

## **INITIATIVE 3: ACCESS TO HOUSING**



"Housing is absolutely essential to human flourishing. Without stable shelter, it all falls apart."
- Matthew Desmond

Trinity Health Foundation of East Tennessee extends the healing ministry of Jesus by improving the physical, emotional, and spiritual health of our community.

Envisioned Goal: Trinity seeks projects to provide access to supportive housing for seniors, those suffering from mental health/addiction/trauma issues, and individuals/families experiencing homelessness due to economic uncertainty. Access to affordable housing for some and supervised affordable living environments for others is paramount. Trinity will entertain a spectrum of projects, from services that provide access to supportive housing to multi-organizational cooperative efforts to develop/build these facilities in our community.

Background: Knoxville has become a destination of choice for significant migration in the US in the last year. Knoxville proper has a residential occupancy rate of 96.6%, down from 98% in 2022. As a result, housing is still challenging to find, and rent rates remain high at over 20% compared to pre-pandemic levels. This housing shortage is further compounded for those 1) with special needs (elderly, capability diminished) and 2) for families with limited income due to changing employment situations.