

# TN VOICES

THE COLLABORATIVE LEADER GUIDING  
MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

Fall 2021



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# TN VOICES

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MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

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## a letter from the CEO



In this season of weather change, I also sense the changes in our communities across TN. A lot has happened to Tennesseans in the last 18 months. Beyond the pandemic, we experienced a tense election, racial injustice, natural disasters, the Christmas Day bombing, and two recent mass shootings in West TN. As we focused on supporting the community through this we have learned that there is a feeling resonating with everyone we talk to, its called "languishing". We have increased our presence in the community and the support we can offer to help people with this feeling. Ultimately, our hope is to help move people from languishing to flourishing and experience the joy they used to experience in their day to day. We are also seeking to promote self-care for individuals and compassionate care in systems and corporations. If this resonates with you, you won't want to miss our virtual Story of Hope show on November 16th to learn more.

We need to meet the needs of the people in our state and that may include you! I hope you will consider joining us. Whether you are looking for employment, volunteerism, or investing philanthropically, we can help you connect and give our neighbors hope!

Sincerely,  
Rikki Harris  
CEO  
TN Voices



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## Events



## Hendersonville Farmers Market and Health and Wellness Day

TN Voices participated in the Hendersonville Farmers Market and Health and Wellness Day event as a presenting sponsor. On August 28th, 2021, Program Manager, Katherine Bell and Early Childhood Support Specialist Gracie Stubbs, attended the event and hosted a Booth to promote TN Voices services to the community. This event was geared towards families with a balloon artist, magician, music, and artisan vendors. During the event, local residents and families had the opportunity to interact with TN Voices staff and learn more about the services available through the agency.

## 2nd Annual Back to School Bash

A Drive Thru Back-to-School event was held at Lagrange Moscow Elementary School in Moscow, TN. There were various agencies, TN Voices being one of the agencies, to supply items for several schools in Fayette County. Volunteers met at First United Methodist Church to deliver and organize supplies to fill over 500 backpacks to be distributed to Buckley Carpenter Middle and High, and Lagrange Moscow Elementary Schools. Outreach Specialists, Vickie Shelton and Shirley Williams, with the The Statewide Family Support Network Program/TN Voices attended the event at Lagrange Moscow Elementary. The event was hosted by DCS. A total of one hundred backpacks were picked up by parents who drove through at the elementary school to receive school supplies for their children to start the new school year, after being home for a year or more due to COVID 19.



Pictured from left to right: Outreach Specialists Allison Elam and Samina Humphreys

## Events



### TN Voices Tour of Ridin' High

SFSN and SOCAT teams visited Hamblen County's Ridin' High Therapeutic Riding facility. The teams were given a tour of the facilities, the sensory trail, and met the equines that contribute to the success of this program. The staff learned about the effect of therapeutic riding on the brain and how it aids in the treatment of mental and developmental challenges throughout our visit at Ridin' High. In the future, TN Voices will collaborate with Ridin' High to give educational opportunities for staff and parents, while Ridin' High provides opportunities for the families we assist to utilize the riding facility.

