

# TN VOICES

THE COLLABORATIVE LEADER GUIDING  
MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

Quarter 4

2021



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# TN VOICES

THE COLLABORATIVE LEADER GUIDING  
MENTAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION

## a letter from the CEO



The COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the need for mental health care across the country. As numbers continue to rise, some have referred to the mental health needs as a crisis, or a second pandemic. This is one of the reasons we believe it is so important to support mental health work and improve access to care. With continued media coverage of mental health issues, we have been fortunate to use our platform to reach TN communities with a message of hope.

In response to the needs of our fellow Tennesseans, we have grown our services to reach more people and provide critical services to individuals and families. We are grateful to the advocates and leaders in the mental health field who speak out. Externally, we have called on leaders across the state to “go green” with us and celebrate Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week. Internally, we are celebrating the promotion of several staff to Director positions. I am so excited as we see new leaders emerging and others leaders expanding their capacity to lead and advocate! I live by the motto that good leaders create more leaders.

I hope you will celebrate with us as we expand, but more importantly, I hope you will consider supporting mental health now more than ever. If you know someone looking for a career in this field, please share the current openings with them included in the newsletter. If you or someone you know needs help, please reach out! [tnvoices.org](http://tnvoices.org)

Sincerely,

CEO  
TN Voices

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# TN VOICES

Support Services From Firsthand Experiences

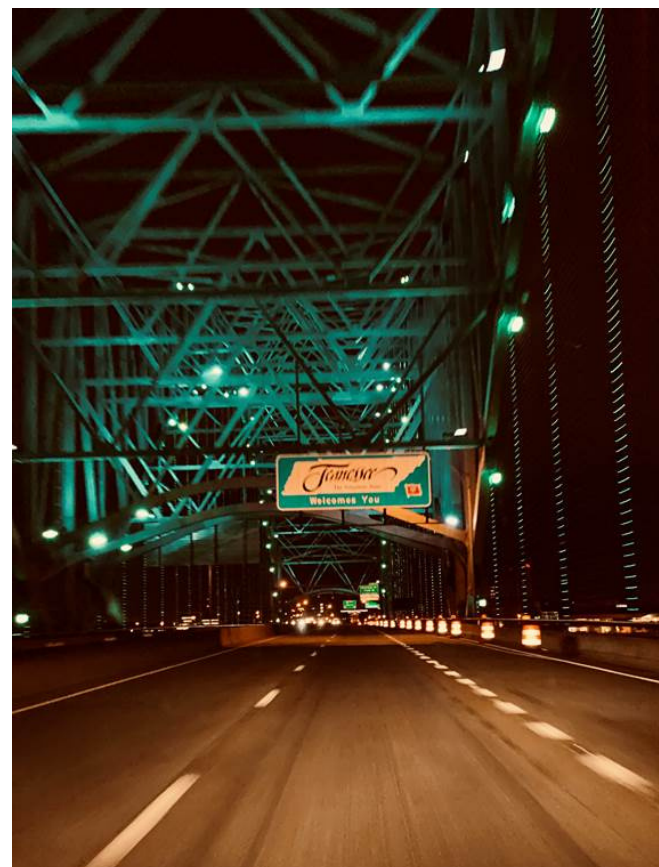


## Mental Health Awareness Month

This May we celebrated another successful Mental Health Awareness month. As a mental health organization, our aim for this month is to provide encouragement, support, awareness and resources across the state of Tennessee.

We kicked off the month with The Big Payback and are so grateful for each donation and the overwhelming support we received. With the recent disasters in our state, COVID-19, and the resulting economic downturn, this year your donations meant more than ever before. We are honored to have participated in another year of this event, and we wish to thank you for being a part of providing mental health services to Tennesseans.

TN Voices also had the pleasure of participating in Children's Mental Health Awareness day by wearing green. All across the state, our staff took pictures in their green to show our support. It was a fun day full of light, encouragement, and we can proudly say the joy of coming together for an important cause was priceless!



