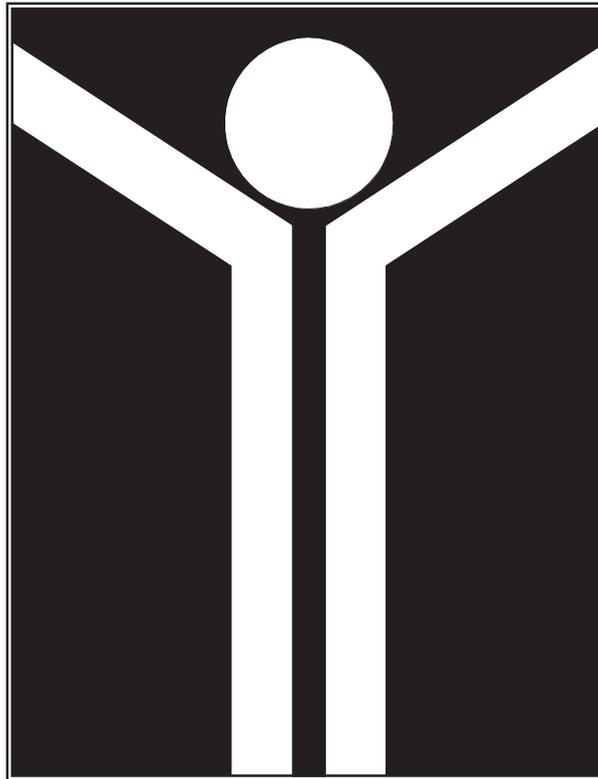


Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth



Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2000-01

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Fiscal Year 2000-01 Annual Report

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Readers:

We all know that children are the future, and the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth is committed to helping children prepare for that future and to creating a world that supports them in that process. Through our information, evaluation, juvenile justice monitoring, and grant making, we helped to make that future better this year.

TCCY had some notable successes. Working with the juvenile court judges, detention centers and other agencies, we were able to bring the state back into compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act and avert the possibility of losing federal money that was needed for services for at-risk youth.

The first winner of TCCY's Youth Excellence Award, Fredrick Harris, was an example of the influence we hope to foster. He profited by the intervention in his life of caring employees of the Tennessee Department of Children's Services and returned to the agency willing to serve as a role model and provide hope for the future for other confused and hurting young people.

Though involved to some extent in all the issues of health and social services for children, agency resources were most directed toward improving the juvenile justice and the child welfare systems. The Children's Program Review Team (CPORT) continued to provide a model for other states as an external evaluation mechanism to measure and reinforce best practices for treatment and care of children in state custody.

The Commission continues to be an effective voice for children. Children's Advocacy Day was expanded to two days to provide advocates an opportunity to both learn more about the problems facing children and to share this information with policy makers.

We know that the job is too big for any individual or agency to do alone. Cooperating with other state agencies, professional groups, and community organizations, we multiplied our efforts for children. The councils on children and youth and their nearly 3,300 members served as TCCY's eyes, voice, and hands in communities in every region of the state as an informed body of professional and volunteer advocates for children.

We achieved a level of stability on the Commission itself. The members appointed by Governor Sundquist to serve have continued to devote time from their busy lives to the work of the Commission. I am fortunate to share this task with these dedicated people.

I know I speak for the entire Commission when I commend the commitment, enthusiasm, and perseverance of our staff. Working together, we will face the increasing challenges of the future.

Sincerely,



Betty Cannon

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Dear Reader:

TCCY, like other state agencies, faced many challenges during 2000-01. The Commission remained stable, with dedicated and caring people who devoted their time to improving the lives of Tennessee's children. Although we experienced the usual turnover and losses, we were able to recruit caring professionals to assure continuity in the work of the organization.

TCCY's advocacy efforts continued. Children's Advocacy Days, held in March, brought more than 350 advocates together to learn about state programs, innovative treatment methods and juvenile court issues. Advocates meet with their legislators to remind them that Tennessee's children need their piece of the pie of state services. We improved our ability to communicate information about the progress of bills through the Legislature by setting up a Listserv of advocates' e-mail addresses. This information was also updated weekly on the agency website, making it available to a wider audience.

TCCY staff provided leadership within the community and the social services profession on the national, state, regional, and local levels, including, nationally, committees of Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Coalition for Juvenile Justice, the Child Welfare League of America, and the United States Ombudsman Association. On a statewide basis, staff members participated with groups that included the Tennessee Association for Child Care, the Tennessee Association on the Education of Young Children, Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, and Tennessee Voices for Children.

The awarding of the agency's first Youth Excellence Award was a celebration of the resilience and pride of young people who go through the state juvenile justice system and the hard work and caring of the people who work in that system. Fredrick Harris, an employee of the Department of Children's Services, was the first winner. We also honored dedicated people with the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award, which was given to Merrill Harris of Doweltown, and the second annual Making KIDS COUNT media award, which was given to Jamie Satterfield of the Knoxville News-Sentinel and Becky Magura of WCTE-TV in Cookeville.

We have continued to educate both advocates and child-care professionals and the general public about children and their problems and needs. At a time when pressure is on state government to use funds wisely, we are proud of our 13-year history of using Casey Foundation KIDS COUNT funds to help comply with our legislative requirement to produce a report on the state of the child in Tennessee. We have used the Internet's speed and reach to communicate information to citizens without the costs of printing and postage. During calendar year 2001, KIDS COUNT pages on our website were requested 16,367 times.

