# Slight Decrease in Davidson County's Poverty Rate

The U. S. rate of poverty for all people increased from 15.3% in 2010 to 15.9% in 2011, according to the 2011 American Community Survey (ACS), released by the U. S. Census Bureau on September 20, 2012. During that period, Tennessee's rate of poverty for all people increased from 17.7% to 18.3%. Similar increases were reported for all families in the U. S. and in Tennessee.

While the U. S. poverty rate increased, there was a slight decrease in poverty for Davidson County, from 20.2% in 2010 to 19.3% in 2011. While the size of the decrease was not statistically significant, it suggests that Davidson County's recovery from the economic downturn is being reflected in the decreased rate of poverty.

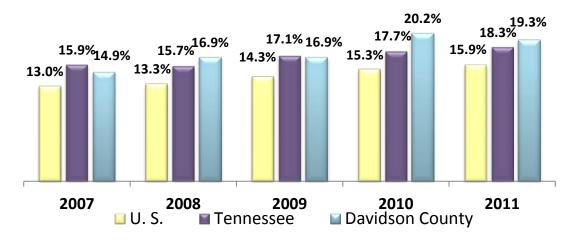
There was a statistically significant change in Davidson County for the people who were 65 and over, from 10.8% in poverty in 2010 to 8.0% in 2011. There were decreases in poverty in most categories, except for slight increases for families with related children under age 5 and married couple families with related children under 18.

Just as the definition of poverty is very complex, so are the factors that are attributed to its increase or decline. However, as both local and the national economies are gradually recovering from the effects of the Great Recession, it is common to expect slowing and perhaps reversing trend of poverty rates. We currently observe signs that the economy is stabilizing, including modest number of new jobs. While the housing market is still weak, housing prices and sales are showing improvements. These improvements, coupled with anti-poverty policies such as the Earned Income Tax Credit, are expected to result in the future reduction in the number of people in poverty, although the immediate effects may not be felt in the short-term.

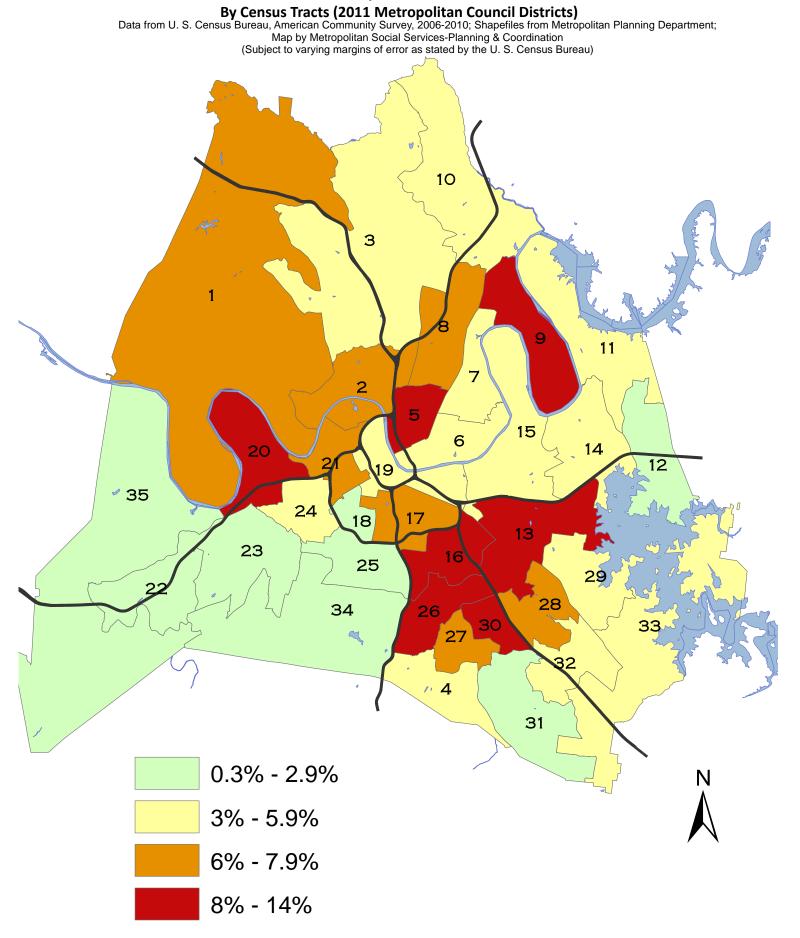
The chart below shows the changes in the poverty rate for all people in the U. S., Tennessee and Davidson County from 2007 through 2011. Metropolitan Social Services Planning & Coordination will continue to analyze the data from the 2011 that is being released through the end of 2012, which will be included in the 2012 Community Needs Evaluation, scheduled for release in early 2013.