**Hernando Desoto Bridge  
Memphis, TN**

## Cities lit up in GREEN

In recognition of Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week, TN Voices teams collaborated with city and county government officials to promote the importance of children’s mental health through a series of events across the state. In Middle Tennessee, The Korean Veterans Bridge was lit green, as well as the Big River Crossing, and Hernando Desoto Bridge in West Tennessee. The color green is representative of mental health awareness, and we were honored to have these historic landmarks play a key role in our annual “Go Green” campaign, as well as support from staff in promoting Children’s Mental Health awareness on various social media platforms.



**Rutherford County Court House  
Murfreesboro, TN**



**Korean Vet’s Bridge  
Nashville, TN**



**Big River Crossing Bridge  
Memphis, TN**

# Mental Health Awareness Month



## STATE OF TENNESSEE PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, good mental health is a key component in a child's healthy development and Children's Mental Health Week provides the opportunity to focus on this important matter, while celebrating the accomplishments of children and families affected by mental health concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, young adults, and families today is fundamental to the future of Tennessee; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children is diagnosed with a mental health condition; and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that early identification and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children and adolescents provide them with better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about the warning signs of mental health disorders and identify where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services for children, youth, young adults, and families places upon our community a critical responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Tennessee is prioritizing the mental health of our children by investing in a Mental Health Trust Fund to ensure students have access to mental health resources;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Lee, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May 2 – May 9, 2021 as

*Children's Mental Health Awareness Week*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twenty-first day of April, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*DeKangitt*

Secretary of State



A special thank you to Governor Bill Lee for participating in Children's Mental Health Awareness day!



# Mental Health Awareness Month

Thank you to the following  
City and County Officials for recognizing  
Children's Mental Health Awareness in TN!

City of Memphis - Jim Strickland  
 City of Nashville - John Cooper  
 Town of Collierville - Stan Joyner  
 Hardin County - Kevin Davis  
 Benton County - Brett Lashlee  
 Humphreys County - Jessie Wallace  
 City of Gallatin - Paige Brown  
 Robertson County - Bill Vogle  
 Wayne County - Jim Mangubat  
 Sumner County - Anthony Holt  
 City of Newport - Roland Dykes  
 Cocke County - Crystal Ottinger  
 Roane County - Ron Woody  
 Rutherford County - Bill Ketron  
 Knox County - Glenn Jacobs  
 Blount County - Ed Mitchell  
 Hamblen County - Bill Brittain  
 Jefferson County - Mark Potts  
 Sevier County - Larry Waters  
 Hamilton County - Jim Coppinger  
 Claiborne County - Joseph Brooks  
 Bledsoe County - Gregory Ridley  
 Madison County - Jimmy Harris  
 Crockett County - Gary Reasons  
 Lewis County - Jonah Keltner  
 Lincoln County - Bill Newman  
 Williamson County - Rogers Anderson  
 Town of Arlington - Mike Wissman  
 Bradley County - D. Gary Davis  
 Grainger County - Mike Byrd  
 Montgomery County - Jim Durrett  
 Morgan County - Brian Langley  
 Town of Smyrna - Mary Esther Reed  
 Weakley County - Jake Bynum  
 Wilson County - Randall Hutto



TN Voices would like to give a special thanks to all who participated within their local municipalities in celebrating National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day on May, 7th 2021. This year was a huge success and we are so grateful for each city and county represented across the state of Tennessee.

# Inaugural Golf Tournament



Golfers from across Tennessee came out to Foxland Harbor Golf course on April 13 to support TN Voices and help raise money and awareness for mental health support services in our great state!

The Inaugural TN Voices Charity Golf Tournament, presented by Westin Nashville, drew over 100 attendees, including celebrity recording artist Ty Herndon! Herndon and Ray Render, Deputy District Director for Congressman John Rose, spoke to attendees about the important work TN Voices continues to do. The event raised over \$20,000 in its first year!

**“We are so thankful that the inaugural event was well received by some of the newest supporters of TN Voices. Our goal is not only to raise funds to support mental health services but also to expand our reach to equip new advocates for our mission. We want to let Tennesseans know TN Voices is here to assist them with whatever mental health needs they may have,”** says Chief Development Officer Michelle Thomas.

Door prizes, cash prizes and silent auction items were all up for grabs both during and after the tournament. The money raised will go directly towards funding mental health support services in every area of Tennessee.



