

KENNETH “CHIPPER” SMITH

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3031 London View Drive
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EDUCATION

MPH Middle Tennessee State University, Community Health | GPA: 4.0 2020-2022

BS Lee University, Exercise Science Pre-Athletic Training | GPA: 3.89 2016-2020
Psychology Minor

SKILLS

Communication

- Effective Communicator
- Public Speaking
- Classroom Engagement

Community Engagement

- Local Rapport Building
- Community Involvement
- Innovative Collaborations

Leadership

- Vision Casting
- Empowering Others
- Resilient Mindset

Grant Coordination

- Needs Assessment
- Project Management
- Program Evaluation

WORK EXPERIENCE

Middle Tennessee State University,
Department of Health Sciences
Public Health Lecturer

August 2024-Present

- Instruction of 4 undergraduate public health courses each fall and spring semester
- Coordination of public health undergraduate internship program to increase student participation to over 50% of graduates
- Management of local marketing and outreach projects to local middle schools and high schools reaching over 1,000 students annually
- Supervision of inaugural student public health ambassador program for recruitment and retention programming
- Oversight of public health alumni events, communication, and engagement efforts
- Representation of Middle Tennessee State University on local and statewide coalitions, boards, and advisory groups

Middle Tennessee State University,
Division of Student Affairs
Health Promotion Coordinator

August 2024-Present

- Coordination of health and safety programming across a 20,000-person student body on common college health topics such as binge drinking, bystander intervention, sexual health, and substance use
- Supervision of 3 student ambassadors facilitating health education and outreach events to on-ground students
- Implementation of social norms print and digital marketing campaigns to shape campus climate
- Development and coordination of classroom training opportunities for student organizations on college health

Middle Tennessee State University,
Office of Prevention Science and Recovery
Senior Project Coordinator

August 2023-May 2024

- Facilitated the opening of MTSU's first office focused on addressing opioid and substance use disorder and developed a mission, vision, and values for the office
- Coordinated a partnership with Rutherford County government to create a \$2.2 million request for proposal process to receive proposals from community-based organizations to address opioid use disorder
- Expanded the technical assistance reach of the office from a contract with 1 county to contracts with 3 counties in our first year
- Coordinated hosting over 25 county mayor offices for an in-person professional development on best practices for investing opioid abatement resources
- Evaluated over a dozen non-profit grantee programs to measure success of funding investments on participant health and wellbeing
- Oversaw creation and coordination of a 8-person opioid use disorder subject matter expert review panel to score and review county opioid abatement proposals

Tennessee Department of Education,
Office of Coordinated School Health
Healthy Students Stronger Learners TN Program Coordinator

April 2022-July 2023

- Managed a \$1.8 million grant from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to invest in health programming in 10 high-need school districts across Tennessee
- Adhered to federal reporting parameters for continued access to grant funding.
- Provided local professional development opportunities and new evidence-based practices for physical activity, nutrition, management of chronic diseases, and healthy out of school time
- Developed a new statewide Healthy Out of School training program that received national recognition by Healthy People 2030

- Developed regional networking and training opportunities that expanded farm to school efforts across Tennessee school districts
- Invested in interagency partnerships with State Agencies to provide new resources to support positive health outcomes in school districts
- Served as the Statewide School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) Planning Chair
- Served on the Advisory Council for the CDC's National Professional Development for Healthy Schools

Middle Tennessee State University,
Center for Health and Human Services
Federal Grants Project Assistant

October 2020-July 2023

- HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program
 - Facilitated 4 local focus groups to gather qualitative data on stigma surrounding substance use, local access to treatment, and perceived barriers/strengths of the county
 - Conducted local interviews with health departments and data tracking organizations to implement new ways of tracking real time data on overdoses
 - Compiled resources and formatted a 50-page community needs assessment in an easy to read and informative design for local advocacy use
 - Oversaw evaluation for a planning grant and was awarded a \$1 million implementation grant for local investments to continue prevention of opioid use disorder
 - Established an evaluation plan for the Preventing Incarceration in Communities Center to divert first time opioid offenders to receive treatment instead of serving jail time
 - Collected local stigma data from hundreds of attendees at the State fair
- USDA STEMsational Ag: The Virtual Farm Curriculum
 - Built the organizational design for a 12-module virtual agriculture curriculum platform for K-12 students, parents, and teachers to easily navigate for distance learning amid the COVID-19 pandemic
 - Created marketing materials that were used across 11 southeastern states in the Southeast United States to help spread awareness about the curriculum
 - Managed multiple social media accounts for posting marketing materials to increase engagement with our online curriculum

