



Community Development (People)

Beck Cultural Exchange Center

Located in Knoxville, Tennessee, the Beck Center provides opportunities for cultural exchange with the preservation and exhibition of the achievements of African-Americans in Knoxville, specifically in East Tennessee. Beck Center was founded in 1975 and named for the late James and Ethel Beck, prominent members of the Knoxville community and founders of the Ethel Beck Home for Orphans, who bequeathed money to purchase its present site. Located just a few blocks from Downtown Knoxville, the Civic Coliseum and other historic sites, as well as its being within walking distance of the famed Alex Haley Statue at Haley Heritage Square, the Beck Center is a major tourist attraction for those visiting the Knoxville area. <http://www.korrnet.org/beckcec/welcome.htm>

Community Shares

The mission of Community Shares is to support social change organizations in Tennessee in order to promote a more just and caring community. <http://www.korrnet.org/cshares/>

Knoxville Empowerment Zone

Knoxville, TN was designated an Empowerment Zone (EZ) city in 1999 by the federal government. With the designation came the promise of \$100 million over a 10-year period to stimulate economic development activity in a 16-square mile area that includes downtown and surrounding neighborhoods. To date, Knoxville has been appropriated \$24 million by the federal government for business start-up and expansion, job creation and workforce training activities. <http://www.knoxvilleempowermentzone.org/>

Knoxville's Promise

The mission of Knoxville's Promise is to mobilize people from every sector of Knoxville/Knox County to build the character and competence of our youth by fulfilling the Five Promises of America's Promise. <http://www.knoxvillesspromise.org/>

The Love Kitchen

The Love Kitchen provides meals, clothing and emergency food packages to homebound, homeless and unemployed persons. We work with local agencies to provide meals, secure used clothing and donate services in hopes of promoting the self-sufficiency of those we serve. The organization has no paid staff, thus, all donations go to those who need it most. As a happy and loving family, our whole purpose is to provide more and better services for our less fortunate neighbors. We are committed to continue to address the needs of the hungry, homeless, hopeless, helpless and homebound in the Knoxville and surrounding areas. Our ultimate goal is to provide nourishment for anyone who is hungry and to establish a community center to serve as a safe haven supporting area children and their families. <http://www.thelovekitchen.org/>

Michael Dunn Center

The Michael Dunn Center is a private 501(c)3 non-profit program serving adults and children with developmental disabilities in East Tennessee. The agency is a grass roots organization, governed by a local volunteer board of directors. Services to children include early intervention, school age programs and a

host of therapeutic interventions. Services to adults include supported employment, vocational training, community participation, residential, transportation and a variety of person centered support services. <http://www.michaeldunncenter.com/>

Community Development (Environment and Heritage)

Friends of Literacy

To support the delivery of high quality literacy and related services to adults and families in Knox County who are inadequately educated for the changes of daily life. Working in partnership with the Knox County Schools and other organizations, our goal is to help provide basic education and life-skill training so that our students become better workers, parents, and citizens. <http://www.friendsofliteracy.org/>

Jubilee Community Arts

Jubilee Community Arts (JCA) is a regional, community cultural center dedicated to preserving and presenting the traditional arts of Southern Appalachians. We began operating as an arts presenter in Knoxville in 1969 and received 501(c) 3 status in 1980. The organization's stated mission is "to promote, preserve and present the performing arts of the Southern region and to nurture the cultural responsible for the birth and evolution of and related art forms." JCA serves two overlapping constituencies: 1) rural, predominately European- and African-American communities of East Tennessee, and 2) the more ethnically diverse communities of the Knoxville metropolitan area. <http://www.korrnet.org/jca/>

Keep Knoxville Beautiful

Welcome to Keep Knoxville Beautiful, your source for litter prevention information. Founded in 1978, KKB is an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful. Our mission is to promote a cleaner, greener, more beautiful community. Join us in the effort by volunteering in our programs or becoming a member of Keep Knoxville Beautiful. This website is your source for litter prevention information! Check out this website to learn how you can get involved in our activities. <http://www.korrnet.org/keepknox/>

Knox Heritage, Inc.