# Madison County Rolling Resource Fair

The Madison County Rolling Resource Fair was held in Jackson TN on May 15th, 2021 at 173 Roosevelt Parkway at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church. This initiative was in collaboration with Madison County CAB and Tennessee Voices. The agencies that provided their referral information or promotional items were Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Jackson City Police, Dream Center, Washington Douglas Head Start Program, CCRR, Ayers Children’s Medical Center, UT Extension Skill Up TN, Reconnect, Ire–Present Christ Ministries, Tennessee Homeless Solutions, Health Connect America, SWAG Mentor Program, Spero Health, Amerigroup, United Way, Historic First Baptist Church, A Step Ahead Foundation, Workforce Essential, Dental Quest, Aim Clinic, Eagles Nest Family Service, TN National Guard, US ARMY, Bethel Baptist Church. Tennessee Voices Survivor Connection West staff is especially grateful to the Jackson City Police Department, Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Bethel Baptist Church and the Madison County Fire Department for their awesome support.

The purpose of the event was to inform the community of the resources available in the area as well as provide a list of summer and church camps for the youth in the community. Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church is in walking distance of three low-income apartment complexes, Lincoln Court Apartments, Parkway East Apartments II, and Lincoln Circle. This community especially benefited from the resource fair and consistently showed their appreciation by stating, “God Bless You”.



## Employee Highlight - Program Director



### David Thomas

David is the TN Voices Clinical Director and oversees our Outpatient, Early Childhood, School Based Behavioral Health Liaison, and Youth Screen programs.

TN Voices Outpatient program offers individual counseling services for children (ages 4+), adolescents, young adults, adults, parents, caregivers, and families. TNV provides a strengths-based approach while using evidence-informed practices to provide quality trauma-informed care.

It is **"my goal as Director is to provide operational and clinical guidance to ensure that every referral is contacted in a timely manner and that all clients are provided high quality clinical care. Also to verify that each client has a treatment plan, crisis plan, DLA-20, and ACES assessment within 30 days of beginning services and ensure each encounter is billable,"** states David.

In addition, the Early Childhood Program provides training and technical assistance to parents and childcare staff across the state of Tennessee. David's goal is to **"assist the Childcare Consultation Manager with problem solving and planning for growth while providing resources for the CCC team to provide trainings, consultations and seek out 2 new consultation sights per contract year."**

Furthermore, the School Based Behavioral Health Liaison (SBBHL) partners with teachers and school administration to seamlessly integrate trauma informed practices and mental health awareness into existing education systems. David's heart behind this program is to **"provide all SBBHL's the resources they need to provide 5 trainings at each assigned school along with 800 clinical encounters to students and/or consultations to school staff."**

Lastly, Youth Screen is a reliable, user-friendly, voluntary, and confidential computer-based screening instrument, that assists screeners in identifying mental health, suicide, and substance abuse risks. Youth Screen is free to qualifying communities, schools, agencies, and other service providers in Tennessee. Youth Screen's primary goal is to identify youth with mental health risks - before they fall behind in school, end up in trouble, or attempt to take their own lives - and to offer the families of these youth the opportunity to connect with resources and services in the community as needed.

David's mission is to **"assist our Youth Screen manager and Coordinators in providing 50 suicide prevention screenings and suicide prevention trainings for 500 attendees across Tennessee."**

We would like to thank and highlight David for all of his hard work making these programs run smoothly and efficiently, and for his heart behind each specific mission.



## Employee Highlight - Program Director



### Kimberly Fyke-Vance

Kimberly is our System of Care Program Director and oversees the TN Voices System of Care Program, as well as the Tennessee Healthy Transitions Initiative.

In partnership with the TDMHSAS, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY), Centerstone Research Institute (CRI), youth, parents/caregivers, and other SOCAT partners as designated by the State, TN Voices is proud to continue our long history of System of Care work in our state through the System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) initiative. Our staff currently provide high-fidelity Wraparound services to children, youth, young adults (ages 0-21) and their families. Our goal is to ensure children and their families receive services and supports that are Family-Driven, Youth-Guided, Community Based, and Culturally and Linguistically Responsive.