### **Poverty Rate for All People**

U. S., Tennessee, Davidson County – 2007-2011, American Community Survey

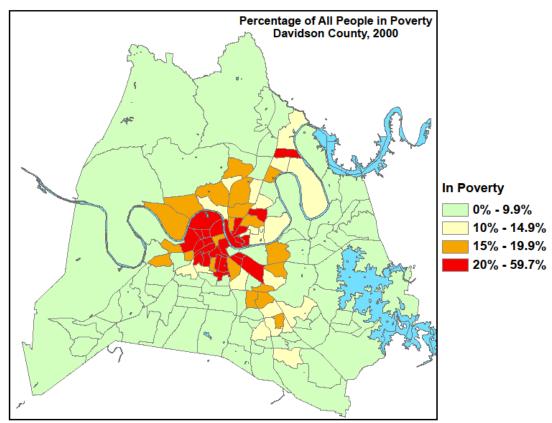


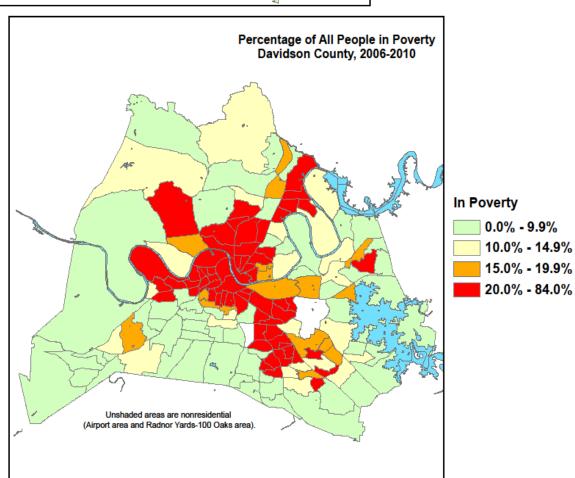
### Percentage of People Aged 25 And Over With Less Than High School Education Davidson County, Tennessee, 2006-2010,



## Census Tracts with Household Income Less than \$30,000 Per Year 2006-2010 Census-American Community Survey 5-Year Summary; 2011 Metro Council Districts Shapefiles by U. S. Census Bureau and Metropolitan Planning Department; map by Metro Social Services-Planning & Coordination. 101.03 102.02 107 103.01 101.04 102.01 1 101.06 101.05 105.02 154.01 106.01 5 156.22 <del>-15</del> 21 14<sup>\</sup> 122 151 19 35 156.10 183.01 13 9801 16 **25** <sub>177.02</sub> **29** 156.12 182.02 28 186.01 187 186.02 32 33 188.04, 191.15 31 0% - 19.7% 19.8% - 29.9% Black Lines = Major Highways Gray Lines/Numbers = Census Tracts 30% - 39.9% Blue Lines/Numbers = Metro Council Districts 40% - 96.4% **Unshaded Areas are Nonresidential** (Airport Area and Radnor Yards/100 Oaks). 3