Knox Heritage is dedicated to the preservation of architecturally and/or historically significant buildings, open spaces and parks in Knoxville and Knox County. Established in 1974 as a non-profit educational corporation, Knox Heritage is chartered by the state of Tennessee and governed by a board of directors representing all areas of our community. Membership in the organization is by annual dues that are fully tax deductible and is open to all individuals, businesses, and organizations recognizing the foresight of historical preservation. <http://www.knoxheritage.org/>

Knoxville Recycling Coalition

The Knoxville Recycling Coalition will be the community leader in forming partnerships, promoting individual and corporate programs and developing and providing public education that will make Knoxville a recognized leader in recycling and waste reduction. <http://www.korrnet.org/recycle/>

Ethnic Groups

100 Black Men of Greater Knoxville

The 100 Black Men of Greater Knoxville, Inc., is an affiliated chapter of 100 Black Men of America,

Inc. and is a non-profit corporation recognized under Internal Revenue Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Founded in 1963, the focus of the 100 Black Men organization is on the advancement of African-American youth and community and developing the leaders of tomorrow. Since its inception, the 100 Black Men, through its affiliated chapters, has mentored and directly impacted the lives of more than 120,000 youth. The 100 Black Men of Greater Knoxville, Inc., (Knoxville 100) was chartered in 1994 and incorporated in 1995 by men from the community who were concerned about and committed to improving the lives of youth in general and African-American young men in particular. As an affiliate of the 100 Black Men of America, Inc. and consistent with its objectives, the Knoxville 100 focuses its efforts and energies on improving the lives of youth, primarily African American young men, but not exclusively. We pursue a four-part agenda or strategy: (1) Mentoring, (2) Health & Wellness, (3) Education, and (4) Economic Development. <http://100blackmenofknoxville.org/>

Alianza del Pueblo

Alianza del Pueblo is the first grass-roots Latino non-profit organization, dedicated to reduce poverty and discrimination, and improve life opportunities for Latinos in communities throughout East Tennessee. It is located at 3601 Chapman Highway, #202; 865-573-2254.

http://www.etnpronet.org/directory/display_networker.php?networker_id=45

East Tennessee Chinese Association (ETCA)

The East Tennessee Chinese Association (ETCA) is an independent, non-profit organization founded in 1992. Most of its members are professionals with advanced degrees in Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the University of Tennessee, and high-tech companies in the Knoxville, Oak Ridge, and surrounding areas. The main objectives of ETCA are: (1) to encourage academic, professional, and cultural exchanges between members as well as between members and their communities; (2) to preserve Chinese cultures and promote the recognition of overseas Chinese professionals; (3) to provide cultural and social activities that foster the mutual understanding and friendship between members, friends, and people from different cultural backgrounds in East Tennessee; (4) to organize charitable activities for the society; and (5) to support and assist the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and U.S. DOE Oak Ridge Operation for certain cultural events such as the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month program. <http://www.etca-knoxville.org/>

Hola-Hora Latina

Cultural/social organization catering to the needs of new immigrants. <http://latinaweb2.blogspot.com/>

Knoxville Area Urban League

The Mission of the Knoxville Area Urban League is to assist African Americans and other disadvantaged groups to achieve social and economic equality primarily through service delivery, with an emphasis on employment and training, education, housing, and business development. Race relations are also means by which Urban Leagues nationwide fulfill our mission. <http://www.thekaul.org/home.htm>

Knoxville Jewish Alliance (KJA)