Murfreesboro City Schools,
Cason Lane Academy
Special Education Assistant

August 2021-April 2022

- Facilitated engaged learning for K-3 students with developmental and/or learning disabilities
- Implemented adapted classroom management and behavior tactics to meet the unique needs of students
- Assisted students immersed in traditional classrooms with additional support to learn alongside their peers

Middle Tennessee State University,
Student Health Clinic
COVID-19 Contact Tracer and Immunization Clinic Assistant

January 2021-May 2021

- Contacted exposed contacts and confirmed cases of COVID-19 to provide guidelines for a return to campus and safe recovery.
- Assisted in organizing and planning registration systems for mass vaccination efforts.
- Inputted and checked data accuracy on vaccination doses to report in the Tennessee Immunization Information System (TennIIS).
- Used creativity to direct campaigns aimed at recruiting students to take part in receiving their vaccine.

PRESENTATION EXPERIENCE

Partners in Prevention Conference, May 2026
The Other F Word- Faculty: Strategies for Partnering with Faculty on Campus Wellness Initiatives

TDH Regional Tobacco Prevention Coordinator Training, November 2025
Addressing Vaping Through an Environmental Lens: Eco-Friendly Vape Disposal as a Strategy for Vape Cessation with Gen Z

Tennessee Public Health Association Conference, September 2025
Addressing Vaping Through an Environmental Lens: Eco-Friendly Vape Disposal as a Strategy for Vape Cessation with Gen Z

TN Strong Statewide Conference, July 2025
Addressing Vaping Through an Environmental Lens: Eco-Friendly Vape Disposal as a Strategy for Vape Cessation with Gen Z

Active Students, Active Learners Statewide Teacher PD, June 2025
Addressing Vaping Through an Environmental Lens: Eco-Friendly Vape Disposal as a Strategy for Vape Cessation with Gen Z

Coordinated School Health Institute, March 2025
Addressing Vaping Through an Environmental Lens: Eco-Friendly Vape Disposal as a Strategy for Vape Cessation with Gen Z

Partners in Prevention Conference, May 2024
Bringing Your Social Norms Campaign to Life: Utilizing Technology, Data, and Community Partners to Engage Your Campus

Rural Health Association Webinar Series, April 2024
Health for All: Language and Substance Use Disorder

Coordinated School Health Institute, February 2024
Utilizing County Opioid Abatement Funding for Coordinated School Health

Flipping the Script: Utilizing Positive Social Norms from Tennessee Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS)

Coordinated School Health Institute,

March 2023

*Reimagining the Scope of Farm to School: Coordinated School Health Farm to School
Implementation Toolkit*

District Wellness Policy Best-Practices

Nutrition Education without the “Red-Tape”: Utilizing 21st Century and L.E.A.P. Programs

Healthy School Teams and School Health Index Best-Practices

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Middle Tennessee State University,

August 2024 -Present

Lecturer

- Instructing 4 undergraduate public health courses a semester, including the following:
 - Health and Wellness
 - Introduction to Public Health
 - Survey of Human Disease
 - Bioethical Issues in Public Health
 - Methods of Communication and Marketing in Public Health
 - Service Learning
 - Internship
- Updated course content and assessments where appropriate to enhance learning to align with current public health trends
- Advised senior level students on applying for jobs and graduate school during their last semester of college
- Expanded the number of internship placement sites and community collaborations for students to gain real-world experience

Middle Tennessee State University,

January 2024 -May 2024

Adjunct Lecturer

- Facilitated a 2-hour section of Health and Wellness for students of all majors
- Developed classroom activities to foster discussion relating to emerging public health trends within course topics
- Fostered relationships with students to enhance the learning environment for expanded discussion
- Worked alongside students to find community service opportunities that line up with future career interests

Murfreesboro City Schools,

August 2021-April 2022

Special Education Educational Assistant

- Adapted creative ways to grow student's mastery of skills both functionally and also academically.
- Developed efficient classroom management tactics and found solutions to problems that arose.
- Worked collaboratively alongside other team members to propel students into further academic achievement.
- Implemented new strategies to help students with disabilities succeed in general education settings.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Health and Exercise Science, Departmental Award

May 2020

Lee University

This award is voted on by faculty throughout the department and the Dean of the College of Education. It is awarded to the student in which the department believes is the top graduate of the class in the department based on involvement, GPA, accomplishments, and more.

Tharp Award Nominee,

May 2020

Lee University

This award is given to the student at graduation that best exemplifies using their career to make a large impact on society, in which a panel of faculty and staff from across campus vote on nominees from professors.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American College Health Association, 2025-Present

Since 1920, ACHA has been the principal leadership organization for advancing the health and well-being of college students and campus communities. They provide research, advocacy, resources, and education to support higher education professionals and their institutional missions.

