**Theeda E. Murphy**

209 Maple Street (615) 473-7933

Madison, TN 37115

**Education**

**​Degree Programs Completed**

​April 2012   Kaplan Career Institute      Nashville, TN

*ABA Approved Paralegal Certificate*

1983-1987 Oakwood College       Huntsville, AL
*BS, Accounting*

* Received CPA certificate in GA, 1995

​1997- 1999 Fisk University     Nashville, TN
*MA, Clinical Psychology*

* Completed thesis: *Theory v. Reality: Relationship Violence and Its Effects on Women*

**Certifications and Trainings**

​October 2000 National Organization for Victim Assistance        Atlanta, GA

*NOVA Certificate*

* Completed week-long training in crisis intervention.

​April 2005 Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts               Salt Lake City, UH

*National Seminar of the Development and Integration of Mitigation Evidence in Capitol Cases*

* Three-day training on the implications of the Wiggins ruling in the development of mitigation evidence in capitol cases

​April 2006    Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts                Washington, DC
*National Seminar of the Development and Integration of Mitigation Evidence in Capitol Cases*

* Three-day training on the implications of the Wiggins ruling in the development of mitigation evidence in capitol cases

July 2005           National Association of Sentencing Advocates     Chicago, IL
*Death Penalty Mitigation Institute*

* One-day training on the role of the mitigation specialist, records and how to conduct a biopsychosocial history investigation

2007 - 2009    International Critical Incident Stress Foundation Nashville, TN
*Continuing Education Courses*

* Critical Incident Stress Management: Group Crisis Intervention
* Critical Incident Stress Management: Advanced Group Crisis Intervention
* Critical Incident Stress Management: Individual Crisis Intervention and Peer Support
* CISM Application with Children
* Grief Following Trauma
* Stress Management for the Trauma Provider

​April 2015             ASIST Suicide Prevention Training                           Nashville, TN

*Certification*

* Training on using the ASIST model of suicide crisis intervention

December 2017 Life Coach Training Institute Bonita, CA

*Certification*

* IACC Life Coach Certificate

May 2022 Ballot Initiative Strategy Center Training Program

* Applied to and was accepted into the training program which teaches grassroots organizers how to develop grassroots ballot initiatives and leads and supports them through the entire process of getting the initiative on the ballot, planning all aspects of the electoral campaign including the development of a comprehensive campaign and fund-raising plans and implementation of those plans to win elections.

**Work experience**

2023 AbolitionWorksTN Nashville, TN

*Lead Organizer*

* Founded and recruited a collective of organizers working together toward the abolition of prisons and police.
* Managed the day-to-day operations of the collective.
* Develop and implement a fundraising plan.

2020 – 2023 No Exceptions Prison Collective Nashville, TN

*Co-Director*

* Co-lead a small non-profit dedicated to the abolition of the prison industrial complex.
* Worked in close partnership and collaboration with the other co-director in organizing currently and formerly incarcerated individuals, their families, survivors of crime and others.
* Spearheaded a statewide campaign to pass a constitutional amendment to abolish slavery in Tennessee which was on the statewide ballot in November 2022 and was the only progressive issue to win overwhelmingly in a deeply red state.
* Lobbied state legislators to pass life sentence reform.
* Managed the daily operations of a small non-profit, including managing interns and volunteers, developing budgets and operating/fundraising plans.
* Writing grants to fund the operations of the non-profit.

2010 – 2020   Centerstone Mental Health                                        Nashville, TN

2023 - Present

*Crisis Consultant/Crisis Follow-Up Specialist*

* ​Answered calls, on a public mental health crisis line, from individuals who are suicidal, psychotic or experiencing other kinds of psychiatric crises and worked to resolve the crisis in the least restrictive way possible to insure the individual’s and public’s health and safety.
* Provided intensive follow-up services to individuals who have been identified by mental health or other health care providers as being in need of extra support due to suicidal thoughts or recent suicide attempts in order to prevent suicidal crises from occurring or re-occurring.

2012 – 2014              The White Law Group                                              Nashville, TN

*Paralegal*

* Worked as a general paralegal, specializing primarily in probate and administrative law, but also providing research and support in cases involving transactional law.

2005 - 2006            Akil Jahi v. State of Tennessee                               Nashville, TN
*Mitigation Specialist*

* Conducted biopsychosocial history on behalf of client for his postconviction appeal

​2005 – 2010             Volunteer Behavioral Health Care, Inc.                Nashville, TN
*Crisis Intervention Specialist*

* Intervening in situations where individuals are psychotic, suicidal or having other kinds of psychiatric crises to determine the least restrictive level of treatment they need to stabilize the situation and ensure their safety.

2001- 2005          Metropolitan Nashville Police Department         Nashville, TN
*Crisis Counselor*

* Conducted short- and long-term therapy with victims of crime, specifically rape, homicide co-victims, and domestic violence victims.
* Intervened with victims of crime in crisis situations at crime scenes, at hospitals or in court rooms.
* Carried the on-call beeper once a month to be able to respond to emergencies.
* Educated clients about the criminal justice system and support clients throughout the court process, including accompanying clients to court.
* Worked with others on staff within the police department and other agencies in the community to increase awareness of the impact of crime on crime victims.

