Monroe County Health Assessment

**2017**

Lesly-Marie Buer MA, MPH Healthy Development Coordinator

East Tennessee Regional Health Office Lesly-Marie.Buer@tn.gov

****

Contents

[1. Built Environment Initiatives 3](#_Toc490227304)

[Table 1. List of built environment initiatives/locations 3](#_Toc490227305)

[2. Basic Demographic Information 6](#_Toc490227306)

[Table 2. Overall demographic profile1 9](#_Toc490227307)

[Table 3. Socioeconomic characteristics1 10](#_Toc490227308)

[3. Basic Health Information 11](#_Toc490227309)

[Table 4. Census built environment indicators1 11](#_Toc490227310)

[Table 5. Additional built environment indicators 12](#_Toc490227311)

[Table 6. Environmental health indicators 12](#_Toc490227312)

[Table 7. Health resource availability 13](#_Toc490227313)

[Table 8. Quality of life 13](#_Toc490227314)

[Table 9. Behavioral indicators 14](#_Toc490227315)

[Table 10. Maternal and child health **Error! Bookmark not defined.**](#_Toc490227316)

[Table 11. Communicable disease 14](#_Toc490227317)

[Table 12. Mortality1 15](#_Toc490227318)

[4. Conclusions from these Data 16](#_Toc490227319)

[5. Government Contacts 17](#_Toc490227320)

[Table 13. Government contacts 17](#_Toc490227321)

[6. Non-governmental Contacts 19](#_Toc490227322)

[Table 14. Non-governmental contacts 19](#_Toc490227323)

[7. Information from Meetings and Interviews **Error! Bookmark not defined.**](#_Toc490227324)

**\* Note: This is a “living” document that changes as new partners from across the county and region are contacted and as new health information becomes available and/or pertinent. This document was last fully revised in November, 2017.**

# 

# 1. Built Environment Initiatives

Below is a list of built environment initiatives, projects, or pertinent locations, including, but not limited to: greenways, walking trails, state parks, farmers markets, community gardens, run clubs, hike clubs, affordable housing communities, et cetera.

Locations selling locally grown foods, particularly in the summer months, are spread throughout the county (Table 1). As can be seen in Table 1 and Map 1, residents in the Madisonville area are less likely to have local access to parks as compared to those living in Sweetwater or the southern half of the county. Several clubs are dedicated to Cherokee National Forest, located in the southern and eastern parts of Monroe County. As seen in Map 2, substandard housing is a concern throughout the county. Over 10 percent of households in and around Sweetwater do not have a vehicle, indicating that alternative transportation may be important in this area.

