



# MEDIA RELEASE

KNOX COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Five Points Up coalition hosts third annual Winter Wonderland event

*Knoxville, Tenn.* — Five Points Up invites the public to its third annual Winter Wonderland program on Thursday, Dec. 8 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Dr. Walter Hardy Park, 2020 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

“Winter Wonderland is an opportunity for those who don’t have a family to share the holiday with the community. It’s also a way to rejoice in the season, as well as share some refreshments and entertainment with each other,” said Albert Nelson, Five Points Up member and Community Action Committee (CAC) East Neighborhood Center director.

The free event is open to the public and will feature a holiday lighting ceremony in Hardy Park followed by entertainment and refreshments at the Tabernacle Baptist Church, 2137 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. Partners include Project GRAD, Cold Springs Neighborhood Association, Michael Meadowview Neighborhood Association, OUR Community Organization, the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee, The Village of Knoxville, the East Knoxville Business and Professional Association, and the Knox County Health Department (KCHD). The purpose of the event is to build relationships among community members in East Knoxville.

The mission of Five Points Up, a community-led group facilitated by KCHD, is to beautify and unify East Knoxville through community-based activities and events. The group hopes to improve the health of those living and working in the area by increasing the sense of community. According to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, promoting meaningful community participation builds trust and relationships among neighbors, empowering them to become advocates for their communities. Neighborhood involvement helps communities reach health-related goals and empowers residents to adopt behaviors that improve health outcomes.

In 2010, KCHD secured grant funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to engage three at-risk neighborhoods to address environmental barriers to good health. KCHD is continuing this evidenced-based work in Five Points and other targeted neighborhoods, in part, by providing staff support and facilitation to neighborhood organizations.

### **About Knox County Health Department:**

The Knox County Health Department (KCHD) is a governmental agency dedicated to making every person a healthy person. As the first health department in Tennessee to achieve national accreditation by the Public Health Accreditation Board, KCHD’s mission is to encourage, promote and assure the development of an active, healthy community through innovative public health practices. The organization conducts disease surveillance, prevention and control; emergency preparedness; nutrition and physical activity promotion; tobacco use prevention; health equity promotion; immunizations; and much more. For more information, visit [www.knoxcounty.org/health](http://www.knoxcounty.org/health).

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