The Healthy Transitions: Improving Life Trajectories program (HT-ILT) is made possible with a federal grant award from the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The Healthy Transitions program seeks to assist select Tennessee youth and young adults who have a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED), Serious Mental Illness (SMI), or co-occurring disorder, in maximizing their potential to assume adult roles and responsibilities and lead full and productive lives. The population of focus is youth and young adults (16-25) years of age.

TN Voices employs the Young Adult Peer Stabilizer (YAPS) and the Social Marketing and Outreach Specialist. The YAPS is the young adult peer who will be or become a Certified Young Adult Peer Support Specialist and collaborates with the child and adult mobile crisis system within Davidson County at Mental Health Cooperative, Inc. The Social Marketing and Outreach Specialist provides oversight and direction of HT social marketing/communications campaign, community engagement, public education activities, and overall outreach for the HT-ILT program statewide.

Kimberly's goal as Program Director is to **"continue to spread and imbed System of Care and its values across the State of TN, as well as continue to ensure that SOC remains a cornerstone of TN Voices across programs."**

We would like to thank and highlight Kimberly for the care she gives and the hard work she pours into these programs.

## Employee Highlight - Program Director



### Kathy Rogers

Kathy oversees our Strengthening Families, Nurturing Parenting, Juvenile Justice Reform, Family Connection programs as well as the FSS Competency Course and Family Support Specialist Coalition.

The Strengthening Families Program (SFP) is an evidence-based family skills training program designed for families with children 0-17 years of age. The program strengthens families in the area of parenting skills, youth life skills, and the family unit skills. SFP was crafted to teach and have parents and youth practice skills involved in bonding (creating warm, loving relationships), setting clear, firm boundaries (rules against antisocial behavior, including drug and alcohol misuse), and monitoring their children's emotional well-being and activities to see that they stay in an alcohol and drug-free social environment. Skills practiced in the program create new prosocial habit patterns in the brain, which help improve behavior, strengthens the parent-child relationship, and help children feel loved.

Additionally, The Nurturing Parenting Program (NPP) is an evidence-based program for the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect. NPP builds protective factors in families that, when present, increase the health and well-being of children and families.

The Juvenile Justice Reform (JJR) program is a collaborative effort aimed to divert families from further court and DCS involvement between TN Voices, the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Department, the Montgomery, Robertson and Sumner County Juvenile Courts. The JJR program is a strength-based and family-driven program that supports children, youth and families involved in the Juvenile Justice system.

Lastly, The Family Connection Program is a collaborative effort aimed to divert families from further DCS involvement between TN Voices, The Department of Children's Services, and Davidson County DCS. Our intensive in-home services are provided by a team of a Family Support Specialist (FSS) and a Youth and Family Therapist (YFT) to work with both youth and parents to identify strengths and needs, connect with services, and build necessary skills to maintain the youth at home, in school and in the community.

Kathy's goals for all programs are that **"we provide high quality, effective service and are seen in the community as a "dream team" of accomplishment. Basic to all are to also grow where the service need is identified."**

We would like to thank and highlight Kathy for the many areas in which she serves with commitment and abundance.

## Employee Highlight - Program Directors



### Tammy Wilson

Tammy is our East TN Regional Director and her role currently includes being the Program Director for the Survivor Connection Program, Statewide Family Support Program, and our Family Support Provider in the Juvenile Courts Program.

The Statewide Family Support Network (SFSN) is core to Tennessee Voices mission. The Statewide Family Support Network provides valuable support, information, and training to parents and caregivers across the state, empowering them to successfully “navigate” the complex child-serving systems to obtain the services necessary for children and youth with emotional and behavioral disorders.

The Survivor Connection program provides high quality intensive in-home services that directly improve the health and well-being of victims of crime with priority given to victims of child abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault and services for previously underserved victims. This program serves counties in East TN, Northeast TN, and West TN.

Finally, the Family Support provider in the Juvenile Courts works to provide family support in the courts in order to reduce recidivism and increase diversion of children from the juvenile justice system. The Family Support Providers in the Juvenile Courts (FSPJC) Program has been created to support families in identifying resources and services to address mental health issues in youth facing juvenile charges.