## Table 1. List of built environment initiatives/locations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Contacts | Website |
| Food resources |  |  |  |
| Monroe on the Move Farmers Market | 9-2 Saturdays, June – October, having issues with participation | Patty Williford  423.545.3015  305 College Street North  Madisonville | [www.monroeheath.org](http://www.monroeheath.org) |
| Santa’s Berry Farm | U-pick blueberries, muscadines, apples and pears, June – October | 423.253.6742  Tellico Plains |  |
| Smarter Lunchrooms | Certification program for making schools healthier through nutrition and physical activity | Monroe County Schools | <https://www.fns.usda.gov/hussc/healthierus-school-challenge-smarter-lunchrooms> |
| Tellico Plains Farmers Market | 9-1 Saturdays, June – October, local food and crafts | [tellicoplainsfm@gmail.com](mailto:tellicoplainsfm@gmail.com)  225 Cherohala Skyway  Tellico Plains | [www.sites.google.com/site/mcfarmmarket/](http://www.sites.google.com/site/mcfarmmarket/) |
| Tsali Notch Vineyard | U-pick muscadines, September – October | [tsalinotchjd@gmail.com](mailto:tsalinotchjd@gmail.com)  423.506.9895  140 Harrison Road  Madisonville | [www.tsalinotch.com](http://www.tsalinotch.com) |
| WEE | On-farm stand, call for hours | [weeintn@gmail.com](mailto:weeintn@gmail.com)  423.371.8856  520 Anderson Road  Sweetwater |  |
| Relevant clubs |  |  |  |
| Cherokee Hiking Club | Sponsors hikes around Cherokee National Forest and Great Smoky Mountains, located in Polk County, but do hikes in Monroe | 198 Crews Drive  Benton | <http://www.cherokeehikingclub.org/> |
| Sequoyah Hiking Club | Plans shorter hikes, under 5 miles, around Madisonville and in the Cherokee National Forest | Johanna Cooley  423.442.3643 | <http://www.sequoyahhikingclub.org/> |
| Tennessee Wild | Dedicated to supporting the Cherokee National Forest, volunteer opportunities for trail maintenance | Laura Hodge  [laurahodge@tnwild.org](mailto:laurahodge@tnwild.org)  423.807.3456 | <http://www.tnwild.org/about-us/> |
| Local parks |  |  |  |
| Engleman Park |  | Sweetwater |  |
| Houston Park | Walking trails, basketball courts, softball fields, playground | James Blesdoe  Madisonville | <http://www.madisonvilletn.net/departments/parks-recreation/> |
| Kefauver Park | Lake and walking trail, water park, playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, baseball field, football field | James Blesdoe  Madisonville | <http://www.madisonvilletn.net/departments/parks-recreation/> |
| Sweetwater City Recreation Park |  | Sweetwater |  |
| State and federal parks and lands | | | |
| Cherokee National Forest | Contains the Ocoee River for whitewater rafting and 150 miles of the Appalachian Trail, along with additional hiking and biking trails | Tellico Ranger District  423.253.8400  250 Ranger Station Road  Tellico Plains | <https://www.fs.usda.gov/cherokee> |
| Fort Loudon State Historic Park | Trails, hiking, and fishing at the historic Fort Loudon | 423.884.6217  338 Fort Loudon Rd.  Vonore | <http://tnstateparks.com/parks/about/fort-loudoun> |
| Tennessee Department of Health grant projects | | | |
| 2017 $10,000 BE grant | Fitness stations and walking trail signage |  |  |
| Project Diabetes | “Monroe in Motion” supports before and after school fitness classes | Lacey Mason  [lacey@monroe.k12.tn.us](mailto:lacey@monroe.k12.tn.us) |  |

## Map 1. Population with park access (within ½ mile), percent, 2013

## Map 2. Substandard housing units, percent, 2011-2015

## Map 3. Households with no vehicles, percent, 2011-2015

# 2. Basic Demographic Information

County seat: Madisonville

Additional cities/towns with local government: Sweetwater, Tellico Plains, Vonore

ARC designation: At-risk

Monroe is more rural than Tennessee in general. The county is demographically older than the state, and getting older through time, as highlighted in Table 2. Monroe is majority white, with Latino and Black/African-American populations making up the largest minority groups.

## Table 2. Overall demographic profile1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | 2010 Census  Number % | | 2015 Estimates  Estimate % | | 2015 State % | Percent Change |
| Total population | 44,519 | NA | 45,293 | NA | 6,499,615 | 774 |
| Population density per sq/mi | 68.2 | NA | 69.4 | NA | 154.1 | 1.2 |
| Housing units | 20,330 | NA | 20,831 | NA | 2,854,542 | 501 |
| Age | | | | | | |
| Median age (years) | 40.2 | NA | 43.0 | NA | 38.4 | 2.8 |
| 18 years and over | 33,734 | 76.6 | 35,380 | 78.1 | 77.0 | 1.5 |
| 65 years and over | 6,787 | 15.4 | 8,337 | 18.4 | 14.6 | 3.0 |
| Ethnicity/Race | | | | | | |
| Black/African-American | 983 | 2.2 | 983 | 2.2 | 16.8 | 0.0 |
| White | 41,660 | 94.6 | 43,051 | 95.1 | 77.8 | 0.5 |
| Asian | 155 | 0.4 | 128 | 0.3 | 1.6 | -0.1 |
| American Indian/Alaska Native | 136 | 0.3 | 369 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.5 |
| Other | 394 | 0.9 | 44 | 0.1 | 1.5 | -0.8 |
| Two or more | 687 | 1.6 | 679 | 1.5 | 2.0 | -0.1 |
| Latino/Hispanic Ethnicity | 1,400 | 3.2 | 1,744 | 3.9 | 4.9 | 0.7 |
| Non-Latino/Hispanic | 42,615 | 96.8 | 43,549 | 96.1 | 95.1 | -0.7 |

12010 Census data and 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate data drawn from the US Census Bureau’s American FactFinder.

