

Homelessness Resources

About Homelessness

Tennessee and National Numbers:

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, there were an estimated 9,215 people experiencing homelessness on a single night in Tennessee in 2023. Of those, 1,600 (17%) were families with children. [The US Department of Housing and Urban Development](#)

On Jan 5, 2017, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS), released an [action plan to end chronic homelessness](#) in the Volunteer State. The collaborative plan brings together multiple federal, state, county, and local government agencies, and community partners providing a systematic approach to help eliminate homelessness over the next 10 years.

According to the [January 2022 Point in Time Count](#), **582,462 people** were experiencing homelessness in America (roughly **18 out of every 10,000 people**.) The vast majority (72 percent) were individual adults, and 28 percent were people living in families with children. [National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

Intersectionality with Brain Injury

Traumatic Brain Injury is both a **cause & consequence** of homelessness. **Over half** of those who are homeless or are in an insecure living situation have a TBI. **Twenty-five percent of those were moderate to severe** brain injuries. (10Xs higher than the general population). They have poorer general health and functioning than people who are homeless without brain injury. More than half experience their first TBI **before** becoming homeless. People who are homeless and have a TBI are more likely to report childhood trauma or violence.

Common Challenges in people who are homeless and have a TBI include: memory and new learning, attention, speed of processing, headaches, dizziness and balance Issues, problem-solving, impulse control, communication, irritability, frustration and agitation. These changes may make it harder to budget, apply for housing, pay rent, hold a job, maintain a property, remember appointments, remember to take medication, communicate needs, and be aware that they need services. **Best practice** when working with someone with a TBI who is homeless is to screen for prior history of Brain Injury, screen for deficits if they have a prior history, teach them to use accommodation and have staff use accommodations, and follow up more often and longer.

Screening Tools

For Homelessness, screening is for other co-occurring needs. See [TBF website](#) for related Resource pages.

[NASHIA's OBISSS](#) (Online Brain Injury Screening and Support System)

[Ohio State University TBI Identification Method](#)

[Vulnerability Index - Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool \(VI-SPDAT\)](#)



Crisis Intervention Tools

Homeless Veteran: 1-877-424-3838

Veteran Crisis Line: 1-800-273-8525

Tennessee Websites

[Tennessee Statewide 2-1-1 Resource Network](#): Please call 2-1-1 for listings of shelters in Tennessee

[TDMHSAS, Housing and Homeless Services](#): Supports the housing needs of people living with mental illness, helping them find stable living situations to support their recovery.

[Tennessee Continua of Care by Care Region](#): A Continuum of Care (CoC) is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals, primarily using funding received through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

HUD identifies four necessary parts of a continuum:

- Outreach, intake, and assessment
- Emergency shelter
- Transitional housing
- Permanent and permanent supportive housing

[US Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Tennessee](#) Search for TN Services & Homeless Info
[TN Department of Education Homeless Students Education Program: McKinney-Vento and Immigrant Grant](#)
[TN Chapter of the National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

[Nashville Homeless Planning Council](#)
[Nashville Rescue Mission](#)
[Metro-Nashville Office of Homeless Services](#)
[Compassionate Hands](#)
[Volunteer Network](#)

[Chattanooga Regional Homeless Coalition](#)
[Knoxville Area Rescue Ministry](#)
[Tennessee Valley Coalition for the Homeless](#) (serves Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Loudon, Monroe, Sevier & Union County. Hotline 888-556-0791

[Tennessee Homeless Solutions](#)

Charitable Health Care

[Tennessee Charitable Care Network](#): The Tennessee Charitable Care Network supports, educates, and represents non-profit organizations that provide charitable health care services to low-income, uninsured, and underserved Tennesseans

Find Medical Care: https://www.tccnetwork.org/find_a_clinic.html

Veteran Services in Tennessee

[Tennessee Resources for Homeless Veterans](#)

[Veterans Health Administration \(medical centers and clinics by location\) Benefits, Cemeteries](#)

[Nashville Veteran Affairs Medical Center](#)

[Memphis Veterans Affairs' Medical Center Homeless Program](#)

[Knoxville Veteran Affairs Medical Center](#)

National Websites

[National Coalition for the Homeless](#) To speak with a caring person at any time, call 1-800-Miss-You to reach [Miracle Messages](#), or 988 for the [Suicide & Crisis Life Line](#).

[National Alliance to End Homelessness](#) is a nonpartisan organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States.

[National Health Care for the Homeless Council](#) Their mission is to build an equitable, high-quality health care system through training, research, and advocacy in the movement to end homelessness.

[Adapting Your Practice: Recommendations for the Care of Patients Who Are Homeless or Unstably Housed Living with the Effects of Traumatic Brain Injury](#) [Full PDF of the guidelines](#)

[Valor on the Fax](#) Housing concept in Colorado exclusively for those experiencing homelessness with Brain Injury

[Administration for Community Living \(ACL\) Housing and Resources Services Center](#)

Infographics

[Where Does Homelessness Happen? Understanding the Definitions of Homelessness](#)

[Traumatic Brain Injury and Homelessness \(Australia\)](#)

Trainings

[National Health Care for the Homeless Council Learning Hub](#)

[The Center for Learning: National Alliance to End Homelessness](#)

[Center for Brain Injury Research and Training \(CBIRT\) Housing Support Systems webinars](#)

TN Brighter Futures groups that are a part of this System of Care

TDMHSAS, Housing and Homeless Services
Nashville Homeless Planning Council
Nashville Rescue Mission
Chattanooga Regional Homeless Council
Knoxville Area Rescue Ministry
Tennessee Homeless Solutions

Memphis Veterans Affairs' Medical Center Homeless Program
TN Department of Education McKinney-Vento and Immigrant Grant
Compassionate Hands
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