



NEWS RELEASE

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

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H3ARC Executive Director Geoff Parker featured on “The Insider”

Housing, Health, & Human Services Alliance of Rutherford County Works with Agencies to Address Needs

MURFREESBORO, Tenn. – Geoff Parker, executive director of Housing, Health & Human Services Alliance of Rutherford County (H3ARC) is the guest on the latest edition of “The Insider.” Parker addresses trends with the unsheltered and chronically homeless populations and provides ways to engage and assist in solutions.

Listen to “The Insider” at <https://cityofmurfreesborotn.podbean.com/> beginning Monday, Feb.28 at 6:30 p.m. “The Insider,” the City’s official podcast, is also available for viewing on Murfreesboro CityTV and YouTube <https://youtu.be/wEkgkTxv1kA>.

This edition of “The Insider” with Geoff Parker of H3ARC features:

- How Geoffrey Parker came to serve as executive director of H3ARC
- The mission of H3ARC as an umbrella organization working collaboratively to address issues of homelessness, including shelter, food, health services, and mental health
- The latest 2021 data on housing in Rutherford County to assist more people and how housing alone doesn’t solve the problem of homelessness
- H3ARC’s relationship with the federal (HUD), state (THDA), and local governments and its Board of Directors
- H3ARC’s participation in a recent agency panel at the airport discussing causes and impacts of homelessness
- H3ARC’s role in food sharing and coordinating delivery of services <https://www.h3arc.org/food>

This latest edition of “The Insider” is available via Podbean, Spotify, Apple Podcast and “Amazon Music/Audible.” Podcasts can be accessed on the City of Murfreesboro’s website. Just click the “Podcast” icon link on the bottom of the homepage under “Connect With Us” <https://cityofmurfreesborotn.podbean.com/> then click the latest episode or listen to previous podcasts.

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Selected Quotes from the Podcast

“Our mission is to connect individuals and families with access and opportunities for housing, for health care and other supportive services,” said Geoffrey Parker, executive director of H3ARC. “We recognized that housing on its own isn’t always enough to address the obstacles that people face to bring them to a place of sustainable housing.”

“We know that every time a client makes that phone call or walks into the door of one of our agencies, everybody’s story is going to be unique,” said Parker. “So much of this falls on those case managers, our social workers, the frontline staff at all of our agencies who have this conversations every single day.”

“In 2021, we had an influx of dollars that allowed our agencies to do more for more people. We were able to start more housing projects, to work with clients for up to a year with holistic case management, homeless prevention with rental and utility assistance to keep being housed,” added Parker. “We saw an increase in the number of persons experiencing homelessness for the first time, but we saw a bigger increase in the number of people who were returning to homelessness.”

Regarding a recent agency panel discussion, “We wanted to focus specifically on unsheltered homelessness and chronic homelessness with an eye towards downtown Murfreesboro both emerging needs and the impact on our community such as the downtown business owner, the Discovery Center and Linebaugh Library.”

For more information on the Housing, Health & Human Services Alliance of Rutherford County, visit <https://www.h3arc.org/>.

“The Insider,” hosted by Mike Browning, originates from City Hall, and is produced by award-winning producer Michael Nevills.

Murfreesboro CityTV can be found on Comcast Channel 3 and 1094, Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, YouTube, and the City website www.murfreesborotn.gov/citytv.

For City News online, visit www.Murfreesborotn.gov.

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Graphics and photo attached:

1. *“The Insider” Official Podcast Topic: Geoff Parker, H3ARC.jpg.*
2. *Geoff Parker professional shot.jpg.*
3. *H3ARC logo.jpg.*