Monroe County income and poverty statistics are concerning. A decrease in median household income with correspondent increases in mean household income and households with SNAP, or food stamps, indicate growing income inequality. As fewer residents age 65 and older had incomes below poverty level in 2015 as compared to 2010, Monroe County child poverty rates are increasing and above the state. Overall, Monroe County is becoming more educated (Table 3). These data indicate that built environment initiatives must take into consideration economic inequality and sustainability to best serve the entire community.

## Table 3. Socioeconomic characteristics1

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | 2010 Estimates % | 2015 Estimates % | 2015 State % | Percent Change |
| No health insurance coverage2 | 16.7 | 13.7 | 12.8 | -3.0 |
| Median household income ($) | 36,209 | 35,291 | 45,219 | -918 |
| Mean household income ($) | 45,956 | 49,571 | 63,339 | 3,615 |
| Households with SNAP in the past 12 months | 15.5 | 20.1 | 17.1 | 4.6 |
| Unemployment rate | 11.3 | 12.5 | 8.4 | 1.2 |
| Percent whose income is below poverty in past 12 months | | | | |
| All people | 18.8 | 19.3 | 17.6 | 0.5 |
| All families | 15.1 | 14.5 | 13.2 | -0.6 |
| Under 18 | 24.1 | 30.6 | 25.6 | 6.5 |
| Age 65 and older | 13.0 | 10.9 | 10.0 | -2.1 |
| Education level population 25 years and over | | | | |
| Less than 9th grade | 13.3 | 10.5 | 5.6 | -2.8 |
| Some high-school | 14.1 | 10.7 | 8.9 | -3.4 |
| High-school graduate | 40.4 | 42.0 | 33.0 | 1.6 |
| Some college | 16.8 | 18.4 | 21.0 |  |
| Associate’s degree | 5.1 | 6.4 | 6.6 | 1.3 |
| Bachelor’s degree | 6.7 | 8.0 | 15.9 | 1.3 |
| Graduate or professional degree | 3.7 | 4.1 | 9.0 | 0.4 |

12006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate and 2011-2015 5-Year Estimate data drawn from the US Census Bureau’s American FactFinder.

22006-2010 data not available for this measure; 2008-2012 data used for comparison.

# 3. Basic Health Information

County health outcomes ranking: 52/95 Tennessee counties

County health factors ranking: 70/95

As shown in Table 4, the percentage of households spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent has increased by 9.5 percent in five year estimate data, indicating decreasing availability of affordable housing for renters. The number of individuals driving alone to work has also increased, with decreased use of carpooling and walking. A focus of built environment initiatives should be affordable housing and transportation diversification.

## Table 4. Census built environment indicators1

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | 2010 Estimates % | 2015 Estimates % | 2015 State % | Percent Change |
| Housing |  |  |  |  |
| Occupied housing | 86.3 | 82.5 | 87.7 | -3.8 |
| Vacant housing | 13.7 | 17.5 | 12.3 | 3.8 |
| Gross rent as percentage of household income | | | | |
| Less than 24.9% | 44.6 | 35.7 | 37.4 | -8.9 |
| 25 to 29.9% | 10.1 | 9.5 | 11.9 | -0.6 |
| 30 to 34.9% | 5.6 | 12.3 | 9.2 | 6.7 |
| 35 percent or more | 39.7 | 42.5 | 41.5 | 2.8 |
| Means of transportation to work | | | | |
| Drove alone | 84.8 | 86.2 | 83.7 | 1.4 |
| Carpooled | 10.4 | 9.1 | 9.3 | -1.3 |
| Work from home | 2.4 | 2.7 | 3.6 | 0.3 |
| Walked | 1.8 | 0.4 | 1.3 | -1.4 |
| Taxi, motorcycle, or other | 0.6 | 1.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 |
| Bicycle | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Public transportation | 0.0 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Travel time to work | | | | |
| Mean travel time (minutes) | 25.8 | 28.0 | 24.5 | 2.2 |

12006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimate and 2011-2015 5-Year Estimate data drawn from the US Census Bureau’s American FactFinder.

The built environment measures in Table 5 indicate that Monroe County is doing better than Tennessee when it comes to access to food and physical activity locations.

