



2024-2025 Annual Report

July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

Justice does **NOT** stop at the courthouse steps!!®

The Music City Community Court has three (3) Specialty Courts:

- C.A.R.E. Diversionary Court for Ages 18-30
- RESTORE Re-Entry Court for Returning Citizens
- L.E.G.A.C.Y. Housing Resource Diversionary Court & Program.

Founded by Judge Rachel L. Bell in 2012, the mission of the Music City Community Court is to create initiatives focused on preventive, diversionary, and restorative justice with the concept that justice does NOT stop at the courthouse steps, and the vision of Music City Community Court is to do all it can to help break the playground (school) to prison pipeline, and to restore lives by using its power and resources to move the needle for marginalized people.



Scan here to learn more about the MCCC and the BNCJC

Celebrating **13** Years of Ringing the **BELL** for Justice!



Judge bell teaches C.A.R.E. participants how to make vision boards of their goals which they will share with their fellow participants.

C.A.R.E. Diversionary Court for Ages 18-20

The C.A.R.E. Diversionary Court is offered to offenders aged 18-30 usually entering the criminal justice system for the first time. These young people are still forming their cognitive ability and are given a second chance with the ability to restore the victim and be held accountable. Participants receive individualized case management and, after successful completion of the 4 Phase Program, their charges are dismissed and expunged. To date, we've had **32 participants** and **10 graduates**. This past year, several prominent community member came to speak to the participants, including Nashville Community Review Board's Executive Director Jill Fitchard, Slim & Husky's EJ Reed, Tennessee State University Medical Director Dr. Dorsha James, MD, and Soul Restaurant's John Smith.

Eligible Offenses:

- Criminal Trespass
- Possession or Casual Exchange of Controlled Substance
- Public Intoxication
- Reckless Driving
- Resisting Arrest
- Speeding over 75 mph
- Theft of Property
- Unlawful Use of Drug Paraphernalia
- Vandalism

Scan here to learn more about C.A.R.E.



RESTORE

Since 2012, we have assisted **20,244 participants** with the necessary steps for getting their records expunged, restoring their right to vote, reinstating their drivers license, getting adequate housing, and finding quality wage jobs.



Saturday Community Service Work Return Docket

[Jul 2024 - Jun 2025]
Participants: 50
Hours Worked: 200
Taxpayer Money Saved: \$5,986.00

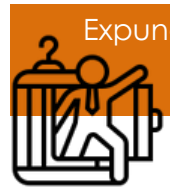
Since 2013, **1,387 participants** have served **6,631 hours** to save taxpayers **\$147,247.54**

Scan here to learn more about our community service work opportunities.



Judge Bell waives court costs, fines, and fees to clear the way for record expungement.





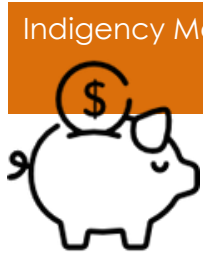
Expungement/Legal Clinic & Resource Fair

[Jul 2024 - Jun 2025]
Participants: 443
Clinics: 7

Since 2014, we have hosted **49 clinics**, serving **3,057 participants**.

Scan here to learn about our Restoration Clinics.





Indigency Motion Docket

[Jul 2024 - Jun 2025]
Participants: 1,836
Cases: 10,258
Court Costs, Fines & Fees Waived: \$3,078,749.66

Since 2015, we have reviewed **105,010 cases** to help **17,032 participants** and waived **\$16,753,426.43** in court costs, fines, and fees.



Housing Resource Diversionary Court & Program

(Let Every Goal Achieve Continuous Yields)

L.E.G.A.C.Y. Program - Our Housing Court Navigators work in collaboration with the Legal Aid Society and other eviction defense projects as well as multi-organizational resource coalitions within the city to help tenants avoid homelessness. This year, our navigators consulted with **3,169 tenants**, and **556** of those registered to continue working with our team. Since beginning this program in early 2023, our navigators have consulted with 5,626 tenants, and 1,097 of those registered to continue working with our staff social worker.



The Housing Court Navigator and Community Client Advocate are ready to help in front of 1A/1B.

Scan here to learn more about our LEGACY Court & Program.



The LEGACY Housing Court Navigators, originally funded by the ERAP HOPE Program, were made a permanent fixture outside the 1A/1B courtrooms after Judge Bell addressed the city council about the need for assistance amid Nashville's growing eviction rate. The LEGACY Program has also partnered with the Legal Aid Society and the Hispanic Bar, who now have an adjacent table, with their Eviction Right to Counsel program. Our housing Court Navigators have also been a part of the Community Action Network to get the most up-to-date information about community resources.



Our Social Work Coordinator signs up a clinic participant for ASPIRE.



The ASPIRE Aftercare Program accepts participants from any of our courts and provides guidance in collaboration with other resource providers to build an individualized plan.

The Music City Community Court works with many organizations throughout Nashville that provide job training, employment, medical and dental services, mental health services, food boxes, toiletries, and more. This past year, we've worked hard to expand our ASPIRE program. Our team has connected **623 participants** with services specific to their needs.

Community Partners Working Hard Together

