

## INITIATIVE 4: ACCESS TO CARE FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS



"As one person I cannot change the world, but I can change the world of one person." - Paul Shane Spear

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

**Envisioned Goal:** Trinity seeks projects to address access to care for vulnerable populations in our region, including single parents, victims of crime, the elderly, the disabled, children, the homeless, etc. A range of specific needs has been identified, including supportive services (spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional) for preventive care, dental care, eye care, transportation, prenatal training, assistance with medication access, rural care access, and health care access for the homeless. Trinity seeks projects that allow the needed infrastructure to be put in place and an ongoing viable operating structure to be established after the Trinity funds end.

**Background:** Access to qualified healthcare is unavailable to many in our region, mainly preventive general, dental, and eye care. Often the most vulnerable populations will avoid medical attention until a crisis grows, or they will access expensive emergency room attention due to a lack of knowledge or availability of other options. Likewise, those in our region's rural counties may be unable to get to a clinic in Knoxville due to limited transportation availability.