The Tennessee Compilation of Selected Laws on Children, Youth, and Families is a resource for professionals, juvenile courts, attorneys, and others. In 2001, we added the compilation to our website. Although a number of agencies publish compilations of laws related to their function, I believe we are the first, in fact, the only agency to place this information on the state's website. Thanks to the state's excellent web search process, a lot of people are learning what Tennessee law says.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S LETTER

We have achieved a level of stability on the Commission itself. The governor's appointees have continued to devote time from their busy lives to the work of the Commission.

The state's juvenile courts returned to compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act requirements, including the disinstitutionalization of status offenders. We have made great strides in addressing another concern of the act, the overrepresentation of minorities in secure detention. A very committed DMC Task Force met five times, and a new local task force was added in Memphis. The task force finished the year planning for projects to expand our information on this problem and thus formulate solutions.

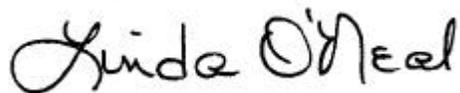
Grants from the Commission supported a number of programs to help young people find alternatives to juvenile delinquency. These programs included Teen Peace, Boys-to-Men, Buddies programs, The Carpetbag Theater, an Exchange Club Center, and programs sponsored by school systems, juvenile courts, and units of local government. The Title V grant program brought together leaders in seven cities to address community problems.

The Ombudsman Office for children in state custody continued to improve communication among the many groups serving children in state care and improve services for individual children.

The Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) completed the seventh year of quality service reviews for children in state custody. Additional refinements were made in the process and reporting so results would be more understandable and better guide system improvements.

As we move into the 21st century, TCCY Commission members and staff are committed to the agency's mission to improve the quality of life for children and families. We encourage others to join us in our many efforts and activities.

Sincerely,



Linda O'Neal

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The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) is an independent agency created by the Tennessee General Assembly. The primary mission of the Commission is advocacy for improvements in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families. Tennessee has had a Commission on Children and Youth or Children's Services Commission continuously since the 1950s; the current statutory framework for the Commission on Children and Youth was enacted in 1988, with minor revisions in 1999, when it was reauthorized.

Appointed by the Governor for overlapping three-year terms, the 21 Commission members serve as the policy board for the agency. At least one Commission member represents each development district, and the commissioners of state departments serving children, or their designees, are ex-officio members. The Commission also has youth advisory members as necessary to meet the requirements for serving as the state advisory group under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Committees

The Commission had five standing committees to oversee the operations of the agency during fiscal year 2000-01. The Commission officers and committee chairs served as the Executive Committee. The chair is appointed by the governor to a three-year term. Other officers, the vice-chair, and the secretary, are elected by the Commission. Committee chairs and members are appointed by the Commission chair.

The Budget and Data Committee was responsible for fiscal matters, such as Commission budget requests, budget analysis, and budget recommendations, and for agency efforts to collect and disseminate information, including *The Advocate*, *KIDS COUNT*, and other publications.

The Councils and Interdepartmental Responsibilities Committee reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth and interdepartmental activities.

The Children's Services Committee provided oversight for Commission activities in the evaluation by the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT). It also reviewed implementation of the TCCY Ombudsman Program's coordination with child welfare services, juvenile justice services, and mental health services to children in custody.

The Juvenile Justice Committee supervised the implementation of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee, the administration of state funds for juvenile justice, and other juvenile justice activities.

The Minority Issues Committee ensured adequate consideration of the needs of minority children in all TCCY efforts, with particular attention given to disproportionate minority confinement (DMC) in the juvenile justice system, including recommendations from a statewide task force on how to reduce DMC. The committee was also responsible for the development of the agency plan to address issues related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Commission Meetings

During fiscal year 2000-01, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth met four times to carry out its responsibilities. In addition to the Children's Advocacy Days in March, primary

ADMINISTRATION

topics for meetings included presentations on cultural sensitivity and disproportionate minority confinement, the evaluation of juvenile justice grantees, and a review of legislation.

