



September Report 2023



**DOWNTOWN
CHATTANOOGA
ALLIANCE**



Executive Director

Message from DCA Executive Director.

September offered beautiful weather, a parade hosted by the Coolidge National Medal of Honor Heritage Center, the last two Nightfall Concerts, and the beginning of River City's Noon Tunes series in it's new location on Broad Street.

These positives are not what will be remember. On September 28, 2023, Chris Wright was murdered in Downtown Chattanooga. Darryl "Too Tall" Roberts was arrested by law enforcement in less than 24 hours and was arraigned several days later. The murder set off a string of events throughout the City and County. Property and business owners, along with residents questioned if downtown was still a safe place to live, work, and enjoy. The murder became national news.

I've experienced a lot in my career as far as violence downtowns - including nurnous murders. None of those prior experiences matched the sadness this community felt with the murder of Chris Wright. At the end of the day, Chattanooga is still a small small town in many ways, and the community was devastated.

In early October, the Downtown Chattanooga Alliance co-hosted a public safety meeting with River City Company. Many downtown workers, residents, and property and business owners, attended the meeting. They were clear that they are worried for their employees, do not feel safe, and that they are overrun by people experiencing mental health crisis, trespassing, stealing, harassing and threatening employees, property damage, breaking and entering, threats to shoppers, public urination and defecation on buildings, and much more. Multiple people talked about closing their businesses selling buildings, and stated they can't survive if major changes are not made.

We are at a tipping point in our downtown.

Since the public safety meeting, several meetings have transpired with City and County Leadership. Our collective voices have been heard and additional police resources have been allocated to the downtown area. Mayor Kelly and CPD attended a second downtown safety meeting. That meeting gave Mayor Kelly and the Chattanooga Police Department the opportunity to share actions that have been taken since the first public safety meetings, along with additional short-term and long-term strategies they will continue to implement to address your concerns.

Additionally, this was an opportunity for us to collectively advocate for the policies and enforcement changes you requested in our first meeting. We had a strong turnout and collectively called for continued action.

As we work together collectively to advocate for downtown needs, I would like to share a reality. Chattanooga is moving into the cold weather months. Crime will naturally go down, and the behaviors of



Steve speaks at the first Downtown Chattanooga Alliance stake holders meeting. Held on STEAM Logistics roof top.

individuals struggling with mental health will decrease because of the weather. A public safety incident will occur in another part of the city, which will demand the resources of law enforcement.

However, Spring is around the corner, and slowly the same behaviors will return to our downtown streets. It's crucial to stay on top of this and remember everyday what exactly we need to have a thriving downtown.

Don't give up hope! Don't let societal problems win! Fight for what is your right as an owner, resident, and visitor to downtown. If we work together, we have a much better chance to receive and maintain the resources we need to have a safe and thriving downtown.

For those of you who have continued to fight and show up at our meetings. Thank you! If you haven't, it's not too late to call for changes and to share your thoughts, experiences, and ideas for improvement. If you're willing to make phone calls, sign letters, and join us in our advocacy efforts, email me directly at dtchattalliance@gmail.com.

Executive Summary: Clean Team Highlights, September 2023

Accomplishments

During the month of September, Downtown Chattanooga Alliance Ambassadors achieved the following special projects and cleaning accomplishments.

1. Removed 162 graffiti tags and stickers observed around the district, a decrease of 35% when compared to August of 2023.
2. Cleaned 93 biohazards an increase 16% when compared to August of 2023.
3. Performed weed abatement on 56 blocks, a decrease of 16% when compared to August of 2023.
4. Cleaned 426 trash cans, an increase of 39% when compared to August of 2023.
5. Power washed stains and smells for 61 hours an increase of 335% when compared to August 2023.



Jake picks up a deceased bird on Patton Parkway.

Executive Summary: Hospitality Team Highlights, September 2023

Accomplishments

During the month of September, Downtown Chattanooga Alliance Ambassadors achieved the following hospitality accomplishments.

1. Provided 2,965 directions and recommendations a decrease of 29% when compared to September 2023.
2. Conducted 138 business checks, an increase of 44% when compared to September 2023.
3. Provided 3 motorist assists, a decrease of 25% when compared to September 2023.



Randi talks with a downtown officer worker while she waters flowers on Broad St.