## Table 5. Additional built environment indicators

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Food environment index, 0 (worst) to 10 (best) | 7.6 | 6.8 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2010; 2014 |
| Percent population who lack adequate access to food | 15% | 17% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2014 |
| Percent population with limited access to healthy foods | 2% | 8% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2010 |
| Percent population with access to physical activity locations | 72% | 69% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2014 |
| Index of racial segregation between black and white residents, 0 (complete integration) to 100 (complete segregation) | 70 | 67 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2011-2015 |

Air quality is slightly worse in Monroe County as compared to the state. Efforts to lessen miles traveled by car may help improve air quality. Most water quality issues are in creeks as a result of pastures, but Tellico Lake Reservoir has a fishing advisory due to contaminated sediment and the TVA’s impoundment (Table 6). While the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is taking actions to improve water quality, TDH should connect with TDEC to offer any assistance and to make sure visitors to waterways are aware of advisories and other water quality concerns.

## Table 6. Environmental health indicators

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Air quality, average daily density of fine particulate matter in µg/m3 | 10.5 | 9.7 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2012 |
| Miles/acres of water bodies that fail to meet one or more water quality standards | 284.6/ 16,500 | 13,707/ 181,824 | TDEC Year 2016 303(d) List | 2016 |

Health resource availability is an issue in Monroe County (Table 7). Ensuring that people have transportation access to available providers may be important when considering the built environment.

## Table 7. Health resource availability

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Ratio of population to mental health providers | 2,860:1 | 780:1 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2016 |
| Ratio of population to dentists | 2,860:1 | 1,940:1 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Ratio of population to primary care physicians | 3,480:1 | 1,380:1 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2014 |
| Number of Health Professional Shortage Areas | 9 | 347 | Health Resources and Services Administration | Ongoing |

According to Table 8, in comparison to the state, Monroe County has worse quality of life indicators as well as less overall civic participation.

## Table 8. Quality of life

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Life expectancy | 75.8 | 76.3 | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation | 2014 |
| Percent adults reporting fair or poor health, age-adjusted | 23% | 20% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Average poor physical health days in last 30 days, age-adjusted | 5.3 | 4.8 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Average poor mental health days in last 30 days, age-adjusted | 4.9 | 4.4 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Civic organizations/association members per 10,000 | 10.6 | 11.5 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2014 |
| Percent registered voters who vote | 59.8% | 61.9% | TN Secretary of State | 2016 |
| Violent crime rate per 100,000 | 406 | 614 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2012-2014 |

As demonstrated in Table 9, drug overdose deaths and adult smoking are similar in Monroe County when compared to state data. However, the percent of driving deaths with alcohol involvement is nearly 11 points higher in Monroe. Adult obesity and inactivity is also problematic, with Monroe having higher percentages than the state. In terms of impaired driving, having various transportation options may be beneficial. Increasing alternative transportation and walkability, as well as ensuring all have access to physical activity opportunities, may also positively affect inactivity and obesity rates.

## Table 9. Behavioral indicators

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Traffic crash rank, out of 95 counties | 66 | NA | TN Department of Safety and Homeland Security | 2012-2016 |
| Substance use |  |  |  |  |
| Percent adult current smokers | 24% | 22% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Percent adult binge or heavy drinking | 12% | 11% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2015 |
| Percent driving deaths with alcohol involvement | 39% | 28% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2011-2015 |
| Drug-related mortality rate per 100,000 | 18 | 20 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2013-2015 |
| Physical activity/obesity |  |  |  |  |
| Percent adults with BMI of 30 or more, obese | 36% | 32% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2013 |
| Percent adults with no leisure-time physical activity | 35% | 30% | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2013 |

As shown in Table 10, the sexually transmitted infection burden in Monroe County is low compared to the state for most infections. Still, rates of hepatitis C are high. This could be an anomaly for 2015, or, it could be a harbinger for what is happening now in Monroe County and across the state in terms of the spread of hepatitis C. We will know more as data comes in from 2016 and subsequent years. Considering the epidemiology of hepatitis C infection in the US, it is most likely these high rates are due to injection drug use (IDU). From a built environment perspective, it is important that IDU populations have physical access to syringe exchange programs, which have recently been approved in Tennessee. Built environment initiatives may be implemented at these sites to make them less stigmatized, such as making them appear nondescript but nonetheless maintained. Further, it is vital that public spaces are kept clear of syringes and needles, indicating a need for accessible safe disposal sites.

