%	4%	37%	25%
BIPOC Women	27%	-		-	-	-	-	40%	7%	34%	19%
BIPOC Gender Diverse	2%	-	-		-	-	-	28%	3%	48%	21%
White Men	12%	-	-	-		-	-	27%	2%	36%	35%
White Women	9%	-	-	-	-		-	13%	10%	39%	38%
White Gender Diverse	0%	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	-	-
Exit to PH	33%	34%	40%	28%	27%	13%	-		-	-	-
Safe Exit Destination	5%	4%	7%	3%	2%	10%	-	-		-	-
Still Active	36%	37%	34%	48%	36%	39%	-	-	-		-
Negative/Unknown Exit Destination	26%	25%	19%	21%	35%	38%	-	-	-	-	

**Note:** BIPOC represents Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. By HUD's Data Standards, this includes those who self-reported as American Indian, Alaska Native, Indigenous, Asian, Asian-American, Black, African-American, African, Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, Multiple Races, or reported an ethnicity of Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x).

> Last year, 1,661 family heads of household, including Veteran and Youths, were assessed through the community's Coordinated Entry Process.

	TOTAL	BIPOC Men	BIPOC Women
TOTAL		4%	93%
BIPOC Men	4%		-
BIPOC Women	93%	-	
BIPOC Gender Diverse	0%	-	-
White Men	0%	-	-
White Women	3%	-	-
White Gender Diverse	0%	-	-
Exit to PH	70%	71%	71%
Safe Exit Destination	2%	2%	2%
Still Active	24%	27%	24%
Negative/Unknown Exit Destination	4%	0%	4%

# Ensuring Access

To assess the state of homelessness in Memphis, Community Alliance relies on a variety of metrics to make informed, data-driven decisions around how best to fund community providers bringing about an end to homelessness.

From our work with Coordinated Entry, a great deal of information comes forward that not only helps show us who we serve, but, more importantly, how we serve. The following details represent all clients in Memphis/ Shelby County who received an assessment between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022, and their subsequent exit destination (if applicable) by gender identity/expression and race/ethnicity. By using an intersectional approach, we may better focus on existing disparities in outcomes and do better.

In 2021, CAFTH revamped their Coordinated Entry process to ensure HUD compliance and promote improved data collection. Consolidating this collection did not impact those served, but changed the way we record families assessed compared to previous years. Numbers reflected here have been de-duplicated and will follow the same methodology moving forward.

**Note:** all data here is self-reported and categories align to HUD's FY22 Data Standards. 'Safe Exit Destination' refers to solutions that are not permanent housing (PH), but indicate the client has self resolved, such as "staying with friends/family on permanent tenure." 'Negative/Unknown Exit Destination' refers to any destination that represents temporary housing, institutionalization, or when exit destination has not been captured. 'Still Active' indicates clients still enrolled in coordinated entry or have not been exited as they await a housing move-in date into a permanent solution.

## Families

BIPOC Gender Diverse	White Men	White Women	White Gender Diverse	Exit to PH	Safe Exit Destination	Still Active	Negative/Unknown Exit Destination
0%	0%	3%	0%	70%	2%	24%	4%
-	-	-	-	71%	2%	27%	0%
-	-	-	-	71%	2%	24%	4%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	56%	4%	32%	8%
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	56%	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	4%	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	32%	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	8%	-	-	-	-	-

# Examining Equity

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recommends utilizing their racial disparities tool to better understand the ways structural and institutional racism cause disproportionate detriment across our community, particularly when it comes to homelessness and housing security. The tool is focused on comparing the demography of the annual Point-in-Time count alongside the size of the overall population, as tracked by the American Community Survey (Census Bureau).

To the right is a visual that represents the outcome of HUD's tool, and the same concept applied to how care within the Memphis homeless response system is delivered.

To summarize, the graph is explaining that while Black, African-American, or African individuals account for 51% of the total Memphis population, they represent 74% of the population experiencing homelessness.

By contrast, white individuals account for 35% of the total Memphis population, but represent only 21% of the population experiencing homelessness.