Cleaning Statistics

August 2020 through September 2023

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Biohazard Clean Up	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	77	62	38	32	22	231
	'21	31	21	18	49	76	64	98	81	61	118	109	116	842
	'22	100	64	109	102	118	67	115	100	83	69	70	40	1037
	'23	62	79	45	43	43	33	46	80	93	--	--	--	524
Business Trash	'23	--	--	--	--	--	--	1457	1576	1580	--	--	--	4613
City Can Trash	'23	--	--	--	--	--	--	336	301	427	--	--	--	1064
DCA Trash	'23	--	--	--	--	--	--	45	60	60	--	--	--	165
Graffiti/Stickers - Removed	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	753	183	122	148	109	1315
	'21	42	36	99	47	117	49	98	149	171	189	73	178	1248
	'22	109	141	175	125	177	155	271	170	152	209	72	74	1830
	'23	123	146	78	82	154	69	164	250	162	--	--	--	1228
Power Washing (hours)	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	19	71	95	44	42	271
	'21	73	62	105	82	48	17	7	90	22	35	1	65	607
	'22	36	37	25	23	38	17	45	50	46	65	57	56	495
	'23	5	21	15	14	3	8	--	14	61	--	--	--	141
Special Project (hours)	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	366	300	280	233	171	1350
	'21	172	157	169	198	203	161	244	252	241	186	367	245	2595
	'22	139	116	123	244	272	216	263	205	284	183	154	71	2270
	'23	61	62	59	108	92	130	228	258	277	--	--	--	1275
Trash Cans Cleaned	'21	--	--	171	533	401	166	289	696	475	847	381	346	4305
	'22	360	313	245	393	553	292	525	535	455	253	265	249	4438
	'23	271	258	267	215	419	223	299	306	426	--	--	--	2684
Weed Abatement (block faces)	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	25	209	45	23	13	315
	'21	4	15	26	58	23	32	67	26	43	98	14	20	426
	'22	15	38	42	85	43	25	71	103	117	51	32	29	651
	'23	--	28	21	19	88	87	71	67	56	--	--	--	437

Stats are based on Block by Block's SMART tracking app.