Our Mission is to serve Jewish life by providing the democratic forum, organizational structure, physical home and financial means to support and promote the cultural, social, intellectual and general welfare of the entire Jewish community of Knoxville and the Jewish community across the world. Our local programs focus on social services, education, public relations, cultural issues, community relations, leadership development, children and the elderly. We work to assure the perpetuity of the Greater Knoxville Jewish Community through the centralized procurement and disbursement of funds for local, regional, national and international Jewish causes. We try to involve a wide spectrum of Jews to strengthen Jewish communal life. We recognize the need for more than fundraising. By working together, the whole is greater than the

sum of the parts. KJA is a member of the North American United Jewish Communities - previously UJA (United Jewish Appeal), UIA (United Israel Appeal), CJF (Council of Jewish Federations), the Jewish Community Center Association of North America and is a recipient agency of the Greater Knoxville United Way through the Milton Collins Day Camp. <http://www.jewishknoxville.org/>

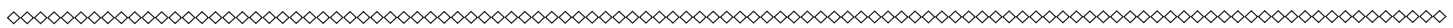
Minority Student Affairs (University of Tennessee)

The mission of Minority Student Affairs is to help students matriculate successfully by developing and administering programs, activities and services that address cultural, social, educational and personal needs, thus ensuring the academic success of minority students. The Office of Minority Student Affairs is located in the Black Cultural Center, a unique landmark structure that opened in June 2002 and features a library/reading room, state-of-the-art computer lab, student lounge, gallery, multipurpose rooms, student organization suite, conference room, tutorial suites, and administration offices. <http://web.utk.edu/~omsa/>

NAACP Knoxville, Tennessee Branch

Formed in 1909 by a multicultural group of progressive thinkers, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is a non-profit organization established with the objective of insuring equality for minority groups in Knoxville, Tennessee and surrounding areas.

- **Political:** The Branch sponsors numerous voter education forums and voter registrations throughout the year.
- **Educational:** The Branch sponsors a shadowing program which pairs inner-city middle and high school students with African-American professionals during the school year.
- **Social:** The Branch is an advocate for anyone discriminated against on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or disability.
- **Economic:** The Branch sponsors an annual summit on economics and the black community.
<http://www.korrnet.org/knxnaacp/>



GLBT and Friends

Greater Knoxville PFLAG

Our Mission: Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. <http://www.korrnet.org/knxpflag/>

Hate Crimes Working Group (HCWG)

In an effort to counter what appeared to be an increase of hate/bias crimes in the Knoxville region, the Hate Crimes Working Group (HCWG) was formed in 1996. The HCWG is a collaborative membership between Project Change and the FBI. The group's membership is comprised of local and county law enforcement agencies along with community agencies and organizations. In the past three years, the group has sponsored or co-sponsored several community events centering on hate crimes education and awareness. The HCWG provides training sessions for law enforcement agencies and community groups. The group is working to strengthen the state's hate crime statutes, which do not require enhanced penalties for people convicted of hate crimes. <http://www.korrnet.org/knohate/>

Knoxville Cares Coalition

Knoxville Cares Coalition is based in Knoxville, Tennessee. The mission of Knoxville Cares is to promote unity and cohesiveness in our diverse gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, HIV+ and supportive community by enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in providing positive leadership. Our goals are development of this positive leadership, community training and education, HIV prevention and support for HIV/AIDS care, and working on fulfilling many relevant areas of interest and need for GLBT and HIV+ people in our community. There is no cost to participate in Knoxville Cares. Everyone interested is welcome!
<http://knoxvillecares.tripod.com/>

The Lambda Student Union

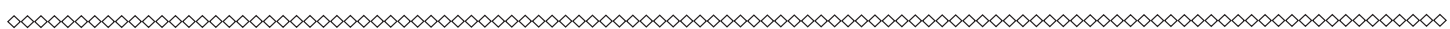
The Lambda Student Union was founded to provide a means of communication between gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, questioning, and straight students at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. We serve the area through various educational programs, social activities, and political actions. Our weekly meetings serve as a way of organizing and unifying our community to bring attention to issues which affect each of us -- regardless of our sexualities. *<http://web.utk.edu/~lambda/>*