Prevention Alliance of Tennessee, 2023-Present

PAT serves as the trusted resource to build, connect, support and grow substance use prevention coalitions across Tennessee. Specifically, they accomplish this through communicating expertise around primary prevention and advocating for effective statewide policies on capitol hill.

Tennessee Public Health Association, 2021-Present

Organized in 1939, TPHA protects, promotes, and improves the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee by advancing health policy and practice, increasing awareness about public health issues and providing education and professional development for public health professionals.

American School Health Association, 2022-2024

Founded in 1927, ASHA is working to lead efforts to prioritize school-based approaches that promote lifelong health, build a community to support the whole child, and activate champions of school health.

Rural Health Association of Tennessee, 2021-2024

Founded in 1995, The Rural Health Association of Tennessee (RHA) is a 501c3 non-profit leading the way for a healthy Tennessee through partnerships, advocacy, education, and resources.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

Tennessee Public Health Association Programming Subcommittee, 2025-Present

The TPHA Programming Subcommittee is responsible for coordinating monthly webinar opportunities for members, as well as reviewing annual conference abstracts submitted by prospective speakers.

Substance Misuse & Addiction Resource for Tennessee Policy Network, 2024-Present

The SMART Policy Network gathers monthly to discuss current legislation impacting substance use disorder, as well as share updates pertaining to trends across Tennessee regarding emerging substances, funding shifts, and recovery.

Smokefree Tennessee Education & Outreach Committee, 2024-Present

Smokefree TN is Tennessee's official nicotine prevention coalition, bringing together experts in policy, community engagement, and evidence based educational practices with the goal of creating a healthier place for all Tennesseans to live, work and play.

Coalition for Healthy and Safe Campuses Tennessee, 2024-Present

CHASCO works with public and private Tennessee colleges to provide resources, funding, professional development, assessment tools, and research to create a healthy and safe learning environment for students.

Rutherford County Health Council Substance Misuse Subcommittee, 2023-Present

The Rutherford County Health Council exists to ensure community collaboration among public health agencies tending to the health needs of Rutherford County residents. Specifically, the substance misuse subcommittee ensures that Naloxone distribution is conducted in high-impact areas of our county.

Prevention Coalition for Success, 2023-Present

PC4S connects and empowers Rutherford County through education and advocacy to sustainably improve mental health and prevent substance misuse. Specifically, they address factors that increase substance misuse and equip the community with the knowledge to minimize the risk of substance misuse.

Local High School and College Student Mentor, 2020-Present

Volunteer at church to invest time in relationships with male high school and college students to foster growth and maturity in their character on a weekly basis.

tnAchieves High School Mentor, 2022-2025

tnAchieves is the partnering organization to the TN Promise Scholarship in 83 of the 95 counties in Tennessee. Their mission is to increase higher education opportunities for Tennessee high school students by providing last-dollar scholarships through mentor guidance during senior year of high school.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Tennessee Public Health Association Conference, September 2022
Poster Presentation
Spatial Analysis of Teen Birth Rates by Race Among Tennessee Counties in 2018

Tennessee Public Health Association Conference, October 2021
Poster Presentation
Perceptions of Wilson County Tennessee Community Stakeholders on Opioid and Substance Use Disorders in a Distanced Society: A Qualitative Study

MTSU Scholar's Week, April 2021
Poster Presentation
Perceptions of Wilson County Tennessee Community Members on Opioid and Substance Use Disorders: A Qualitative Study

DIGITAL FEATURES AND GRANT PROJECT PORTFOLIO

Public Health Symposium and Dual Credit Partnership, April 2026

This article showcases our inaugural conference for local high school students to learn about careers in public health and announces our partnership to offer dual credit to local students.

Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Project Summary, August 2025

This report provides an overview of the 4.5-year HRSA funded grant, highlights successes, and outlines next steps for consideration among local officials.

Middle Tennessee Opioid Abatement Summit News Story, June 2024

This news story highlights the collaboration between local county mayors on addressing addiction at our inaugural regional professional development event.

News Channel 5 Spotlight: How Can We Fight the Opioid Crisis?, May 2024

This live news appearance on WTVF's "OpenLine" nighttime TV show allowed us to share how grant funding will impact Middle Tennessee and address emerging trends from callers.

Healthy Students, Stronger Learners TN Success Stories, May 2023

This video shows the direct local impact from our CDC funded grant reaching 10 high-need school districts across Tennessee, as narrated by local high school students.

Wilson County Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis, January 2021

This report highlights unmet needs within Wilson County, identifies gaps regarding drug prevention and intervention, and urges community partners to take action.