Commission Membership*

Betty Cannon, Chairman
Nashville

Angi Agle
Oak Ridge

Betty Anderson
Covington

Kimalishea Anderson
Knoxville

Shirlene Booker
Gray

P. Larry Boyd
Rogersville

Rebecca Goodman Dove
Springfield

Kandenna J. Greene
Goodlettsville

James B. Ford
Franklin

Wendy Ford
Memphis

Johnny Horne
Chattanooga

Drew Johnson
Nashville

Jim Kidd
Fayetteville

Kate Rose Krull
Covington

Mary Lee
Dickson

Christy Little
Jackson

Alisa Malone
Franklin

Jerry W. Maness
Memphis

Sharon T. Massey
Clarksville

Linda Miller
Memphis

Suzan Mitchell
Johnson City

John Rambo
Johnson City

Semeka Randall
Knoxville

Mary Kate Ridgeway
Paris

James Stewart
Jackson

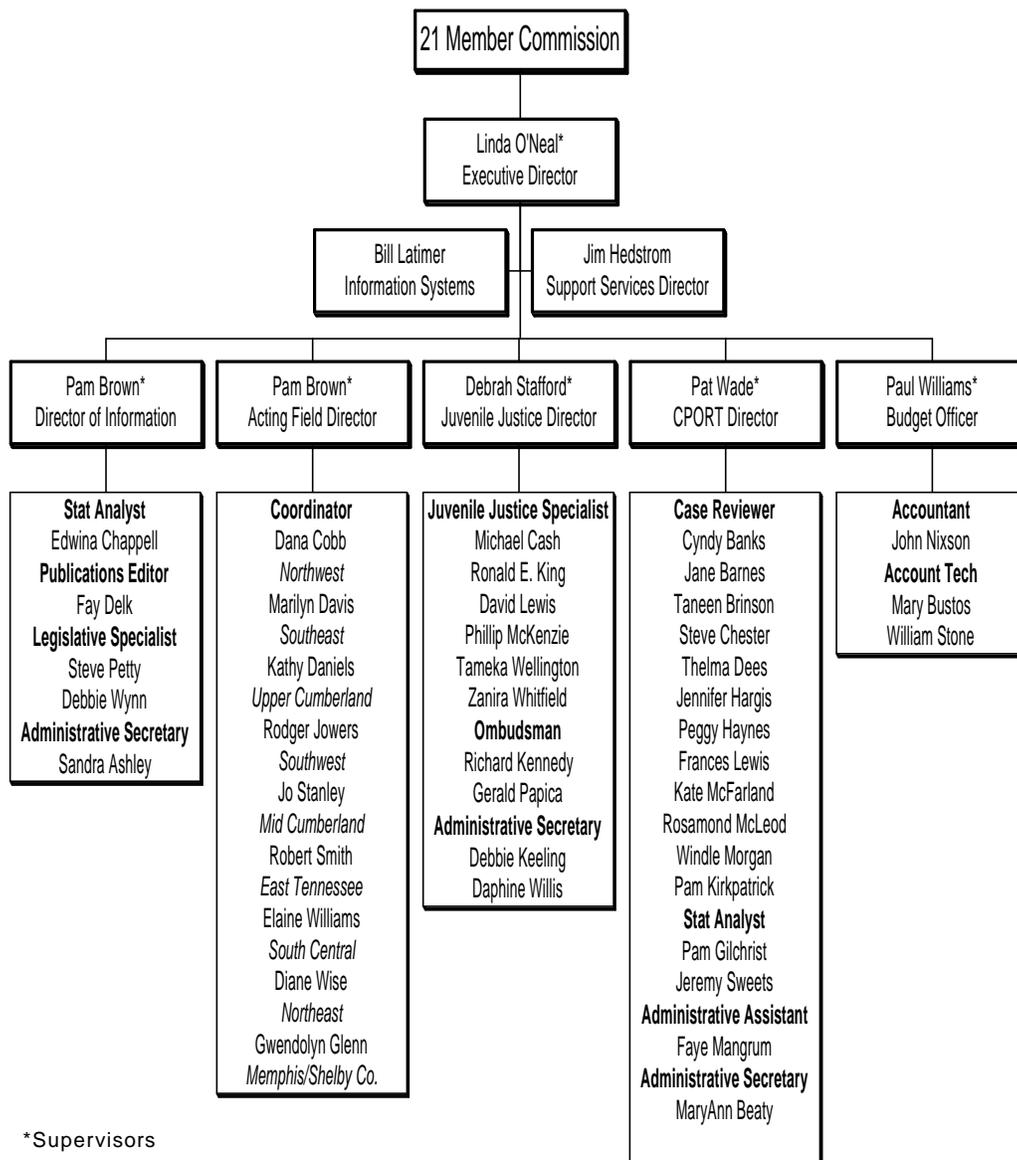
***At press time.**

ADMINISTRATION

Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 49 full-time positions and five part-time secretarial positions. Nine full-time workers and the part-time staff members provide support to the regional councils on children and youth and carry out other regional and local Commission responsibilities. The other personnel are located in the Nashville central office. The organizational chart for the Commission indicates staff members at press time. ■

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth



**TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN and YOUTH
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
BY OBJECT CODE / FUNDING SOURCES
FISCAL YEAR 2000--2001**

	STATE	FEDERAL	CPORT	KIDS COUNT	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits					
Salaries / Longevity	\$658,275	\$196,873	\$524,790	\$55,820	\$1,435,758
Benefits	155,252	48,336	141,001	13,379	357,968
Total Personal Services and Benefits	\$813,527	\$245,210	\$665,791	\$69,198	\$1,793,726
Other Expenditures					
Travel	\$55,148	\$75,181	\$119,410	\$3,354	\$253,093
Printing, Duplicating, Binding	15,645	62,756	20,325	20,299	119,025
Communications and Shipping Costs	26,080	2,256	5,579	4,686	38,602
Maintenance, Repairs and Services	357	168	1,114	78	1,716
Professional Services & Dues	36,319	2,251	63,184	1,759	103,513
Professional Services by Another State Agency	66,426	28,262	61,178	5,074	160,940
Supplies and Materials	21,203	8,838	17,210	5,597	52,847
Equipment					
Rentals and Insurance	101,788	18,201	113,281	10,730	244,001
Motor Vehicle Operation					0
Awards and Indemnities	501	151	260	22	934
Grants and Subsidies	19,706	2,731,112	37,185	1,545	2,789,548
Equipment					
Total Other Expenditures	\$343,173	\$2,929,177	\$438,726	\$53,144	\$3,764,214
Total Expenditures by Source of Funds	\$1,156,700	\$3,174,387	\$1,104,517	\$122,342	\$5,557,939
Funding Sources					
State--Appropriations	\$1,156,476	\$66,765	\$26,275	\$49,342	1,298,858
Federal--OJJDP		1,952,621			1,952,621
Interdepartmental--DCS		1,155,000	1,078,240		2,233,240
Other--Miscellaneous	225				225
Other--KIDS COUNT--Casey Foundation				73,000	73,000
Total Funding	\$1,156,700	\$3,174,387	\$1,104,515	\$122,342	\$5,557,944
Positions					
Full-Time	18	9	20	2	49
Part-Time	5	0	0	0	5
Seasonal	0	0	0	0	0
Total Positions	23	9	20	2	54