Metropolitan Community Church of Knoxville

MCC-Knoxville was launched in February 1977. Its current membership exceeds 170 and more than 300 persons in the Knoxville metropolitan area who do not choose to put their names on a membership roll participate in our worship, study and fellowship programs. MCC-Knoxville launched the Gay Helpline, a telephone service available between 7 and 11 p.m. each day, (423-531-2539) when volunteers are available to staff the service. Information about GLBT services, organizations and entertainment is available to newcomers in town as well as a listening ear for those who need a caring person as they struggle with the homosexuality and the issues around it. MCC-K also birthed AIDS Response Knoxville (ARK), agency that serves persons who are HIV+ and who are Persons With AIDS. *<http://www.mccknnoxville.org/>*

Spectrum Diversi-Tea and Coffee House

Spectrum Cafe is a social gathering place for Knoxville area high school youth who support the principles of diversity, tolerance, and the worth and dignity of every human being. Teens who come to Spectrum respect each others' ideas, religious views, race, sexual orientations, abilities, and ethnic backgrounds.
<http://www.korrnet.org/spectrum/>



Area Activities

East Tennessee Grotto (ETG)

East Tennessee Grotto (ETG) is located in the Knoxville/ Oak Ridge area of East Tennessee. ETG, established in 1956, is one of the older grottos of the National Speleological Society (NSS). We are a family oriented grotto that strives to present caving as a safe sport for people of all ages. ETG welcomes people who are interested in becoming responsible cavers. We hold our meeting on the first Wednesday of each month (7:30pm) at the Oak Ridge Civic Center in Oak Ridge Tennessee.
<http://www.caves.org/grotto/etg/>

Smoky Mountain Field School

The Smoky Mountain Field School enhances public appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of the Smoky Mountains and the natural world while promoting the idea of learning as a joyful and enriching part of life. We seek to accomplish this through:

- ⦿ Educating public audiences about the Park’s natural and cultural resources through a variety of activities, using University researchers and other professionals knowledgeable of the Park
 - ⦿ Encouraging adults and young people to explore the outdoors and sharpen their skills at observing and interpreting the natural world
 - ⦿ Maintaining a commitment to high-quality, affordable, and accessible educational opportunities
 - ⦿ Emphasizing the beauty, diversity, and fragility of the Park’s natural and cultural resources in all publications and programs
 - ⦿ Maintaining and nurturing a cooperative relationship between the founding partners, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- <http://www.outreach.utk.edu/smoky/default.html>*

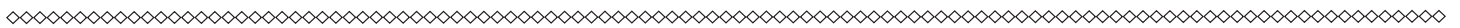
Knoxville Pipes and Drums

The mission of the Knoxville Pipes and Drums is to broaden the knowledge of Scottish heritage in East Tennessee and surrounding regions through music while providing a fun hobby for band participants. To accomplish the mission, the band plays a number of venues throughout East Tennessee and the surrounding regions. The band also provides free piping and drumming lessons.

<http://www.knoxvillepipesanddrums.org/>

Ijams Nature Center

The mission of Ijams Nature Center is to increase the knowledge of, understanding of and appreciation for the natural world by providing quality educational experiences throughout the region. The grounds shall remain a sanctuary for the enjoyment and interpretation of its natural features. *<http://www.ijams.org/>*



Environmental Groups

Foundation for Global Sustainability

Our mission is to preserve and protect the natural environment for the benefit of the general public, to inform and educate the public about actions and practices which lead to the long-term health and well-being of the environment, to inform and educate the public about actions which adversely affect the Earth’s environment and lead to unsafe situations for future generations, and to facilitate research in and perpetuate global understanding of and aid in the formation of a society which assures a vital, healthy environment for present and future generations. *<http://www.kornnet.org/fgs/>*

Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance

The Stop the Bombs campaign is a series of events sponsored by the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance (OREPA) and other groups throughout the region. The campaign seeks to raise awareness about ongoing nuclear weapons production, and to create a tension in the Oak Ridge community that will make space for change. OREPA advocates for responsible environmental restoration, protection of public health, and the right of all people to participate in decisions affecting their lives. *<http://www.stopthebombs.org/>*

