

# Tennessee Monthly Update

## September

### Shoes and Smiles All Around

**On September 10, UnitedHealthcare partnered with Tennessee Titans safety Kevin Byard to provide shoes, socks and other essentials to 375 elementary school students at Robert Churchwell Museum Magnet Elementary in Nashville.**

This event was made possible through a \$20,000 grant from UnitedHealthcare to Byard's Dream Builders Foundation. Dream Builders is a non-profit organization that encourages and helps kids to reach their dreams through collaborations with professional athletes across the country.



UnitedHealthcare employees alongside Kevin Byard at the event on September 10.



Millington Elementary student blends a smoothie by riding a bike.

### “Fun Stop” With Y on the Fly

**On September 9, the YMCA of Memphis and the Mid-South and UnitedHealthcare employee volunteers staffed a Y on the Fly mobile unit at Millington Elementary School.**

The mobile unit delivers critical programs and services to Memphis-area youth, including healthy food options and water safety instruction. Each child receives a healthy snack, a free book to keep from a mobile library, and the opportunity to work with STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) tools like a 3D printer.

Although the poverty rate in Memphis has been declining since 2016, 39% of children in the city still live in poverty. This is the second-highest rate of childhood poverty in the nation for cities with more than 500,000 people. What's more, a fragmented citywide transportation system can make getting to a YMCA, library or grocery store more difficult than it should be. Transportation is a key social determinant of health, and a lack of transportation may lead to poor health outcomes.

The Y on the Fly program, sponsored by UnitedHealthcare, helps address this gap by meeting kids in the neighborhoods where they live and play, in places like schools, apartment complexes, childcare centers and afterschool programs.



*UnitedHealthcare employee volunteers*

## Feeding Middle Tennesseans

**On September 16, UnitedHealthcare employees sorted 4,109 pounds of donated produce for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee.**

The produce, donated by Kroger and other local retailers, will feed approximately 3,424 people.

## Meet April!

**April is a UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member enrolled in the Employment and Community First CHOICES (ECF CHOICES) program, an integrated and person-centered program that promotes independent living and competitive employment for people of all ages who have an intellectual and/or developmental disability.**

She was referred to ECF CHOICES Community Integration Support Services (CISS) and Progressive Directions, Inc. (PDI) in June 2018.

At the time, April was hesitant and resistant about everything regarding work. She did not want to try anything and was sure that she would fail.

Through the Job Exploration phase of the program, April was able to experience various types of work experiences. One of these involved rolling silverware at a restaurant in Columbia, TN, where April excelled and said, "I could do this all day."

Near the end of Exploration, April visited Russell Catering in Lewisburg, TN. Russell Catering allowed April to see the business and roll some silverware. They saw that she was quite skilled and learned quickly, and wanted to hire her immediately.

Within one week from the visit, the paperwork had been processed so that April could begin work. Today, she's working 15 hours per week and continuing to take on additional responsibilities.



*UnitedHealthcare Community Plan member, April.*

For more information about UnitedHealthcare's involvement in your community, contact:

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