### Increase in Poverty between 2000 and 2006-2010 (U. S. Census Bureau)





HOUSEHOLDS and RELATIONSHIP		Uı	nited State	es	Tennessee						Davidson County, Tennessee					
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS	114,991,725	114,567,419	113,616,229	113,097,835	112,377,977	2,467,428	2,440,663	2,447,066	2,434,398	2,407,765	254,655	249,899	255,290	257,182	250,958	
Family households (families)	66.2%	66.4%	66.5%	66.6%	66.8%	65.9%	67.4%	67.0%	66.9%	66.7%	54.3%	56.6%	56.1%	55.3%	55.0%	
With own children under 18 years	29.4%	29.7%	30.3%	30.8%	31.1%	27.3%	28.0%	29.1%	29.4%	29.2%	23.7%	24.3%	25.3%	24.9%	24.4%	
Married-couple family	48.3%	48.6%	49.1%	49.4%	49.7%	48.2%	49.0%	49.3%	49.8%	49.2%	36.6%	36.1%	37.6%	37.3%	37.3%	
With own children under 18 years	19.6%	20.0%	20.6%	21.2%	21.4%	18.1%	18.2%	19.3%	19.7%	19.1%	14.2%	13.2%	14.8%	15.1%	14.4%	
Male householder, no wife present, family	4.7%	4.7%	4.6%	4.6%	4.6%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.1%	4.5%	3.7%	4.9%	3.7%	4.4%	3.9%	
With own children under 18 years	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	2.3%	1.9%	2.0%	2.3%	2.1%	2.3%	1.8%	2.1%	1.6%	1.9%	1.6%	
Female householder, no husband present, family	13.1%	13.1%	12.7%	12.6%	12.5%	13.3%	14.0%	13.3%	13.0%	12.9%	14.1%	15.6%	14.8%	13.6%	13.7%	
With own children under 18 years	7.4%	7.4%	7.4%	7.4%	7.4%	7.3%	7.8%	7.5%	7.5%	7.8%	7.6%	9.0%	9.0%	7.9%	8.4%	
Nonfamily households	33.8%	33.6%	33.5%		33.2%	34.1%	32.6%	33.0%	33.1%		45.7%	43.4%	43.9%	44.7%	45.0%	
Householder living alone	27.7%	27.4%	27.5%		27.3%	29.0%	27.7%	28.0%	28.2%	28.1%	37.5%	34.5%	35.7%	37.0%	37.8%	
65 years and over	9.7%	9.5%	9.4%		9.1%	9.6%	9.4%	9.2%	9.2%	9.2%	8.2%	8.0%	8.0%	9.2%	8.4%	
Households with one or more people under 18 years	32.7%	33.1%	33.5%	34.0%	34.4%	31.1%	31.9%	33.1%	33.1%	32.8%	26.8%	28.0%	28.1%	27.6%	27.1%	
Households with one or more people 65 years and over	25.2%	24.8%	24.2%	23.8%	23.4%	25.2%	25.0%	24.1%	23.7%	23.0%	18.8%	19.3%	19.3%	19.7%	18.7%	
Average household size	2.64	2.63	2.63	2.62	2.61	2.53	2.54	2.51	2.49	2.49	2.4	2.41	2.41	2.35	2.38	
Average family size	3.25	3.23	3.23	3.21	3.2	3.13	3.1	3.07	3.06	3.05	3.23	3.14	3.17	3.17	3.2	
RELATIONSHIP																
Population in households	303,585,583	301,362,366	298,729,438	295,812,889	293,499,975	6,249,881	6,203,425	6,145,155	6,062,405	6,004,332	611,244	602,336	615,255	603,710	596,461	
Householder	37.9%	38.0%	38.0%	38.2%	38.3%	39.5%	39.3%	39.8%	40.2%	40.1%	41.7%	41.5%	41.5%	42.6%	42.1%	
Spouse	18.3%	18.5%	18.7%	18.9%	19.0%	19.0%	19.3%	19.6%	20.0%	19.7%	15.3%	15.0%	15.6%	15.8%	15.7%	
Child	30.8%	30.6%	30.8%	30.7%	30.5%	29.5%	29.6%	29.3%	29.2%	28.9%	27.9%	27.8%	28.6%	28.1%	27.9%	
Other relatives	7.3%	7.2%	6.9%	6.8%	6.7%	7.0%	6.8%	6.4%	6.2%	6.2%	7.3%	7.6%	6.4%	7.3%	7.3%	
Nonrelatives	5.8%	5.8%	5.6%	5.4%	5.5%	5.0%	4.9%	4.9%	4.5%	5.0%	7.9%	8.1%	7.9%	6.2%	7.1%	
Unmarried partner	2.2%	2.3%	2.2%	2.1%	2.1%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	1.9%	2.0%	2.4%	3.1%	2.6%	2.0%	2.2%	

