



Multi-Family Housing • Section 515

A Place to Belong

Tucked away in quiet, small rural Newbern, Tennessee are the Oakview Apartments. An apartment complex for elderly and disabled residents who need a safe place to call home. Some residents are no longer physically or financially able to care for their own home, but can still live independently.

This community is surrounded by softball fields, a golf course, middle school practice fields, and school Future Farmers of America pastures. Other than the occasional stray cow or softball tournament, the tenants have a tranquil setting and the police are willing to drive through at night to give them a sense of security.



Oakview Apartments has been home for Ms. Burnett for 24 years.

Ms. Lisa Burnett came to live in Oakview Apartments in 1995. She previously resided in Illinois, North Carolina, Florida, and Pennsylvania where she worked in restaurant management. She told the manager of the complex, that she wanted to be known for being kind and spreading joy; which she does by giving hugs and singing in the laundry room. Friends and neighbors take her to doctor appointments and the grocery store and in return, she is happy to share a home-cooked meal with them. “I do not know where I would be living if it was not for USDA Rural Development and Oakview Apartments,” Burnett said. “I was longing for a place to belong.”

Many residents live alone so they look out for one another; while other residents have family who live in the community who can be readily available in the event of an emergency. Grandchildren can be seen walking from school in the afternoon and stay until their parents arrive, or some play softball games at the nearby field. Complexes such as these, fill a gap between the responsibility and burden of a house and assisted living. Active seniors and disabled residents on a fixed income can enjoy the freedom and independence of renting their own apartment within a reasonable budget. Many, like Ms. Lisa, are simply longing for a place to call home.

Obligation Amount:	\$462,170.00
Date of Obligation:	07/27/1976
Congressional District:	Representative Kustoff, TN-08 District; Senators Lamar Alexander and Marsha Blackburn
Partners:	Dyer County Community Housing, Inc.
Demographics:	Newbern, Dyer County, Tennessee
Impact:	Providing Affordable Rural Rental Housing to Elderly Citizens
