Academic Partnership to Fight Cancer

The Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center (VICC), Tennessee’s only National Cancer Institute–designated Comprehensive Cancer Center serving both adults and pediatric patients, is proud of its partnership with the Baptist Cancer Center. The goal of the academic affiliation is to enhance cancer care throughout the region served by Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation and to advance VICC’s mission to prevent more cancers whenever possible and move research discoveries and new treatments to individuals with cancer much more quickly. Baptist Cancer Center’s patients have increased access to VICC clinical research trials and genetic diagnostic tools. Many of these services are available in local communities through Baptist’s fourteen-hospital system across Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas.

TennesseeWorks

TennesseeWorks is a collaboration of agencies and organizations, with the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities serving as the administrative lead, focused on improving employment outcomes for people with disabilities. The statewide Family Coalition helps empower family members of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to advocate for better services regarding integrated and competitive employment. Members of the Family Coalition have been active participants in Educate to Advocate, a reception for state legislators, and Tennessee’s Disability Day on the Hill. Another thrust of this project has been to host a series of “community conversations” focused on uncovering the most promising avenues for expanding meaningful employment in local areas. In 2015, TennesseeWorks held a Community Conversation at the Memphis Public Library and involved 88 members of the community.

* Includes data for Shelby County

** The Pathfinder Hotline is a statewide multi-language help line that connects the Tennessee disability community with service providers and information.
Tennessee Disability Pathfinder

Tennessee Disability Pathfinder ("Pathfinder"), a project of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, provides free information, referrals, and support to Tennesseans with disabilities, their families, and service providers. Through three major components, Pathfinder serves individuals of all ages, with any type of disability or language spoken:

- Through a phone or email help line and online database, Pathfinder connects individuals to appropriate community resources that suit their needs. During FY15, Pathfinder assisted close to 2,000 individuals, 156 of whom were residents of Shelby County.

- Pathfinder staff also provides innovative trainings and presentations featuring information about Pathfinder services, disability etiquette and people-first language, working with multicultural populations, and other disability-related topics and services at various workshops and conferences. In FY15, this included 38 different trainings to 958 participants. Four trainings were statewide workshops or conferences and two trainings were held in Shelby County.

- Pathfinder’s Multicultural Outreach Program strives to remove barriers that many culturally diverse communities find when trying to access disability resources by providing cultural awareness, education and training, and case management. Through this program, staff served 326 individuals with disabilities from 30 different counties in FY15, including 34 residents of Shelby County.

For more information, please contact Vanderbilt’s Office of Federal Relations:

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