Estimates from U. S. Census Bureau-2011 American Community Survey/CP02, subject to margins of error.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT and EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT		l	Jnited State	es	Tennessee						Davidson County, Tennessee					
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	
SCHOOL ENROLLMENT																
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	83,131,910	82,724,222	81,173,053	79,845,430	79,329,527	1,594,654	1,598,191	1,545,457	1,527,939	1,487,774	159,043	158,649	155,959	160,842	156,319	
Nursery school, preschool	6.0%	6.0%	6.3%	6.4%	6.2%	5.6%	5.4%	5.6%	6.0%	5.4%	6.1%	5.9%	7.5%	7.0%	5.0%	
Kindergarten	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	5.1%	4.7%	5.0%	5.5%	5.5%	5.7%	4.9%	4.7%	6.0%	5.5%	5.5%	
Elementary school (grades 1-8)	39.5%	39.8%	40.0%	40.3%	40.5%	42.6%	41.9%	41.9%	42.6%	42.9%	37.2%	36.2%	35.7%	40.2%	40.1%	
High school (grades 9-12)	20.7%	20.8%	21.1%	21.6%	22.0%	20.9%	21.5%	22.2%	21.9%	22.9%	16.2%	16.9%	17.6%	18.0%	19.1%	
College or graduate school	28.7%	28.3%	27.4%	26.7%	26.2%	26.1%	26.3%	24.7%	24.0%	23.1%	35.5%	36.4%	33.2%	29.2%	30.3%	
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT																
Population 25 years and over	206,471,670	204,288,933	201,952,383	200,029,554	197,892,369	4,294,392	4,242,391	4,213,368	4,178,311	4,122,693	425,472	418,090	429,102	420,422	415,874	
Less than 9th grade	6.0%	6.1%	6.3%	6.4%	6.4%	6.1%	6.2%	6.5%	6.6%	7.1%	4.7%	5.0%	5.3%	5.1%	5.6%	
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	8.1%	8.3%	8.5%	8.7%	9.1%	9.7%	10.1%	10.4%	10.4%	11.5%	9.1%	10.7%	8.4%	10.3%	9.6%	
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	28.4%	28.5%	28.5%	28.5%	30.1%	33.4%	33.5%	33.0%	32.5%	34.3%	25.6%	24.4%	24.0%	25.8%	26.0%	
Some college, no degree	21.2%	21.3%	21.3%	21.3%	19.5%	21.2%	20.8%	21.1%	21.6%	19.6%	21.1%	19.5%	20.9%	21.1%	19.5%	
Associate's degree	7.8%	7.6%	7.5%	7.5%	7.4%	6.0%	6.2%	6.1%	6.0%	5.7%	4.9%	6.0%	6.2%	5.6%	5.8%	
Bachelor's degree	17.9%	17.7%	17.6%	17.5%	17.4%	15.3%	14.6%	15.1%	14.8%	14.2%	22.4%	20.6%	22.8%	19.9%	22.1%	
Graduate or professional degree	10.6%	10.4%	10.3%	10.2%	10.1%	8.3%	8.5%	7.9%	8.0%	7.6%	12.2%	13.9%	12.4%	12.1%	11.3%	
Percent high school graduate or higher	85.9%	85.6%	85.3%	84.9%	84.5%	84.2%	83.6%	83.1%	83.0%	81.4%	86.2%	84.3%	86.4%	84.5%	84.7%	
Percent bachelor's degree or higher	28.5%	28.2%	27.9%	27.7%	27.5%	23.6%	23.1%	23.0%	22.8%	21.8%	34.6%	34.5%	35.2%	32.0%	33.4%	

Estimates from U. S. Census Bureau-2011 American Community Survey/CP02, subject to margins of error.