TCCY FY 2000-01 EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM

Program	Total Expenditures of Programs	State Programs	Federal Programs	Interdepartmental Programs	Other Programs
Advocacy: To provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families in Tennessee.	\$468,780	\$468,555			\$225
Juvenile Justice: To implement the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee and efficiently and effectively administer state and federal Juvenile Justice funds.	\$3,298,664	209,147	\$1,934,517	\$1,155,000	
Children's Services Evaluation: To conduct the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) process, an independent evaluation of the delivery of services to children in state custody and their families.	\$1,104,515	\$26,275		\$1,078,240	
Regional Councils on Children and Youth: To develop and support regional councils on children and youth and to carry out appropriate regional activities related to the Department of Children's Services.	\$508,899	\$490,795	\$18,104		
Information Dissemination: To effectively implement the Tennessee KIDS COUNT project for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of data on indicators of the well-being of children in Tennessee and to disseminate other appropriate information.	\$155,486	\$82,486			\$73,000
Coordination of Services: To engage in efforts to improve coordination in the delivery of services to children and families in Tennessee.	\$21,600	\$21,600			
Teen Pregnancy Prevention and Parenting: To efficiently and effectively administer state teen pregnancy prevention and teen parenting funds.	0				
Total Expenditures by Source of Funds	\$5,557,944	\$1,298,858	\$1,952,621	\$2,233,240	\$73,225

The primary mission of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth is to provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families. Major strategies for effective advocacy include extensive networking and efforts to assist in the coordination of services.

A number of Commission activities combine advocacy and coordination of services. Many of these activities also comply with specific statutory mandates governing the advocacy and coordination responsibilities. These responsibilities are to:

Make recommendations concerning establishment of priorities and needed improvements with respect to programs and services for children and youth;

Advocate and coordinate the efficient and effective development and enhancement of state, local, and regional programs and services for children and youth.

Children's Advocacy Days – 2001

More than 350 advocates attended the two-day 13th annual Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) held on March 13-14, 2001, in the War Memorial Auditorium. Each CAD participant received an information packet.

Advocates came together at Children's Advocacy Days to:

Meet with legislators to discuss relevant children and youth issues;

Observe legislative sessions;

Receive legislative updates;

Network with advocates from other parts of the state;

Hear updates on issues affecting children;

Present the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award;

Present the Youth Excellence Award; and,

Present the Making Kids Count Media Award.

Commission Chairman Betty Cannon welcomed participants. Speakers on March 13 included Dr. Gerald Hickson, director, Pediatrics, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine; the commissioners of the Tennessee departments of Health, Children's Services and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; Pat Lawler of Youth Villages; Dr. Sheila Peters of Greene, Peters & Associates; Andrei Lee, Davidson County Juvenile Court referee; Dr. Larry Thompson, of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; and John G. Morgan, state comptroller. A legislative panel and an update on legislation completed 2001 Children's Advocacy events on Wednesday, March 14.

Fredrick Harris of Madison was the winner of the first Youth Excellence Award honoring a young adult, who, after being involved in the court system as a juvenile, overcame personal obstacles and now serves his or her community. The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award was presented to Merrill Harris of Doweltown, who was nominated by the Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth. Jamie Satterfield of the *Knoxville News-Sentinel* and Becky Magura of WCTE-TV in Cookeville, representing large and small markets respectively, were the winners of the 2001 Making KIDS COUNT media awards.

Committees, Task Forces, and Boards

A major strategy for advocacy and coordination is the participation of Commission staff on national, state, regional, and local committees, task forces, and boards. This involvement provides an opportunity for critical information sharing, networking, advocacy, and coordination.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

TCCY staff members served on 10 national or Southeast regional committees, task forces, and boards. These groups focused on issues of juvenile justice, early childhood education, health and human services, and family-centered medical services. National and Southeast regional committees, task forces, and boards with Commission representatives included the following:

Annie E. Casey Foundation Kids Count Steering Committee, Self-Assessment Working Group, Baltimore;
Coalition for Juvenile Justice Administrative Services Committee, Government Relations Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, Washington, D.C.;
Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Washington, D.C.;
Child Welfare League of America, Southeastern Regional Conference Planning Committee, Fund-Raising Committee, Washington, D.C.;
United States Ombudsman Association, Membership Committee, Outreach Committee, San Francisco.