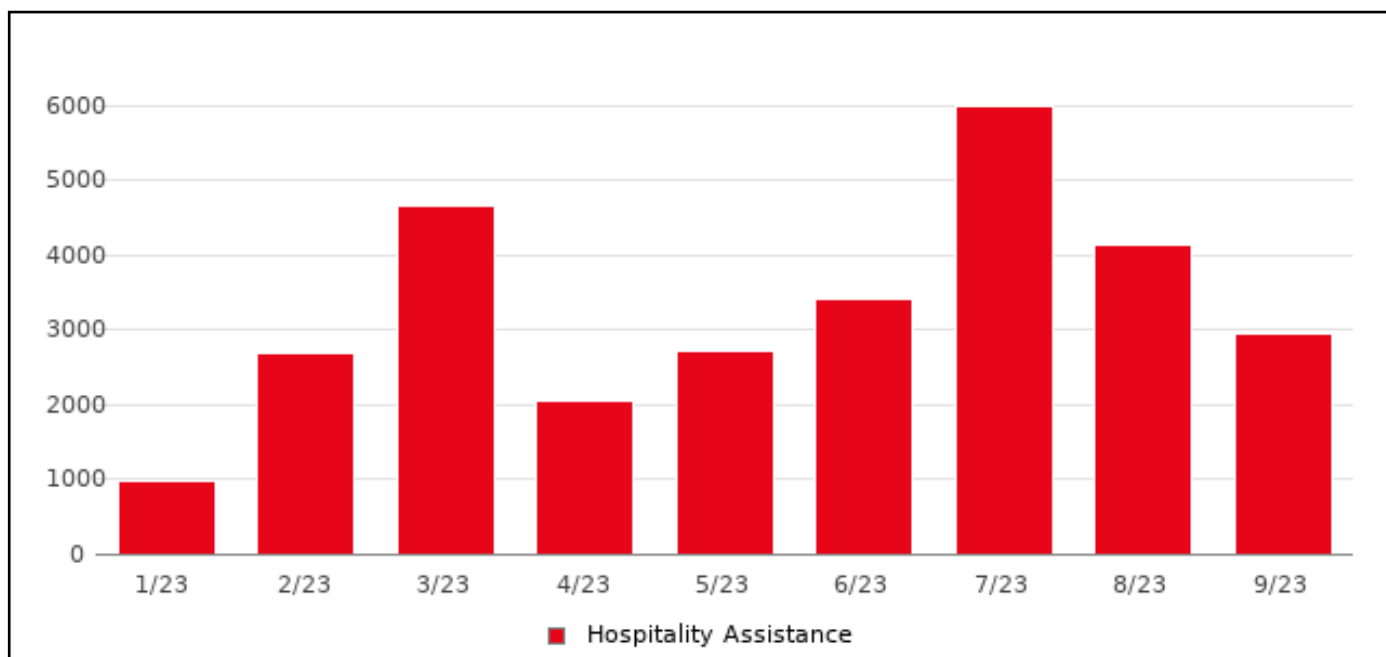
Hospitality Highlights

August 2020 through September 2023

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Business Contact	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	57	42	62	93	91	345
	'21	45	112	66	120	187	26	35	46	50	17	45	40	789
	'22	45	71	62	50	116	49	143	134	147	75	90	123	1105
	'23	81	126	175	57	107	87	73	96	138	--	--	--	940
Hospitality Assistance	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1370	2691	1364	1125	711	7261
	'21	466	762	2133	3468	2879	3076	2457	2561	2776	7014	9374	4684	41650
	'22	803	1310	5483	3104	3294	2193	3694	2747	3358	3301	1558	1297	32142
	'23	980	2695	4532	2167	2734	3197	6213	4153	2965	--	--	--	29636
Motorist Assist	'20	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	42	31	10	3	1	87
	'21	3	6	6	5	11	9	11	9	10	9	6	2	87
	'22	2	15	16	13	23	8	11	11	3	2	4	8	116
	'23	9	8	7	3	5	3	8	4	3	--	--	--	50

Stats are based on Block by Block's SMART tracking app.

Hospitality Assistance -- January 2023 through September 2023

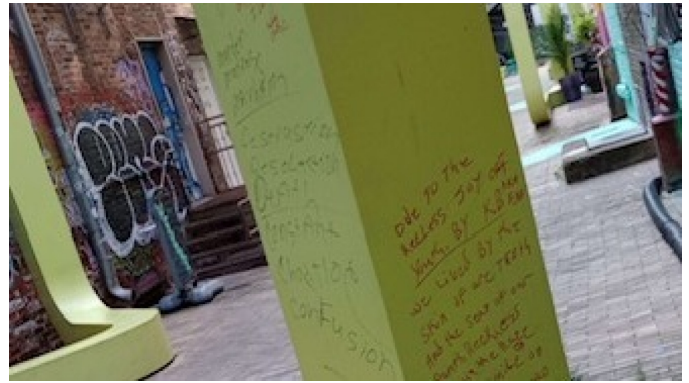


Stats are based on Block by Block's SMART tracking app.

Before and After



Graffiti after photo Coopers Alley.



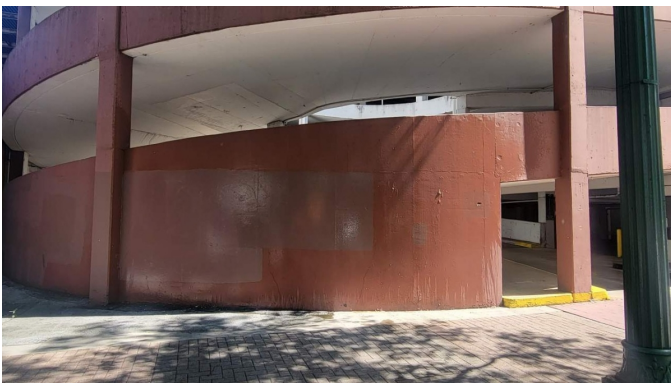
Graffiti before photo Coopers Alley.



Graffiti after on Market St.



Graffiti before on Market St.



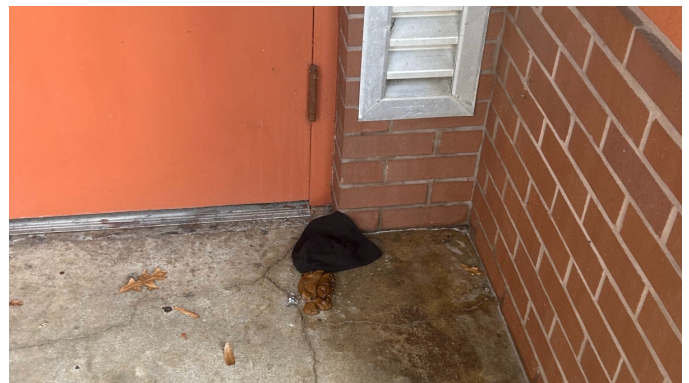
Chalk removed from wall on Broad St.



Chalk on wall Broad street building.



Biohazard cleaned up on 800 block of Market St.



Biohazard in door of 800 Market St.

Ambassador Team in Action



Ambassador Abe rinses the sidewalk on MLK.



Captain McCullough speaks at STEAM logistics.



Ty spreads mulch on Market St.



Ryan power washes Chestnut St.



Katie collects trash using Mega Brute on Broad St.



Randi engages and individual at the bus stop.



Hardy waters the plants at 8th and Pine.



LaShawn wipes down a trash can on Broad St.