​1999              Hermitage Hall                                                         Nashville, TN
*Part-time Residential Assistant*

* Worked as an evening and weekend replacement for full-time staff on leave at a facility for juvenile sex offenders.
* Oversaw the daily activities of the youth on the unit.
* Provided crisis counseling and other therapeutic interventions as necessary.

1998 - 2001        Fisk University                                                         Nashville, TN
*Information Specialist*

* Facilitated workshops and groups on race relations.
* Advocated for minorities and other disadvantaged groups, including victims and offenders, to improve their individual lives and the community.
* Oversaw budget of $ 2.5 million: prepare requisitions and financial reports.
* Maintained mailing list and database of contacts using Access and Outlook.
* Researched information on race and race relations via the Internet.
* Purchased and maintained computer equipment and software.
* Assisted staff with computer related problems.

1997-1998                 Oasis Center                                                              Nashville, TN
*Resident Assistant/Relief Staff*

* Resided overnight at the Independent Living house.
* Formed supportive relationships with troubled teenagers and young adults.
* Oversaw residential activities during the evening and overnight hours.

1997-1998        YWCA Woodshaven Shelter                                  Nashville, TN
*Weekend Advocate/Relief Staff*

* Counseled women who sought emergency shelter from domestic violence.
* Conducted intake interviews with women who requested shelter.
* Provided crisis counseling and general program information through the crisis line.

1988-1997         Internal Revenue Service                          Atlanta, GA/Nashville, TN
*Revenue Agent*

* Reviewed applications for tax exemption from nonprofit organizations.
* Provided information on nonprofit tax law to the general public.
* Audited tax exempt organizations.

**Volunteer experience**

​2023 Metro/Davidson County Grand Jury Foreperson Nashville, TN

* Appointed by Judge Khadija Babb as the Grand Jury Foreperson
* Responsible for scheduling and facilitating the work of the grand jury.
* Coordinated scheduling the grand jury docket and setting the goals and scope of work for the grand jury session.

2019 Rotten to the Core Coalition Nashville, TN

* Joined the coalition as a volunteer with No Exceptions Prison Collective to successfully advocate for the city of Nashville to cut its jail management contract with CoreCivic. The contract was ended in early 2020.

2018 Community Oversight Now Coalition Nashville, TN

* As a representative of the Justice for Jocques Coalition, participated in the coalition which successfully wrote and passed a city charter referendum to create a community oversight board to oversee the operation of the Metro Nashville Police Department. The coalition was comprised of six community groups representing a cross-section of Nashville residents.

2017 – 2019 Justice for Jocques Coalition Nashville, TN

* Organized the family of Jocques Clemmons and supportive community members and organizations to form the coalition whose purpose was to get justice for the Clemmons family after their son, Jocques, was murdered by a Metro Nashville Police officer.
* Engaged in direct actions and long-term community organizing campaigns to raise awareness about police violence and support community members who were impacted by police violence.
* Pressured public officials to change laws and policies to increase police accountability.

April 2000 – July 2000    Ujima House                                                Nashville, TN
*Group Leader*

* Co-lead weekly therapy group for battered women.
* February- April 2000 Dinah Project Metropolitan Interdenominational Church Nashville, TN
* Group Therapist
* Co-facilitated 12-week therapy group with survivors of sexual abuse and rape.

1998-1999                    Rape and Sexual Abuse Center                             Nashville, TN
*Practicum*

* Conducted therapy with adolescents and adults who had been raped or sexually abused as children.
* Participated in the adolescent offender therapy group.
* Researched and read materials about rape, incest, child sexual abuse, and group therapy.

2001-2002        Metropolitan Nashville Police Department       Nashville, TN
*Practicum*

* Provided crisis counseling to victims of domestic violence over the telephone.
* Conducted short-term therapy with victims of domestic violence.
* Participated in community activities to educate the community about domestic violence and victim’s rights.

1994-1997                 Rape and Sexual Abuse Center                             Nashville, TN
*Crisis Line Volunteer*

* Answered questions about rape, incest, and sexuality.
* Provided general information about the Center.
* Provided emotional support, therapeutic interventions, and information to people in crisis.

1994-1997                 YWCA Domestic Violence Program                     Nashville, TN
*Volunteer*

* Provided support to the staff on duty.
* Formed supportive relationships with women in the shelter.
* Provided general information about the program and counseled women in crisis over the crisis line.
* Prepared intake forms for women who requested shelter and determined if they met intake criteria.
* Cared for the children while the women were in therapy group.

1996-1999                   Neighborhood Justice Center                               Nashville, TN
*Volunteer Mediator*

* Participated in a three-day training in restorative justice and community mediation.
* Conducted mediation sessions with cases diverted from civil and criminal (nonviolent crimes) court.

1994-1997                Oasis Center                                                             Nashville, TN
*Volunteer*

* Assisted staff in program activities at the emergency shelter.
* Counseled teens and parents in crisis.
* Provided information and emotional support over the telephone for teenagers who requested shelter.
* Interacted with residents at the shelter.

1992 – 1994                Friend-Friend DCVS Mentoring Program        Atlanta, GA
*Volunteer Mentor*

* Developed supportive relationships with teens that had been arrested for nonviolent crimes.

**Certifications**

* American Association of Suicidology
* General Practice Paralegal
* Life Coach Training Institute

**Ordination**

* Minister, Mercy Junction and Earthfire Abbey