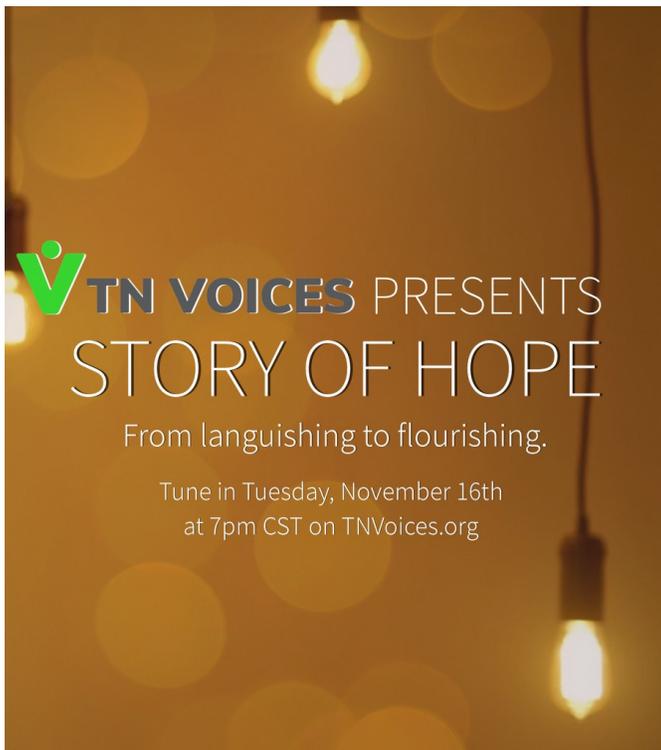
### Scarecrows in the Park

TN Voices staff participated in the Scarecrows in the Park event in Hamblen County on October 1st at Fred Miller Park. Staff from SFSN, Survivor Connection, and SOCAT came together creating a fun life size visual of TN Voices vision of Building Hope for All Generations. Teams built a backdrop of HOPE and stuffed scarecrows of each generation ranging from a baby to a grandma scarecrow. This created a 10 x 10 display that will remain in the park throughout October as a visual reminder to those in the community of the WHY behind the efforts of TNV staff in the East region!

Special thanks go out to Rob Burke, Caroline Rodriguez, Amy Blackwell, Randall Sidwell, and Abby Sanders for making this happen!



## Gala Update



Languishing is defined as suffering from being forced to remain in an unpleasant place or situation, and failure to make progress or be successful.

Languishing is a common feeling that many Tennesseans are encountering, even now as we remain hopeful that we will soon move out of this long covid season, seeking to find greater normalcy and move forward looking to the start of a better year in 2022.

Tennesseans need help, hope and practical tools to help move them forward from languishing to flourishing.

Gratefully, we Tennesseans are still standing... sorta, but not without some scars along the way. How can we heal and move on? What are some tools we can use for ourselves as well as our family and friends?

The TN Voices Annual Green Ribbon Gala, currently known as the Story of Hope will be held Tuesday, November 16, 2021 starting at 7pm on Facebook live and Youtube.

Tennesseans have been through an extreme eighteen month season of natural disasters and man-made traumas, and many of these specific to our state alone. We have endured a tornado, floods, the pandemic, plus riots, a Christmas Day bombing, shootings, election tensions, and more. Covid alone has created a very personal impact on each Tennessean and/or those closest to them impacting one's health, personal finances, and relationships.

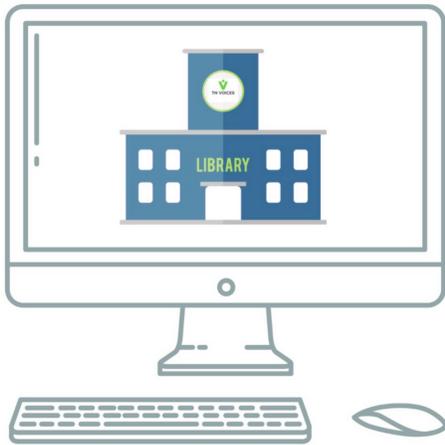
TN Voices will provide a 20-minute educational show that will address the above, provide practical tools to move from languishing to flourishing, bring hope, and seek continual support to expand our reach to serve more Tennessean's. Currently \$50 is the average cost to provide mental health support to one Tennessean. How many Tennesseans can you help? Click below for more information on this show on November 16, as well as information on paying it forward to help more Tennesseans. Go to [tnvoices.org/give](https://tnvoices.org/give) to learn more and follow us on Facebook for details about the event.

<https://tnvoices.org>



# Online Library

FREE ONLINE LIBRARY  
TN VOICES



TN Voices has just upgraded its FREE online library for the public which provides access to eBooks, fact sheets, audio books, mental health resources and more!

TN Voices online library requires no special apps to read. Search and browse by author, title, subject, and type. In addition to 265 audio and downloadable children’s books, the online library contains Fact Sheets on many mental health topics such as Teen Suicide, Substance Abuse, and Childhood Depression. Those dealing with mental health issues have a wealth of knowledge available to them in their homes and providers have resources to provide to caregivers and clients.

Enjoy as you browse our online library containing items on mental health, navigating systems, self-help for children, teens, young adults, and adults at Online Library - TN Voices. Click the link below for more details!

## Online Library

TN Voices' online library is one tool our organization provides to inform, support, and assist parents and providers across the state. It strongly represents at least two of our Core Values: Family Member/Caregiver Education and Access to Services. By establishing this library, family members, caregivers, and children have access to books and resources focused on social emotional learning, self-care, managing children’s behavioral concerns, and general mental health topics.