GRANDPARENTS REPONSIBLE FOR GRANDCHILDREN, DISABILITY STATUS		Un	ited State	S	Tennessee						Davidson County, Tennessee				
	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
GRANDPARENTS															
Number of grandparents living with own grandchildren under 18 years	7,059,261	7,010,181	6,687,495	6,436,722	6,210,076	150,320	149,402	150,550	141,507	131,214	12,084	11,166	12,729	13,778	10,153
Responsible for grandchildren	38.7%	39.1%	40.3%	40.8%	40.5%	47.3%	49.4%	51.3%	50.2%	54.7%	42.6%	44.4%	36.5%	47.4%	48.0%
Years responsible for grandchildren															
Less than 1 year	8.3%	8.7%	9.1%	9.5%	9.2%	8.5%	10.4%	11.3%	11.3%	9.9%	9.4%	5.3%	5.6%	9.3%	4.0%
1 or 2 years	9.1%	9.8%	9.9%	9.5%	9.5%	10.3%	11.8%	13.2%	12.7%	12.3%	8.3%	13.8%	12.7%	12.3%	12.9%
3 or 4 years	6.4%	6.5%	6.8%	6.6%	6.8%	8.6%	7.4%	9.6%	7.4%	9.1%	6.1%	4.4%	6.6%	5.1%	9.2%
5 or more years	14.9%	14.1%	14.6%	15.2%	15.0%	19.9%	19.7%	17.2%	18.9%	23.4%	18.8%	21.0%	11.5%	20.6%	21.8%
Number of grandparents responsible for own grandchildren under 18 years	2,732,099	2,738,300	2,696,053	2,625,584	2,514,256	71,038	73,758	77,238	71,103	71,802	5,143	4,962	4,641	6,531	4,872
Who are female	62.6%	63.0%	62.9%	62.5%	62.9%	63.6%	63.4%	64.1%	62.1%	61.3%	66.8%	65.7%	66.8%	67.7%	65.3%
Who are married	70.6%	70.1%	70.6%	70.8%	70.5%	70.7%	66.5%	69.4%	70.1%	73.2%	60.9%	56.0%	56.1%	64.1%	72.5%
DISABILITY STATUS OF THE CIVILIAN NONINSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION															
Total Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population	306,560,685	304,287,836	301,472,074	298,571,319	(X)	6,302,351	6,259,546	6,188,118	6,113,304	(X)	626,163	618,801	625,453	616,858	(X)
With a disability	12.1%	11.9%	12.0%	12.1%	(X)	15.3%	15.1%	14.9%	14.9%	(X)	10.6%	11.2%	11.3%	11.7%	(X)
Under 18 years	73,774,529	74,017,524	74,358,353	73,786,956	(X)	1,487,779	1,493,097	1,487,977	1,474,964	(X)	138,135	136,290	139,725	149,228	(X)
With a disability	4.0%	4.0%	3.9%	3.9%	(X)	4.6%	4.7%	4.2%	4.9%	(X)	3.1%	3.0%	2.7%	3.0%	(X)
18 to 64 years	192,699,903	191,138,060	189,181,224	187,573,812	(X)	3,962,855	3,933,031	3,899,384	3,857,382	(X)	423,968	417,328	418,560	401,716	(X)
With a disability	10.2%	10.0%	10.1%	10.1%	(X)	13.8%	13.5%	13.5%	13.1%	(X)	9.3%	9.8%	9.4%	10.0%	(X)
65 years and over	40,086,253	39,132,252	37,932,497	37,210,551	(X)	851,717	833,418	800,757	780,958	(X)	64,060	65,183	67,168	65,914	(X)
With a disability	36.6%	36.7%	37.4%	38.1%	(X)	40.7%	41.8%	42.1%	42.3%	(X)	35.2%	37.3%	41.0%	41.7%	(X)

Estimates from U. S. Census Bureau-2011 American Community Survey/CP02, subject to margins of error.

# **Interfaith Poverty Workshop Biographical Information**

### **PRESENTATIONS**

### Child Care - Michael Miller, Director

St. Mary Villa Child Development Center, Catholic Charities of Tennessee

Mr. Miller has served at the Director of the St. Mary Villa Child Development Center since 2004, overseeing the programs and the financial development of the center. He was the former Tennessee Commissioner of Children's Services and a former Executive Director of Metropolitan Social Services.

Under his administrative leadership, St. Mary Villa serves 245 children from infancy to school age with four locations in Nashville. The center also offers affordable and educational child care that is representative of the diversity of Middle Tennessee.