## Table 10. Communicable disease

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator | Measure | State | Source | Source Year |
| Percent adults over 65 with influenza vaccine | 47.7% | 51.7% | National Vaccine Program Office | 2016-2017 |
| Chlamydia rate per 100,000 | 269.4 | 484.7 | TN Department of Health | 2015 |
| Gonorrhea rate per 100,000 | 17.7 | 130.4 | TN Department of Health | 2015 |
| Hepatitis B, acute, rate per 100,000 | 2.2 | 4.8 | TN Department of Health | 2015 |
| Hepatitis C, acute, rate per 100,000 | 13.2 | 3.3 | TN Department of Health | 2015 |
| Persons living with HIV rate per 100,000 | 72 | 297 | County Health Rankings and Roadmaps | 2013 |

All accidents, diabetes, and kidney disease are particularly increased in Monroe County as compared to Tennessee (Table 11). There is increased mortality among Black/African-American residents, who have especially higher rates of accidents, cerebrovascular diseases, and kidney disease. Making the built environment healthier by increasing opportunities for physical activity and access to healthy foods as well as assisting workplaces in having healthy environments will make an impact on these high rates.

## Table 11. Mortality1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Indicator per 100,000 | Total | State | White | Black | Female | Male |
| All causes | 912.8 | 880.3 | 925.6 | 1067.3 | 779.2 | 1059.1 |
| Cardiovascular disease | 255.8 | 266.6 | 258.5 | 324.6 | 216.8 | 295.0 |
| All cancers | 191.9 | 183.1 | 195.5 | 129.2 | 159.9 | 233.0 |
| Chronic lower respiratory diseases | 52.4 | 53.4 | 52.2 | 47.2 | 44.9 | 63.1 |
| All accidents | 63.2 | 54.5 | 64.3 | 85.9 | 39.4 | 85.7 |
| Cerebrovascular diseases | 48.4 | 45.2 | 49.1 | 63.8 | 49.3 | 48.0 |
| Alzheimer’s Disease | 34.4 | 39.4 | 35.3 | 36.1 | 38.6 | 26.8 |
| Diabetes | 31.4 | 23.7 | 32.4 | 19.5 | 25.0 | 40.6 |
| Pneumonia/ influenza | 21.5 | 22.4 | 21.8 | NA2 | 22.6 | 20.2 |
| Kidney disease | 19.2 | 14.4 | 19.4 | 27.7 | 20.5 | 17.7 |
| Suicide | 17.1 | 14.9 | 18.0 | NA2 | 4.8 | 29.8 |

**1**Data from Tennessee Department of Health, Tennessee Mortality Rate Data, 2013-2015

2Unable to determine rate due to small sample size and small number of incidents.

# 4. Conclusions from these Data

Some built environment measures indicate that Anderson County is doing better than Tennessee when it comes to access to food and physical activity locations. However, resources seem to be centered in Oak Ridge and Norris; it is unclear if residents outside of these centers have access to adequate resources.

There is a lack of affordable housing and of alternative transit that is actually used. Air quality measures are slightly worse in Anderson County as well. This indicates that county-wide built environment initiatives should focus on affordable housing and transportation diversification. With concerning poverty statistics that ultimately affect health, in order to benefit the entire county, built environment projects should take into consideration economic inequality and sustainability.

In terms of specific health concerns, public spaces provide excellent chances to bring communities together for prevention efforts, such as health fairs and run/walks. For example, in terms of substance use and elevated hepatitis B and C rates, it is important to make sure that public spaces can be used for prevention and recovery efforts and that safe disposal sites for syringes and needles are readily available. For tobacco use, it is important to regulate public spaces, including large areas of parks, as tobacco free zones. A healthier overall community and environment is related to decreases in negative health outcomes.

Data indicate some strengths in Anderson County that should be drawn upon: low violent crime rates and above average civic participation.