State Organizations

Staff members participated on a total of 51 statewide committees, task forces, and boards that addressed a broad range of issues, including health, teen pregnancy, child welfare, mental health, child care, family assistance, juvenile justice, and broad-based children's needs. The statewide committees, task forces, or boards with Commission representatives included the following:

Adolescent Treatment Advisory Committee;
Child Abuse Prevention Coalition Advisory Committee
Children with Special Health Needs Steering Panel;
Children's Justice Task Force, Legislative Subcommittee; *
Department of Children's Services Adoption Conference Planning Committee;
Department of Health Child Fatality Review Team;
Department of Health TennKids Healthy Kids Award 2000 Committee;
Department of Human Services and Advocates Advisory Committee;
Department of Human Services Child Care Board of Review;
Department of Human Services Child Care Tiered Licensing Stakeholders Committee;
Department of Human Services Child Care Grant Review Committee;
Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities System of Care Council;
Department of Education Family Literacy Coalition;
Developmental Disability Council Advisory Board, Legislative Committee;
Early Childhood Health Outreach Board of Directors, Steering Committee;

Families First Working Group;
Information Systems Managers Group Steering Committee;
Interdepartmental School Dropout Task Force;
Micro Technical Support Partnership Forum;
Suicide Prevention Advisory Council Public Policy Committee;*
Tennessee Association for Child Care Nominating Committee;
Tennessee Action Coalition on Tobacco, Legislative Committee;
TennCare Advocates Coordinating Committee;
TennCare for Children Advisory Committee
TennCare for the Homeless;
TennCare Partners Roundtable;
TennCare Summit Planning Committee;
Tennessee Association on the Education of Young Children, Public Policy Committee;
Tennessee Association for Child Care, Board of Directors, Nominating Committee;*
Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, Board of Directors, Treasurer, Nominating Committee* and Finance Committee*;
Tennessee Mental Health Planning Council Children and Youth Committee, Executive Committee;
Tennessee Suicide Prevention Task Force Advisory Committee, Rule 31;
Tennessee Supreme Court Permanency Planning Commission;
Tennessee Voices for Children, Advisory Committee; Board of Directors;
University of Tennessee School of Social Work Advisory Committee.
*TCCY staff served as chair.

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 72 regional committees, task forces, or boards. At the regional level, representatives of the Commission participated with a number of groups in almost every area of the state. Additionally, staff members also participated on many committees, task forces, and boards unique to individual regions. These regional groups addressed a range of issues, including child abuse, child care, education, Head Start, health, mental health, family assistance, foster care, adoptions, juvenile justice, substance abuse, and teen pregnancy. The committees, task forces, or boards in each region with relatively consistent staff representation are:

Department of Children's Services Regional Resource Management Group;
Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Regional Mental Health Planning Council;
and,
Governor's Community Prevention Initiative.

Presentations and Displays

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth staff members made presentations and prepared displays on a variety of topics to a range of different groups and organizations. These presentations focused on Commission activities, advocacy, Commission priorities, and substantive issues. During fiscal year 2000-01, TCCY staff members made 57 presentations, two national, 17 statewide, 29 regional, and nine local, to more than 3,516 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented eight displays at conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings, government days, and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy

During the 2001 session of the 102nd General Assembly, the Commission prepared and distributed a *Legislative Report* briefly summarizing bills and resolutions affecting children and families. Weekly *Legislative Updates* that identified and tracked 108 bills were prepared and distributed. After adjournment, a *Legislative Summary* was prepared summarizing 102 bills and resolutions dealing with children and families that passed into law. A Listserv was created to distribute legislative information to advocates across the state. The *Legislative Updates* were also posted on the Commission website each week, as was the *Legislative Summary* following adjournment and assignment of Public Chapter numbers. The legislative pages were within the top 10 of most requested sites on the TCCY website during the months of the session.

The Commission reviewed the most significant legislation affecting children and families and took specific positions on issues, such as the abandoned baby legislation. It worked with legislator to find consensus solutions to this and other problems.

The Commission reviewed the most significant legislation affecting children and families and took specific positions on 25 bills. Of these 25 the Commission supported 20 bills, nine of which became law. The Commission opposed five bills, none of which became law. ■

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103(a)(1)(D) establishes the following Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) responsibilities in the juvenile justice arena: “To implement the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, as amended; and to distribute, consistent with the purpose of the Commission as set forth by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-102(a), such funds as the general assembly shall direct.”

Each state participating in the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 is required to have a state advisory group. In Tennessee, TCCY serves as the state advisory group responsible for the administration of funds received through the Act. It is important for TCCY to exercise the powers and duties designated in the Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-103, which includes advocating for efficient, effective, and relevant programs and services for children and youth. TCCY also identifies problems and gaps in programs and services for children and families.

In addition to the requirement to have a state advisory group, a state must maintain compliance with the Act’s four core requirements for continued participation. Compliance with these requirements enables Tennessee to receive Federal Formula Grant funds to address delinquency prevention and intervention issues. The core requirements are to:

- Deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO);
- Remove children from adult jails;
- Separate children from adult offenders; and,
- Address minority overrepresentation in secure confinement.

Another requirement for participation in the Act is the annual submission of a three-year plan or plan update to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). In fiscal year 2000-01 the Commission submitted a plan update that included a crime analysis of juvenile court referrals and adjudications categorized by race, gender, and specific offense. Minority overrepresentation in rural and metropolitan areas of Tennessee was also identified. The three-year plan includes program areas to receive priority for JJDP Act funds. The program areas for this period included Delinquency Prevention, Minority Overrepresentation, Systems Improvement, Juvenile Court Services, and Gangs.

Facilities/Program Monitoring

To assure compliance with the core requirements, TCCY conducts periodic on-site monitoring of all adult jails and lock-ups and all secure juvenile facilities in Tennessee, including juvenile detention centers, temporary holding resources, and training schools. Commission staff reviews records to determine the number of children detained and the circumstances of their detention.