### Food - Linda Tozer, Program Coordinator

Tennessee Gleaning Network-Society of St. Andrew

Ms. Tozer has worked with the Society of St. Andrew since their opening in 2010. She was the former Director/ Senior Editor with the United Methodist Publishing House developing the Vacation Bible School curriculum.

Ms. Tozer is also an active volunteer and a board member with the Lambscroft Ministries, serving the poor and homeless of Nashville.

#### Health - Mark McCaw, Associate Director

Siloam Institute of Faith, Health and Culture-Siloam Family Health Center

Mr. McCaw has served on the leadership team at the Siloam Family Health Center since 2000. He has also provided oversight of the management aspects of the clinic and the program development that included directing a statewide medical refugee screening program. He worked previously with the Tennessee Primary Care Association. Other previous experiences include work with Tennessee Medicaid Reform, and health care advocacy for underserved populations.

Mr. McCaw's academic achievements a Master's of Business Administration, a Master's degree in Social Work from the University of Tennessee, and an undergraduate degree in Education.

# **Home and Community Based Services-Adult/Senior – Pam Kelner, Executive Director**Jewish Family Service

Ms. Kelner has served as the Executive Director of Jewish Family Services, Nashville's Jewish social service agency since January 2010. She has been a former business owner and a fourteen-year employee of Bloomberg Financial Markets in New York. At Bloomberg, she served in various capacities in the Sales and Marketing division from sales and management to conference planning and training for all new sales recruits.

Ms. Kelner has a B.A. degree in Marketing and Finance from Boston University.

### Housing - Regina Surber, Director of Housing and Grant Administration

The Next Door Incorporated-Freedom Recovery Community

Ms. Surber is the Grant Administrator and Program Manager/ Housing Coordinator for the Freedom Recovery Community of the Next Door. Freedom Recovery Community is a 20 Unit supportive housing program for women and children seeking refuge from crisis situations. Ms. Surber began her career with the Next Door as a volunteer.

Before coming to the Next Door, she served for 11 years as the Federal Grants Manager for the State of Tennessee with the Tennessee Department of Human Services overseeing state social services for low-income families. Her academic background is education and administration.

# Neighborhood Development - Marsha Edwards, President/CEO

Martha O'Bryan Center

Ms. Edwards began her career as a trial attorney and small business owner and now serves as President/CEO for the Martha O'Bryan Center, which provides an integrated group of education and employment services to impoverished Nashville families, serving 7,000 individuals this year, at ten sites. These individuals received education, employment, youth development, parent education and crisis services. She has been a strong advocate and leader in providing hope to children and families in poverty as well as forming partnerships in major sectors of middle Tennessee.

Currently she is serving on the Boards of the East End Preparatory School, of Commerce, the Operating Board of Alignment Nashville, served as past President of the Board of Directors of KIPP Academy Nashville, Nashville's first charter school, and is currently on the Board of East End Preparatory School, a charter school founded by the Martha O'Bryan Center. She has served Nashville Mayor Dean on a variety of educational issues and currently is an advisor to the First Lady of Tennessee, Crissy Haslam. Her academic background includes the J.D degree from the University of Dayton School of Law and undergraduate degree from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC.

# **Workforce and Economic Opportunity – Randy Halstead, Executive Director**Lifeworks of Nashville

Mr. Halstead is the founder of Lifeworks of Nashville, a non-profit organization that offers a 9-week employment readiness program for economically disadvantaged adults.

Before moving to Nashville two years ago, he was the Executive Director of a transitional homeless shelter in Abilene, Texas.

For over 25 years, Mr. Halstead worked with churches and nonprofits to address the issues of poverty.

### PANEL DISCUSSION

### **Rev. Bill Barnes**

Rev. Bill Barnes is a native Nashvillian, born in the Edgehill area. He graduated from Vanderbilt University, which included service in the U. S. Army near the end of the Korean War, between his junior and senior years. Rev. Barnes then graduated from Yale Divinity School, while working summers in East Harlem in a settlement house with Puerto Rican youth.

Upon his return to Nashville, Rev. Barnes was involved in civil rights, promoting equality and justice. About 40 years ago, he was founding pastor of Edgehill United Methodist Church, an intentionally interracial, interclass inner-city, reconciling church, still-active Edgehill community. Rev. Barnes continues to be an advocate for people who are poor and marginalized and a champion for dignity, civil and human rights.