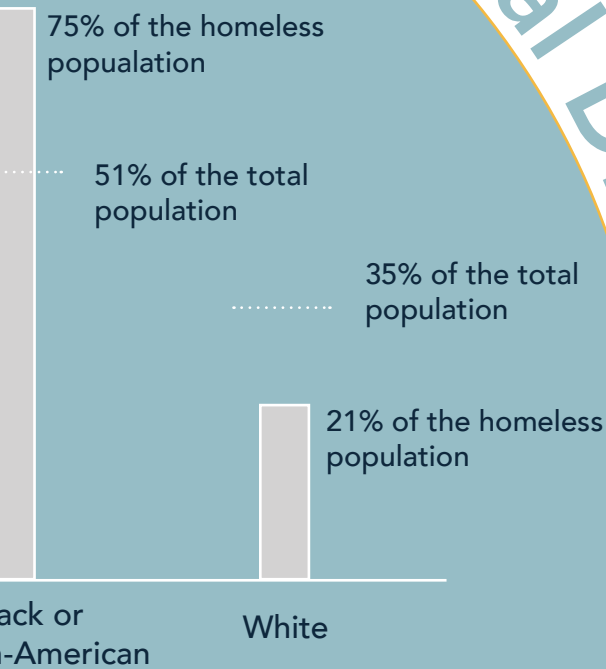
In an equitable world, the total population would be equal (or close) to the population experiencing homelessness.

Black  
African

Sources: National Data: 2020 ACS 5-Y Estimates (P1:

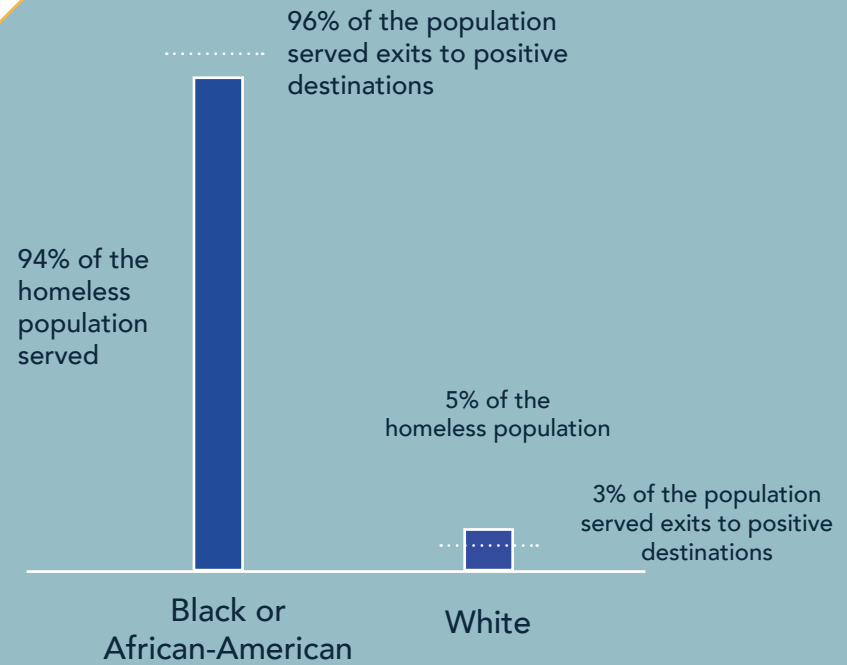


# Racial Disparities



(Race) / CAFTH 2022 PIT Count

# Homeless Outcomes



Sources: HMIS, Clarity Human Services

Applying the same logic to positive housing outcomes:

Black, African-American, or African clients accounted for 94% of total clients enrolled in Coordinated Entry in 2021, and 96% of clients exiting the system to positive destinations. Likewise, white clients accounted for 5% of total clients served through Coordinated Entry and 3% of clients exiting to positive destinations. In other words, service to clients within the system displayed more equitable care.

# Youth Homelessness

Memphis/Shelby County is honored to be selected by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). The goal of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is to support selected communities in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. Through this grant, Memphis/Shelby County will receive \$3.8 million to design and implement innovative housing programs that meet the unique needs of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity in our community.

We envision a future where every youth and young adult in our community has access to safe, stable, and affirming housing. We strive to achieve a future without youth homelessness. Guided by youth leadership, we seek to develop a comprehensive network of community services that are culturally affirming, trauma-informed, low-barrier, and accessible to all youth and young adults in our community. Any youth or young adult that experiences homelessness or housing insecurity will be quickly connected to safe, stable, affirming, and permanent housing.