As the East TN Regional Director, Tammy's goal is to **"continue to increase awareness of programs and services offered by TN Voices, deepen relationships with community partners, and facilitate bringing new programs to the region. It is my pleasure to work in east Tennessee providing support to staff and sharing the vision and mission of TNV with community partners and the families we serve."**

We would like to thank and highlight Tammy for being a strong leader and source of connection for those she serves.



## Employee Highlight - Program Director



### Conni Wells

Conni is TN Voices Regional Director and oversees the TNV Rural Family Network (RFN).

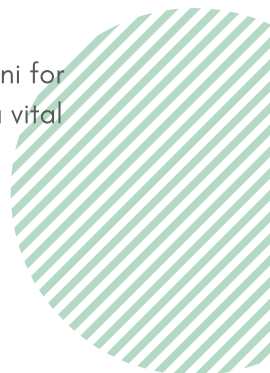
The TNV RFN will utilize the products and resources developed and tested in NE TN to ensure that rural families are transformation catalysts of a culturally responsive and family driven mental health and related child and family service systems across the state. The program will develop cooperative partnerships between rural family members, policymakers, service providers, family organizations, targeted resources, and linkages with non-rural stakeholders in the mental health arena using lessons learned in the NE TN rural model.

The project will develop a network of family and organizational leaders, increase family run participation in systems change, provide leadership training for families and youth, increase family organization and leader skills and collaboration, facilitate rural family representation on state and/or local planning and policy development workgroups, (cont...)

develop training that increases the capacity to create and sustain a family driven approach, reduce stigma, bias, and superstition of mental illness and associated with services and supports to families and their children, increase family capacity to access mental health services and utilize supports, and establish Regional Mental Health Information Centers to assist families in understanding, accessing, and advocating for needed services.

Conni's goals for this program include **"using what we have learned about rural areas to: develop a network of family and organizational leaders with systems change management capacity that reflects the culture, traditions, and beliefs of rural TN; increase family organization skills and collaboration within and across programs, providers, and policymakers that serve children and youth with SED to promote family driven support at all levels of program planning, development, implementation, and evaluation; reduce stigma, bias, and superstition of mental illness and associated services that interfere with the utilization of networks of services and supports to families and their children; and facilitate the capacity of families to access mental health services and utilize supports in their community to make informed decisions on behalf of their children and youth within rural TN."**

We would like to thank and highlight Conni for her passion to serve and for being such a vital resource for her community.



## Employee Highlight - Program Director



### Rebecca Rahman

Rebecca is TN Voices Adult Services Director.

The TN Voices Intensive Long-term Support (ILS) program provides quality, safe, and affordable permanent supportive housing for individuals discharging from two of the State's Regional Mental Health Institutes. These clients reside at Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute and Western Mental Health Institute, and would not be able to successfully live in the community without ILS due to the lack of available housing with the capacity to meet their specific needs. TN Voices currently operates an 18-bed ILS facility in downtown Nashville, and will open a 20-bed facility in Jackson in February 2022. We offer a supportive residence to our clients, with services including care coordination, onsite nursing care, access to a certified peer recovery specialist, psychiatric medication management, transportation to health appointments and recreational activities.

The TN Voices Tennessee Move Initiative (TMI) program works in partnership with the Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute to provide wrap around supports to clients discharging into the community. TMI transitions identified individuals from MTMHI to community based housing by providing short-term intensive support services using a team approach which consists of a care coordinator, certified peer recovery specialist and a Nurse. This team is available to these clients 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, and works with them as individuals for 6 to 12 months. During this time, they connect the client with housing and needed treatment providers and help them to build a natural support system within the community.

Rebecca's goal as director is **"ensure all residents we serve are provided with the support, resources, and services needed to promote their development of independent living skills; such as, assistance with basic activities of daily living, medication management, therapy, psycho-social rehabilitation, recreation and community engagement. Most importantly we strive to provide a place in which each resident can call "home" so they feel comfortable, safe and valued."**

We would like to thank and highlight Rebecca for her passion in her work and for her desire to make everyone feel at home.



## Employee Highlight & New Job Openings!



### Blair Chapman

Blair Chapman is the Director of Operations at TN Voices. She has been with the organization since 2014 and has served in various capacities during her time at TNV. In her role as the Director of Operations, Blair assists in the development and implementation of policies and procedures that improve the daily operations of the organization. She also concentrates on the recruitment, onboarding, and training for new employees. Other responsibilities include benefits administration and HR compliance.