### Online Library

Online Library>Welcome to TN Voices online library which has access to free eBooks and fact sheets.Contact UsMental Health Fact SheetsResourc...



# Suicide Prevention Month & The Debut of Our New Podcast



## Suicide Prevention Month

Throughout the month of September, TN Voices commemorated National Suicide Prevention Month. As a mental health organization, this is an extremely important awareness month in which we have made every effort to provide resources and encouragement to those in need.

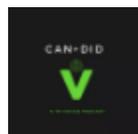
TN Voices' Survivor Connection- West Team participated in the Fayette Co. Schools Walk-A-Thon for Suicide Prevention on September 9th, 2021. The team was able to complete the walk and hand out Survivor Connection Post Cards and Referral Forms. It was a great day filled with hope and encouragement.

## CAN + DID Podcast!

TN Voices is pleased to announce our brand new podcast hosted by our very own Rikki Harris and Will Voss!

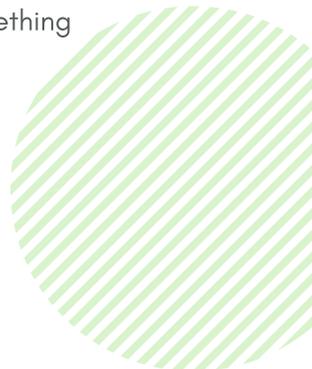
Can+Did is a podcast of TN Voices about mental health, featuring stories of people who themselves have overcome mental health challenges, as well as those who have helped others overcome mental health challenges. This podcast brings about authenticity, and is intended to give a voice to those who are passionate about mental well being. We hope that by sharing stories, listeners will understand mental health better, how important it is and helps reduce stigma. We want you to know that so many who have struggled with mental health CAN and DID overcome their challenges. If you are struggling, you can too.

So far we have had six episodes including guests from our very own staff members, as well as many other special guests! If you'd like to check it out, you can follow us on all streaming platforms including Apple, Spotify, Google and Amazon or click the link below. We sincerely hope you enjoy and are able to learn something new!



### Can+Did, a TN Voices Podcast

Can+Did is a podcast of TN Voices about mental health, featuring stori...  
[tnvoices.buzzsprout.com](http://tnvoices.buzzsprout.com)



## New Employee Highlight



### Mark McFerran

Mark is our new Chief Development Officer at TN Voices. He has already been an incredible addition to the TNV team and we are so glad to have him onboard as he has stepped into his new role.

Mark states, "I have enjoyed a long career in being a mouthpiece for good causes, all non-profits with a mission that I believe in deeply. Brentwood Academy brought me to Nashville 26 years ago with my wife Melody and our two young children, to be their fundraiser for the school, followed by a time at Lipscomb University doing similar fundraising work and expanding the message of the university into the greater community. TN Voices found me raising support at AGAPE Nashville. TN Voices is a great fit for what I have found to be the best money I could ever ask people for as the Chief Development Officer, donations that will support any Tennessean living anywhere, urban, suburban, or rural areas in all 95 counties of our state, and whether one can afford mental health support or not!"

Mark's vision at TN Voices is to continue to provide a wide range of mental health services, from in-school support for teachers to better identify kids in need, PreK to 12th grade students, after school care and programs to give students the extra help they need, help children and parents identify and get the help they need, care for victims of crime, family counseling, individual therapy, early childhood centers, residential 24/7 care, and more. He states "I will seek to raise support among TN residents, corporations, and small businesses for all aspects of the good work we get to do on behalf of Tennesseans."

TN Voices serves all 95 counties, and Mark believes, "together we will enhance our vision of building hope for all generations, and enhance our mission of being the collaborative leader guiding mental health transformation here in our wonderful, growing state of Tennessee."

For more information about ways you can support Tennessee Voices with your time, talents, and financial resources, including outright gifts, plus gifts of stock, real estate and legacy giving, contact Mark at [mark.mcferran@tnvoices.org](mailto:mark.mcferran@tnvoices.org)

We are thrilled to have Mark join us and are so thankful for his determination to serve Tennesseans with his unique skillset and drive for growth.



## New Employee Highlight



### DeShana Johnson

Shana Johnson is our new Facilities Director. Her role is to oversee the safety, compliance and maintenance of all TN Voices locations.