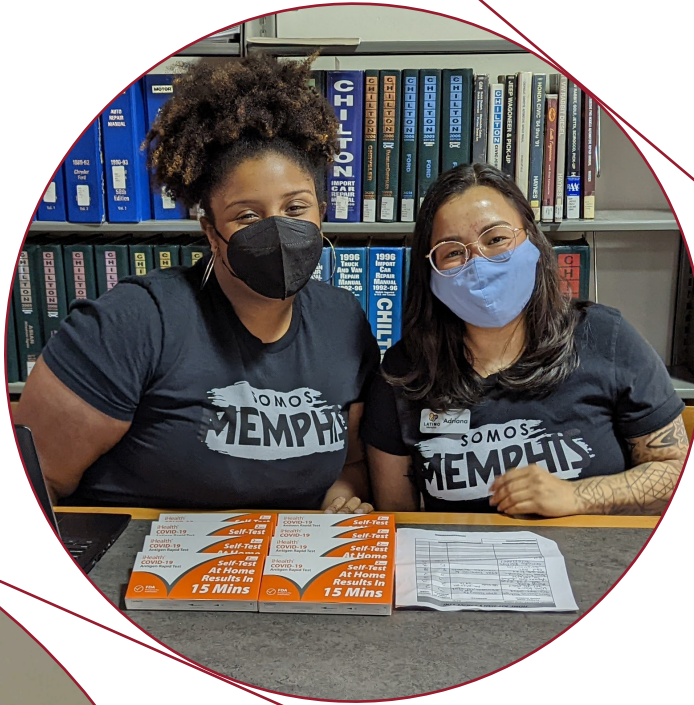




I thought privilege could only mean having white skin, generational wealth, or access to private education. The concept of privilege never came to mind at the thought of someone having clean water to drink, a bathroom/shower to use as frequently as needed, a place to cook a meal, a space to tend to their personal hygiene or even safely exist. By having that and so much more taken from me when I became homeless, I experienced how having the resources to meet basic needs can easily become a privilege. As the Memphis Youth Action Board Chair, I am eager to take part in shaping the homelessness system and continue to fight to end youth homelessness.

~ Andrea Olvera







# Ways to Get Involved

CAFTH has been collecting donations from community members and partners to build Home Warming Baskets and Personal Care Bags for agencies to distribute to the individuals and families that they serve. For those who do not have a place to call their own, moving into a house or apartment is a major milestone. Many people move in with only their family and very few belongings.

We are collecting Home Warming Baskets, a laundry hamper filled with cleaning supplies and basic items to help them get started in their new home. Personal Care Bags include a backpack containing new or unopened (sample size) hygiene products, along with survival items such as socks, hats, and blankets; depending on the season. Backpacks are given to housing insecure individuals at shelters and during outreach visits.

Thanks to all of our community partners, CAFTH has been able to distribute:

**1,350** Personal Care Bags  
**102** Home Warming Baskets  
**\$9,500** in Kroger and Visa Gift Cards!

Learn more and donate by visiting [cafth.org](https://cafth.org).



# Memphis/Shelby County Homeless Consortium

Agape Child & Family Services, Inc.  
Aging Commission of the Mid South  
Alliance Healthcare Services  
Alpha Omega Veterans Services, Inc.  
Baptist Operation Outreach.  
Behavioral Health Initiatives  
BHW Estate  
Catholic Charities of West Tennessee  
Communities in Schools of Memphis  
Constance Abbey  
Dorothy Day House  
Friends For Life  
FTP Nonprofit  
Godly Ambitious Business (GAB)  
MGMT LLC.  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
(GHHI) Memphis  
H. O. P. E.  
Hope House  
JUICE Orange Mound  
Latino Memphis  
Lisieux Community

Living Grace Memphis  
Love Doesn't Hurt  
Memphis-Shelby County Schools  
Merge Memphis  
Meritan, Inc.  
Methodist Le Bonheur Community  
Outreach  
MIFA  
My Sistah's House  
OUTMemphis  
Promise Development Corporation  
Restore Corps  
Salvation Army Purdue Center of Hope  
SchoolSeed Foundation  
Seed House  
Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape  
Crisis Center  
Shelby County Division of Community  
Services  
SHIELD, INC.  
St. John's Community Services (SJCS)  
St. Luke Lutheran Church

The Chynetha K Foundation  
Thistle and Bee Enterprises, Inc.  
TYF Consulting  
United Way of the Mid-South Driving  
the Dream  
WORTHY SOCKS  
Youth Residential Services  
YWCA Greater Memphis

## *Individuals*

Lakisha Bah-Stewart  
La Tasha Jones  
LaToya Trenee Young-Taylor  
Maggie Anglin  
Marian Bacon  
Rita Gibson Rayford



Housing is a right.





Leading effective practices to end homelessness in Memphis and Shelby County.



Community Alliance  
for the Homeless