# 

# 5. Government Contacts

## Table 12. Government contacts

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Organization | Position | Name | Email | Phone |
| County | Mayor | Tim Yates | [Mayor.yates@monroetn.com](mailto:Mayor.yates@monroetn.com) | 423.442.3981 |
| City – Madisonville | Mayor | Glenn Moser | [gbmoser@yahoo.com](mailto:gbmoser@yahoo.com) | 423.442.9416 |
| City – Sweetwater | Mayor | Doyle Lowe | [dlowe@sweetwatertn.net](mailto:dlowe@sweetwatertn.net) | 423.337.6979 |
| Town – Tellico Plains | Mayor | Patrick Hawkins |  | 423.253.2333 |
| Town – Vonore | Mayor | Bob Lovingood |  | 423.884.6211 |
| Chamber of commerce | President | Brandy Gentry | [info@monroecountychamber.org](mailto:info@monroecountychamber.org) | 423.442.4588 |
| Coordinated school health |  | Lacey Mason | [lacey@monroe.k12.tn.us](mailto:lacey@monroe.k12.tn.us) | 423.420.9678x3 |
| Department of children’s services | Regional administrator | Marcy Martin | [El-dcs.easttennessee@tn.gov](mailto:El-dcs.easttennessee@tn.gov) | 865.425.4458 |
| Department of human services | Director | Tina Goins |  | 423.442.7403 |
| Development district | Executive director | Terry Brobowski | [TBobrowski@ETDD.org](mailto:TBobrowski@ETDD.org) | 865.273.6003 |
| Human resource agency (ETHRA) |  |  |  | 865.691.2551 |
| Emergency management | Director | David Chambers |  | 423.519.7100 |
| Health department | Director | Teresa Harrill | [Teresa.Harrill@tn.gov](mailto:Teresa.Harrill@tn.gov) | 423.442.3993 |
| Federal protected areas | Ranger |  |  | 423.253.8400 |
| Law enforcement | County sheriff | Tommy Jones |  | 423.442.3911 |
| Parks and recreation |  |  |  |  |
| Tourism council |  |  | [info@monroecounty.com](mailto:info@monroecounty.com) | 423.253.8010 |
| USDA | Area director | Joe Woody | [Joe.woody@tn.usda.gov](mailto:Joe.woody@tn.usda.gov) | 865.523.3338x4 |
| UT extension | Director | Greg Austin | [gaustin@utk.edu](mailto:gaustin@utk.edu) | 423.442.2433 |

# 

# 6. Non-governmental Contacts

Below is a list of non-governmental contacts, including, but not limited to the follow types of groups or centers: recreation centers, senior centers, youth centers, faith-based, neighborhood organizations, green builders, colleges and universities, anti-drug and/or tobacco coalitions, hospitals and health clinics, newspapers, non-profit organizations (NPO), et cetera.

## Table 13. Non-governmental contacts

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Description | Contacts | Website |
| Colleges and universities | | | |
| Cleveland State Community College | Community college with center in Vonore | 423.884.2338  121 Grand Vista  Vonore | <http://www.clevelandstatecc.edu/about/locations.html> |
| Health related organizations | | | |
| County health council |  | Patty Williford  [Patty.williford@gmail.com](mailto:Patty.williford@gmail.com)  423.545.3015 |  |
| Healthier TN committee |  |  |  |
| Health care organizations | | | |
| Fast Past Urgent Care | Urgent care | 865.836.9304  [sweetwater@fastpacemedical.com](mailto:sweetwater@fastpacemedical.com) | [www.fastpaceurgentcare.com](http://www.fastpaceurgentcare.com) |
| Project Act/Positively Living | Offer a wide range of services for substance use, including housing | Sara Alese  [sara@projectknox.com](mailto:sara@projectknox.com)  865.525.1540x 205 | [www.projectactknox.com](http://www.projectactknox.com) |
| Non-profit organizations | | | |
|  |  |  |  |
| Second Harvest East TN | Multiple food programs |  | <https://secondharvestetn.org/programs/> |
| Shangri-La Therapeutic Academy of Riding (STAR) | Assists seniors and those with physical and mental disabilities in getting equine time | Shawn Snyder  865.988.4711  [development@rideatstar.org](mailto:development@rideatstar.org) | [www.rideatstar.org](http://www.rideatstar.org) |
| Regional organizations | | | |
| East Tennessee Quality Growth (ETQG) | Planning organization that focuses on sustainable growth in East Region |  | <http://etqualitygrowth.org/newsite/> |