



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Community Connections Series Features Angelic Ministries**

*KNOXVILLE, Tenn.*— Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs interviewed Tony Earl, executive director of Angelic Ministries, a local operation designed to help men who have come out of homelessness or other rough situations get back on the road to responsibility and self-sufficiency.

The interview is part of Community Connection—a spinoff from the Mayor’s small business series that provides owners the opportunity to talk about how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their families and employees and helping them share any plans they hold for the future.

For the next couple of months, Mayor Jacobs will focus on local charities and non-profits. A new vignette will run each week on the county and Mayor’s various social media platforms. Angelic Ministries helps roughly 4,500 to 5,000 families each year.

“They’re learning different skills (such as) warehousing – like how to stock a warehouse and keep an inventory, drive a forklift, and go out in a truck and pick up donations,” Earl said. (They’re also) taking classes and things they need to get their life back in order.

“What I found is that the drugs they take – they’re not excuses,” he added. “Sometimes they are a symptom. And what they do as a symptom and some other things going on in their life, it definitely has to be dealt with. I know there is a clinical side to that, a medical side and a psychological side, but I also believe there is a spiritual side to that.”

Mayor Jacobs agreed.

“I think that people have a hole in their lives that they’re trying to fill,” the Mayor said. “And they do that with various things and those things don’t work, so they turn to drugs and alcohol to mask the pain and of course that doesn’t work, either. And, unfortunately, they get into that vicious cycle and just get pulled downward.

“It’s wonderful to hear the support you give these individuals,” the Mayor added.

To hear more of what was said, check out the [video](#).

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