In fiscal year 2000-01 Commission staff conducted 440 monitoring visits at 143 facility sites as presented on the next page. In July 2000 the Department of Finance and Administration assumed responsibility for monitoring programs that receive grant funds. Therefore, TCCY staff did not monitor federally funded or state funded programs during this period. However, they concentrated efforts on increasing the frequency of facilities monitoring. Staff will continue to provide technical assistance to all programs and will conduct periodic on-site visits of Federal Formula and Title V programs to assist with any concerns, verify compliance with Title VI

JUVENILE JUSTICE

nondiscrimination policies, and promote the positive effects of the projects during the grant period (See table below).

TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 2000-01			
Number	Type of Program	Monitoring/On-site Frequency	Total Number of Monitoring/On-Site Activities
14	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA)	*	
95	State Supplement/ Reimbursement Accounts	*	
**63	Federal Formula Grants	Annually*	63
9	Title V Grants	Annually*	9
181		Subtotal	72
116	Jails and/or Lockups	Annually	116
12	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	144
15	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	180
143		Subtotal	440
324		Total	512

*The Department of Finance and Administration monitors these programs. TCCY conducts an on-site visit for technical assistance annually.

**TCCY fiscal year includes part of two federal grant years, and grants differed in number each year (42 for FY2000 and 21 for FY2001).

Compliance Monitoring Report

A monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates was also submitted to OJJDP. The 2000 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of 364 deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed was 399. Therefore, TCCY came back into compliance. This was a direct result of intense efforts of the TCCY staff and Commission members. In addition, collaborative efforts of the juvenile courts, detention facilities, temporary holding resources, and the Department of Children's Services impacted the drastic reduction of DSO violations during this reporting period.

The violations were a result of children being held in secure confinement longer than the time limits specified in the Act. The reasons for violations include, but are not limited to, the failure of parents to pick up their children, problems in record keeping at secure facilities, the failure of juvenile courts to properly follow violation of valid court order (VVCO) guidelines, and the failure of the Department of Children Services to find placements for children in a timely manner. However, the total violations for 2000 were significantly fewer than the 783 DSO violations in 1999 and the more than 1,800 DSO violations in 1977.

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act has had a positive impact on Tennessee's juvenile justice system regarding children held in adult jails. The number of violations for children held in adult jails has been reduced from approximately 10,000 in 1980 to only 18 jail

removal violations in the 2000 monitoring period. The majority of the jail removal violations occurred when a temporary holding resource had utility problems and the juveniles were transferred to the jail. In the rare instances where juveniles were placed in adult facilities, they were inadequately separated from adult offenders only four times. This was down from almost 3,800 violations in 1977.

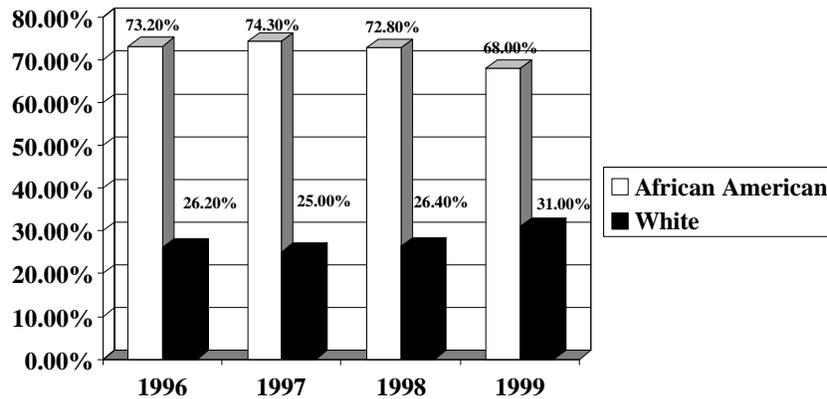
Minority Overrepresentation

Compliance with the minority overrepresentation core requirement was maintained by 1) collecting the data verifying a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement (DMC) in rural and metropolitan areas of the state; 2) educating communities regarding DMC; and 3) developing an action plan to address the problem. TCCY staff also provided an analysis of how DMC occurred at different decision points in the juvenile justice system. The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 met five times during fiscal year 2000-01 to develop strategies to reduce minority overrepresentation in problem areas. A new local task force was established in Memphis, Tennessee. It has already started working on educating community leaders about DMC. Other local task forces continue to focus on minority youth in their communities and to determine what can be done to prevent youth from getting involved with the juvenile justice system.

For Tennessee, as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 are African-American. Overall, referrals of African-American youth to secure detention had a significantly higher rate than referrals for white youth. In Tennessee, 68 percent of juveniles between the ages of 12 through 17 that were placed in secure detention facilities for calendar year 1999 were African American. However, this was a 4.8 percentage point decrease from the 1998 percentages. Even with this significant reduction in African American youth placed in secure detention facilities, minority overrepresentation still remains.

Statewide transfers to adult court in 1999 had an index of 2.5 (overrepresentation) involving African-Americans and 0.6 (under representation) involving white youth. This is compared to a 1.0 index representing proportionate numbers, which means that African-American youth are 2.5 times more likely to be transferred to adult court than would be expected based on their representation in the at-risk population. Some of the data regarding minority overrepresentation follows.