Sierra Club, Harvey Broome Group

The Sierra Club is a non-profit member-supported, public interest organization that promotes conservation of the natural environment by influencing public policy decisions -- legislative, administrative, legal, and electoral. *<http://www.tennessee.sierraclub.org/broome/>*

Save Our Cumberland Mountains (SOCM)

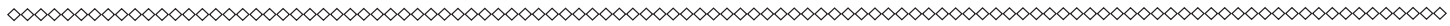
A non-profit Tennessee grassroots citizen’s organization working for environmental, social, and economic

justice, in areas such as forestry, strip mining, toxic issues, tax reform, dismantling racism -- and other issues on a local level. <http://www.socm.org/>

Solutions to Issues of Concern to Knoxvilleians (SICK)

Solutions to Issues of Concern to Knoxvilleians is a grassroots social justice organization that seeks to unite diverse people, regardless of their age, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, income, or background, to work for changes on issues of common concern. Solutions harnesses the power of organized citizenship to influence policies that affect Knoxvilleians on both the local and state level. Solutions is a democratic organization run by its members. Solutions is a direct-action organization.

<http://www.korrnet.org/solutions/>



Other Groups of Interest and Resources

East Tennessee Progressive Network

The East Tennessee Progressive Network (ETNPRONET) is a volunteer, grassroots, multi-issue collective dedicated to strengthening the progressive community in East Tennessee by advancing a movement of relationship building that fosters a community culture of peace, justice, inclusivity, and a sustainable future. The Network envisions a community that promotes social, economic, racial, and environmental justice. We envision a community culture that supports a way of being in relationship with one another, and the earth, that values and embraces people of all races, ethnicities, cultures, faiths, genders, sexual orientation, backgrounds, and abilities, and that nurtures a sustainable, holistic approach to life. Site resources include a regional directory and a community calendar. <http://www.etnpronet.org/directory/>

International House (University of Tennessee)

The International House is a unit of the Center for International Education, which is committed to the internationalization of the entire UTK community. <http://web.utk.edu/~ihouse/>

Knoxville Writers Guild

The purpose of the Guild is to facilitate a broad, inclusive, and egalitarian community among area writers:

- ☀ To provide a forum for information, support, and sharing among writers;
- ☀ To help members improve and market their writing skills; and
- ☀ To promote writing and creativity in the wider community through education, publication, and sponsorship of writing-related public events.

<http://www.knoxvillewritersguild.org/>

Rationalists of East Tennessee

Through fellowship and community education the Rationalists of East Tennessee supports free inquiry and critical thinking about the nature of the universe and human societies, emphasizes the importance of the scientific method, and explores ethical and intellectual alternatives to supernatural belief systems.

<http://www.rationalists.org/>

Student Organizations (University of Tennessee)

Listing of UT registered student organizations. Most of these are open to all students, faculty and staff.

<http://www.asa.utk.edu/>

Vegetarian Society of East Tennessee (VSET)

The Vegetarian Society of East Tennessee was established in 1982 with a two-fold mission: to support those who have eliminated meat from their diets, and to educate the general public about vegetarianism, including issues of health, ethics, and the environment. The Society holds a regular cooking class and potluck the first Sunday of each month at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church, 2931 Kingston Pike. In addition, the Society holds a variety of activities throughout the year, including lectures, serving meals to the homeless, hikes, and demonstrations. <http://www.korernet.org/etvs/>

Women In Black

Women in Black: An International movement of Women For Peace was started by Israeli women in 1988 to protest Israel's illegal occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, and demanding peace between Israel and the Palestinians. Around 1990, Women in Black vigils formed in many countries. Women in Black has become a movement of women of conscience of all denominations and nationalities who hold vigils to protest violence in their part of the world: war, interethnic conflict, militarism, the arms industry, racism, neo-Nazism, violence against women, violence in the neighborhoods, etc. <http://www.korernet.org/wib/>

List compiled by Tiffani Conner, UT Libraries' Diversity Committee, 2003;

Updated and Revised by Kawanna Bright, UT Libraries' Diversity Committee, June 2005