For several years, Rev. Barnes served on the Metropolitan Social Services Board of Commissioners. He was a founding member of Tying Nashville Together, a consortium of churches, synagogues and other civic groups working to improve social services, schools and housing for poor and working-class Nashvillians.

In 2007, Rev. Barnes published To Love a City, which describes his ministry at Edgehill United Methodist Church. Proceeds from the sale of the book support the O.N.E/Barnes Scholarship program for low-income youth.

### **Father Charles Strobel**

Father Strobel grew up in Nashville's Germantown area and attended Father Ryan High School and developed an interest in the priesthood and baseball. He entered the seminary at St. Mary's College and attended graduate school at Catholic University in Washington, DC. In 1977, he became pastor of Holy Name Catholic Church in East Nashville, where he began the distribution of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches to hungry people in need. In 1983, he was involved in the initial development of the Loaves and Fishes Ministries.

Father Strobel became concerned when he saw people sleeping in cars during cold weather and invited them to sleep inside Holy Name Church. In 1986, his letters to local newspapers began to inspire congregations to share their houses of worship to provide shelter for the homeless. Around that time, his mother was tragically killed while volunteering to help people in need, and Father Strobel encouraged people to continue volunteering and helping those who were most needy.

He founded the Campus for Development (now Room in the Inn), which has continued to grow and provide hope, opportunity and learning, through an array of service programs. This successful initiative partners with numerous congregations to provide shelter for hundreds of homeless persons during the winter months, in a cost-efficient and effective way. It has also provided inspiration for congregations in other cities to develop similar programs.

### **Rev. Neely Williams**

As a consultant, Rev. Williams works with Metro Nashville Public Schools, MNPS, Teach For America, Inc., Vanderbilt's CTSA as community liaison for clinical research projects and as an Adjunct Faculty member at Lipscomb University where she teaches, Cross Cultural Communication in the Communication and Journalism Department. She is the Administrator of the Community Partners' Network; a faith community based non-profit organization of Faith Leaders, Victims Service Providers, Local and state service agencies, and Youth Serving agencies in the Greater Nashville area. Rev. Williams is a devoted, wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Rev. Williams serves as a Volunteer Chaplain for Metropolitan Nashville Police Department and is the administrator of Community Partners' Network, a community based organization serving the Nashville area providing community engagement consultation, collaboration and coalition building, community mobilization, education/training and referral and linkage to public and private resources, and is the Chairperson of the Nashville Community Coalition for Youth Safety.

Rev. Williams completed a one year program of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at the Veterans Administration Medical Center; obtaining Chaplaincy Certification. She received a B.A. from

American Baptist College, an M. Div. from Vanderbilt University Divinity School and recently began working on a doctoral degree at Argosy University.

Rev. Williams has served as Program Director of Interdenominational Minister Fellowship Peniel Initiative and the First Response Center of Metropolitan Interdenominational Church. Rev. Williams served as administrator of the IMANI Coalition a 35-agency member coalition, a linked network of services for HIV, STD and Substance Abuse services and prevention strategies. IMANI coalition was a Center for Disease and Control (CDC) funded project.

### William G. Coke

Mr. Coke is a communicant of Christ Church Cathedral. He has been married to Fletch Coke for 52 years and has two daughters and two grandsons. Mr. Coke is a retired food broker.

Mr. Coke served as a member of the Metropolitan Social Services Board of Commissioners and later as a member of the Farmer's Market Board. He has also served as the President of the Board of Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee.

Mr. Coke is the Mayor of the City of Forest Hills, having served on its Board of Commissioners for several years. He has also served as the Past President of the Nashville Rotary Club.

In order to address the unmet need for financial assistance for those who seek housing, Mr. Coke spearheaded the partnership of various congregations in the Nashville area. He is the Founding President of Rooftop, a nonprofit organization that provides rental assistance to individuals and families in Davidson County. Rooftop includes faith-based congregations in Metropolitan Nashville, provides funds to those who need emergency financial help with the goal of preventing homelessness and providing hope.