



THE HOPE BUSS

Meet Stachelle Bussey.

With a heart for music and an even deeper passion for social justice, Stachelle uses her people-centered mindset in her work at The Hope Buss, a Louisville-based nonprofit she founded in 2019. She works to connect people in the community with resources they need, whether it's a ride to the grocery store for someone in a food desert, a hot meal for someone living on the street, a ride to vote, or school supplies for a child whose guardian can't afford them.

Fun facts about Stachelle Bussey:

- Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky.
- Bachelor degree in criminal justice from Kentucky State University
- Serves as the Assistant Band Director at Central High School (her alma mater)
- Purchased the Hope Buss (a retired school bus) in 2019 and it serves as a mobile community center providing rides to the polls on election day, hosting conversations on mental health and the church, and provides free food, as well as offering gospel music in the community after the murders of Breonna Taylor and David McAtee in West Louisville.
- In 2019, Stachelle was named to the Vanderbilt University Divinity School Public Theology and Racial Justice Collaborative Cohort, which is a national body of persons committed to consistent dialogue around issues pertaining to racial justice that impact them locally, but have national import. By consistent collaboration, Cohort participation will serve as a think tank for ideas, collective witness, and support for the journey.
- Earned her Master of Divinity degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary as part of the "Agents of Change" cohort and received her chaplaincy certification through Norton Healthcare in May 2020. Stachelle was accepted to the Certificate of Advanced Studies in Ecumenical Studies program at the

Ecumenical Institute at Chateau de Bossey in Geneva, Switzerland and was expected to begin her studies in September 2020 before COVID-19.

- As a part of its street outreach, The Hope Buss is also working to become certified as a needle exchange partner and Narcan distributor.
- As The Hope Buss approaches its second anniversary in March 2021, Bussey has big goals for the year ahead. She hopes to buy five homes in the West End, one for every area of focus The Hope Buss works on: physical health, mental health, food insecurity, education and community resources. She also hopes to buy a second bus!

Most recently, The Hope Buss was awarded a portion of a grant from Blue Meridian Partners, a New York philanthropic organization, to eliminate inequalities in Louisville through the plan, A Path Forward.

To learn more about this creative and wonderful organization, please visit them at <https://www.thehopebuss.org/>