Shana states, " I am an original Nashvillian and have spent the last 20 years in Healthcare and Mammography. Both management and hands-on patient care as well as department compliance were all skills acquired over the years in Healthcare. COVID-19 forced me into an unemployment situation that was very unexpected. Searching my soul on a new career path led me to TN Voices..."

My passion to serve others while being responsible for their care was completely aligned with my purpose! Because TN Voices is a very prominent and leading organization for supporting individuals and families, it was a natural fit to join the movement of mental health services. It is such a rewarding experience to care for those in need of mental health support during these very challenging times."

Her mission as Facilities Director is to "provide prompt and attentive support to ensure safety for staff and clients at each TN Voices location. I will strive to meet and exceed compliance requirements making sure all of our residents, employees and visitors experience pleasant and inviting facilities."

Lastly, Shana says she is "looking forward to working closely with each house manager to maintain our current properties as well as expansion into new areas."

We are so excited to have Shana onboard with us and we are honored by her dedication to serve others and be a part of the the TN Voices family.



## New Employee Highlight



### Nicole Bugg

Nicole is the Director of Community Outreach and Engagement for TN Voices' new Family and Adult Solution-Focused Treatment (FAST) program.

Nicole is a native Tennessean who received her bachelor's degree in social work from Middle Tennessee State University in 2006. After graduation, Nicole pursued a career working with children and families with the Tennessee Department of Children Services (DCS). This role allowed Nicole to work directly with children and their families as well as other community agencies and partners. After four years with DCS, Nicole took on a role in the mental health field for Kidlink Treatment Services and eventually for Compass Intervention Center for the next 10 ½ years.

While at Compass, she was responsible for outreach across Middle and East TN, and later became the Director of Admissions and Business Development, growing and expanding mental health services for youth across Tennessee and the Mid-South.

However, in response to the request that TN Voices has received from community partners to provide support for children and families during the COVID crisis, the FAST program was developed and Nicole has stepped in. She believes, "this program will focus on providing outpatient therapy and family peer support services to children, youth, young adults, adults, and families across the state of Tennessee." Nicole will spearhead outreach for the program to ensure all Tennesseans are informed of the availability of services provided by the FAST program at TN Voices.

Nicole is passionate about working with children and families and building relationships with community partners. With ten years' experience in outreach, Nicole hopes to increase awareness of and access to resources for all populations across the state of Tennessee. Nicole will work to build new relationships and strengthen existing relationships with community stakeholders and spread the mission and vision of TNV.

We are extremely grateful to have Nicole join our team and we are certain her passion for this program is going to change many lives.



## New Positions Open



**We Are Hiring**

**TN VOICES**

APPLY NOW

Send your resume & CV to  
bchapman@tnvoices.org

## Available Positions

Below is a list of our current open positions:

- **Assistant House Manager**
- **Certified Psychological Assistant**
- **Clinical Program Manager**
- **Community Engagement Specialist (Middle TN)**
- **Community Outpatient Therapist (Middle TN)**
- **Outreach Specialist (Middle TN)**
- **Residential Specialist (Middle TN, Part-time and Full-time)**
- **School Based Behavioral Health Liaison (Houston County)**
- **School Based Behavioral Health Liaison (Macon County)**
- **School Based Behavioral Health Liaison (Wayne County)**
- **Therapist (Benton County)**
- **Therapist (Hancock County)**
- **Youth and Family Therapist (Middle TN)**
- **Youth and Family Therapist (Middle TN)**
- **Youth Screen Regional Site Coordinator (East TN)**

Each position is unique in location and qualifications. For a complete list and description of each open position, check out our website at [tnvoices.org/employment](https://tnvoices.org/employment).

## We're Hiring!

TN Voices is working diligently to expand our organization and that starts with YOU! We are now offering many new positions all across the board, and we are thrilled to be offering new opportunities within our organization.

TN Voices is an agency that focuses on not only the empowerment of children, youth, and adults, but also the empowerment of our staff. A career at TN Voices offers a motivating and team player environment. This is also inclusive of a newly enhanced comprehensive benefits package for full-time employees including Health, Dental, Vision, Company Paid Life Insurance, 403b plan with match and supplemental benefits options – in addition to thirteen (13) paid holidays and a generous PTO accrual system





We'd like to give a warm thank you for following along with us this Quarter and for investing your time and money into TN Voices. We have faced many big changes these past couple months and we are delighted to share some of those highlights with you! May you be blessed for your generosity!

Love,  
Your TN Voices Family