Juveniles Confined in Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities Tennessee Statewide



¹ Source: Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges CY96-CY99

As a result of these still alarming numbers, the statewide DMC Task Force held a retreat on May 24-25, 2001, with Heidi Hsia, DMC coordinator for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, as the keynote speaker. A strategic planning workshop helped the Task Force to plan future activities that will involve state representatives, community leaders, Commission members, state agencies, private organizations, parents, and youth. An assessment of at least two areas of Tennessee with a high concentration of minority youth in secure facilities will be conducted during the next fiscal year. This will help to determine causes and correlates of minority overrepresentation that impact various decision points of the juvenile justice system.

Federal Formula Grants

TCCY annually awards grants from funds provided through the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974. Federal Formula Grants are awarded for one year and are renewable for up to two additional years. Renewal is not automatic. Grantees must submit an application each year. If a project is approved for funding after the first year, the funding level for the second and third years will be 75 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the first year's budget.

Federal regulations require that funds be allocated for programs that are part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services, including collaborative efforts such as the Governor's Prevention Initiative for Children. TCCY gives preference to programs that provide direct services to youth. These programs must be consistent with policies that focus on preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environments. Also, these projects should focus on early intervention efforts for children at risk of developing emotional or behavioral problems because of physical or mental stress and abuse.

Tennessee received approximately \$1.25 million in Federal Formula Grant funds in 2000-01. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention projects to ensure that youth who are at risk of committing offenses receive appropriate services.

There was a delay in receiving the 2000 Federal Formula Grant funds because Tennessee was out of compliance in with the deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) core requirement of the JJDP Act 1999. Once Tennessee came back into compliance with that core requirement, TCCY received all of the 2000 Federal Formula Grant funds.

Due to the delay in receiving the full amount of the Federal Formula Grant funds from OJJDP, no new grantees were awarded funds in 2000. There were 42 Federal Formula Grant programs in operation during the last quarter of federal fiscal year 2000 and from that group a total of 21 continuation grantees were awarded funds for projects beginning October 1, 2000, and ending September 30, 2001. Grantees served more than 20,000 children in fiscal year 2000-01.

TCCY staff provides grant-writing training and technical assistance to potential applicants for Federal Formula and Title V Grants. In addition, an orientation session is conducted for grantees that were approved for funding. TCCY staff also provides technical assistance to agencies and organizations to assure successful implementation of programs.

Title V Grants

The 1992 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. TCCY held a training session for units of local government community teams. The training was based on the Communities That Care model developed for Title V programs funded by OJJDP.

Unlike Federal Formula Grants, which may be awarded to individuals or single agencies, Title V funds must be given to local units of government. To be considered for funding, a community must demonstrate collaboration by the establishment of a multidisciplinary prevention policy board and the development of a three-year plan for delinquency prevention. A risk and resource assessment of the target area must also be completed to ensure the community will be served with a program that fits its needs. In addition, a 50-percent cash or in-kind match must be provided by the local unit of government. Also, to be eligible, the county must be in compliance with the mandates of the JJDP Act. Listed below are the local units of government that were awarded Title V funds.

Title V Grantee	FY 2000-01 Award Amount
Carroll County	\$ 66,882
Fayette County	\$ 173,450
Hamilton County	\$ 89,067
Hancock County	\$ 125,338
Lincoln County	\$ 107,121
Roane County	\$ 25,315
Unicoi County	\$ 185,645

In fiscal year 2000-01 TCCY continued its participation with the Tennessee departments of Health, Children's Services, and Education and the United Way in the Governor's Community Prevention Initiative for Children. Title V programs and those funded by the Department of Health through the Governor's Prevention Initiative share similar philosophies and goals. To

receive these funds, community collaboration must be demonstrated in the development of strategies to prevent negative behaviors and outcomes for children.

Challenge Activities

The purpose of the Challenge Activities Funds is to provide states with incentives to develop, adopt, and improve policies in one of 10 specific areas. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth chose to fund two Challenge Activities program areas. They include Activity B, developing and adopting policies and programs to provide access to counsel for all juveniles in the juvenile justice system to ensure that juveniles consult with counsel before waiving the right to counsel, and Activity F, establishing and operating a state ombudsman office for children, youth, and families to investigate and resolve complaints relating to action, inaction, or decisions of providers of out-of-home care to children and youth. Tennessee received \$149,000 in fiscal year 2000 for Challenge Activities.

The program funded under Activity B is West Tennessee Legal Services. This program works with youth and families to provide access to legal counsel and an understanding of their rights while involved in the juvenile justice system. A special emphasis is placed on juveniles with disabilities. The goals for the project include 1) providing a model for helping juveniles and families develop alternatives to the juvenile justice system, 2) reducing commitments to state custody, 3) diverting children out of the juvenile justice system, and 4) organizing and utilizing treatment resources for juveniles needing assistance in education, health care, mental health, or other areas of life. During fiscal year 2000–01, more than 100 juveniles received direct service. More than 60 court appearances were made on behalf of the youth. This project continues to grow, and demand for these services in the Madison County area continues. The courts regularly ask for help in getting youth services for education and treatment.

Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account

The Commission administers a combination of state and federal JJDP Act funds to provide financial assistance to counties for removing children from adult jails. Federal funds provide \$117,000, and state funds, \$18,000. These funds can be used to provide services to children who meet the criteria of TCA 37-1-114(c), which describes appropriate placement of children in secure facilities. Allowable services include, but are not limited to, the following programs: attendant care, emergency transportation, emergency shelter care and foster care, temporary holding, and secure detention. In fiscal year 2000-01 TCCY contracted with 60 counties for the use of reimbursement account funds.