In her new role, Blair is committed to developing new methods to support staff and provide a positive work environment at TN Voices. She also plans to enhance the performance measurement tools to ensure the highest quality of services for the children, youth, and adults served at TNV.



### New Job Openings!

Another aspect of Blair's role is the hiring process! TN Voices is working diligently to expand our organization and that starts with YOU! We are now offering many new positions in multiple locations across the state of TN, 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 collaborative 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.**

# New Job Openings!

## What does it look like to work at TN voices?

TN Voices is an Equal Opportunity Employer. We do not discriminate on account of race, color, religion, national origin, citizenship status, ancestry, age, sex (including sexual harassment), sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental disability, military status or unfavorable discharge from military service.

Below is a list of our current open positions:

- **Assistant House Manager**
- **Care Coordinator (Benton County)**
- **Certified Psychological Assistant**
- **Community Engagement Specialist (West TN)**
- **Community Engagement Specialist (Middle TN)**
- **Community Engagement Specialist (East TN)**
- **Community Outpatient Therapist (Middle TN)**
- **Director of Community Outreach and Engagement**
- **Family Support Specialist (Clay County)**
- **Family Support Specialist (Middle TN)**
- **Healthy Transitions Social Marketing Specialist**
- **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)**
- **Survivor Connection Program Manager (West TN)**
- **Therapist (Benton County)**
- **Therapist (Hancock County)**
- **Youth Engagement Specialist**
- **Youth and Family Therapist (Hamblen County)**
- **Youth and Family Therapist (Cocke County)**
- **Youth Screen Regional Site Coordinator (Middle 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](http://tnvoices.org/employment).



# Thank you!



We would like to give a special thanks to our Board President, Patrick Sims, for his service and dedication in serving as President for the past two and a half years. Without his support and willingness to take on additional responsibilities, we would not be the organization we have grown to be.

Patrick is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, a financial investment company. A graduate of Bellarmine University, Patrick earned his Bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems with a minor in Business. For 13 years, he has served in the finance and banking industry including previous roles as District Manager and Vice President of Private Banking. Patrick is also the Owner and Board Member of a long-term care facility in his home town of Paducah, Kentucky, a company owned and operated for 47 years by his family. His early life exposure to a culture of caring for others when they are in need has led him to many roles in service to his community. He has previously served as a Junior Achievement Board Member, an Oasis volunteer, and past Kiwanis member. For the last three years, he has served TNV as a volunteer, donor, and board member, and he has been an anchor in our success. Previous board president, Bill Kirby, honored Patrick with TNV's 2017 President's Award for his outstanding level of involvement with TNV events, fundraising, and growth. In his free time, Patrick enjoys playing on his community kickball team in Germantown, and spending time on the lake with his partner, Chad James.



As Patrick transitions to a member of our Executive Board committee, we are excited to announce our new incoming Board President, Brian Shulman.

Brian is a native of Nashville, graduating from Franklin Road Academy in 1984. He is an active member of TNV's Board of Directors, and strongly believes what makes Tennessee great is our people. In order to prevent long term ramifications, Brian has made it a priority to ensure the mental health needs of our communities are supported. Advocating for Tennessee's children and increasing their access to mental health services will help them live happier, more productive lives, and in turn, keep this state the best in the country. Brian has spent most of his career in healthcare, and currently works as a founding, managing director of Princeton Capital Partners. In his free time, Brian volunteers as a high school football coach and consults for several non-profits. He and his wife, Lisa, have three children - Tyler, Lauren, and Cole.

We sincerely appreciate Brian for accepting the role of Board President and are eager to support his leadership and direction in ensuring that all who are faced with mental health concerns are receiving quality services.





Lastly, TN Voices would like to recognize our staff, sponsors, donors, clients, and supporters for a wonderful quarter and for their continued encouragement and support. We've had the privilege of participating in and celebrating so many important events this season, and we are so grateful for our continued growth. We are looking forward to an even more exciting second half of 2021, and as always, thank you!

**With love and gratitude,**