Each county accepting reimbursement account funds must develop and submit local rules and procedures for each service provided. Account funds can only be used to provide services to children who are taken into custody in a county that did not operate a secure detention facility in 1983. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the reimbursement account. Counties that participated in the reimbursement account with contract amounts are listed below.



JUVENILE JUSTICE

County	Reimbursement Amount
Anderson	6,000
Bedford	4,000
Bledsoe	500
Blount	9,000
Bradley	400
Cannon	400
Carter	5,500
Cheatham	400
Chester	300
Claiborne	3,200
Clay	300
Cocke	2,600
Coffee	1,800
Crockett	1,300
Cumberland	400
DeKalb	400
Dickson	7,600
Fayette	1,200
Gibson	1,000
Giles	1,000
Greene	3,600
Hamblen	8,000
Hancock	400
Hardeman	500
Hawkins	7,400
Henderson	400
Henry	2,100
Hickman	400
Humphreys	400
Jefferson	3,300
Johnson	1,800
Lake	400
Lauderdale	1,400
Lewis	500
Loudon	3,700
Marion	5,400
Marshall	600
Maury	3,700
McMinn	3,900
McNairy	400
Meigs	300
Montgomery	3,600
Morgan	400
Obion	400

Overton	400
Perry	400
Pickett	300
Polk	400
Rhea	400
Robertson	1,600
Sequatchie	500
Sevier	3,600
Smith	400
Sullivan	12,000
Trousdale	600
Unicoi	700
Union	400
Washington	12,000
Wayne	600

Total \$135,000

State Juvenile Justice Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services. In fiscal year 2000-01, each county received \$10,000. In counties with more than one juvenile court, each court is entitled to an equitable share of the county's allocation. To receive the funds, the juvenile court must have at least one full or part-time youth services officer who is appointed and supervised by the juvenile court judge. The youth services officer must meet identified educational requirements and receive training annually.

State supplement funds cannot be used to pay salaries or expenses of juvenile court judges or for construction or remodeling of adult facilities. In fiscal year 2000-01, 94 counties used approximately 85 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or enhance the services of the court. The next largest use of the funds was for training court staff. Use of these funds is limited only by the imagination of the courts, as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

TCCY also administers state funds for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) programs in Tennessee. The purpose of the CASA programs is to recruit, train, and supervise court-approved volunteers. These volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected, or dependent children and other children who are placed out of their homes by the court. CASA volunteers assist the court by collecting background information, preparing reports for court, and participating in case reviews. The CASA volunteer works with the court and other agencies to ensure that a permanent placement is found as quickly as possible and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to meet the needs of these children. In fiscal year 2000-01, state CASA funds provided services for more than 2,700 children in Anderson, Blount, Davidson, Humble, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Sever, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, and Wilson counties. Each county received \$15,000.



JUVENILE JUSTICE

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY
Grant Period: 10/1/99 - 9/30/00
By Program Category

Grantee

	Compliance Monitoring		
TCCY Monitoring	Nashville*	\$	50,093
	Delinquency Prevention		
Grundly County Board of Education	Tracy City	\$	12,500
Humphreys County Board of Education	Waverly	\$	25,000
Maury County Public Schools	Columbia	\$	18,000
Polk County Department of Education	Benton	\$	30,000
Teen Peace of Peace	Nashville	\$	14,607
23rd District Juvenile Advocates, Inc.	Ashland City	\$	8,449
Academic Achievement Solutions	Clarksville	\$	23,625
Buddies of Nashville/Putnam County	Cookeville	\$	22,800
Buddies of Wilson County	Lebanon	\$	37,469
Claiborne County Board of Education	Tazewell	\$	40,000
Brownsville Haywood/ Community Resource Center	Brownsville	\$	33,000
Cookeville Housing Authority	Cookeville	\$	15,597
Exchange Club Family Center	Nashville	\$	20,209
Johnson City Schools	Johnson City Schools	\$	34,797
Kingsport Housing Authority	Kingsport	\$	30,540
Knox County Schools	Knoxville	\$	37,848
Lewis County (Mid-South VORP)	Hohenwald	\$	20,000
The Potter's House	Lebanon	\$	30,000
	Juvenile Courts		
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	\$	22,746
Greene County Juvenile Court	Greeneville	\$	18,557
Hardeman County Juvenile Court	Bolivar	\$	29,969
Hawkins County Juvenile Court	Rogersville	\$	11,938
Johnson City Juvenile Court	Johnson City	\$	40,000
Madison County Juvenile Court	Jackson	\$	14,917
Putnam County Juvenile Court	Cookeville	\$	15,000
	Minority Overrepresentation		
Boys to Men	Johnson City	\$	26,938
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department	Chattanooga	\$	23,288
Children and Family Services	Covington	\$	30,000
Crittenton Services, Inc.	Nashville	\$	40,000
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	\$	30,702
Memphis Partners/Leaders of Tomorrow	Memphis	\$	18,065
Metropolitan Nashville Board of Ed./McKissack	Nashville	\$	21,433
Metropolitan Board of Education/Pearl Cohn	Nashville	\$	17,485
Refuge Temple Church	Dyersburg	\$	15,000
St. Peter's CME Church	Brownsville	\$	31,804
The Carpetbag Theatre	Knoxville	\$	30,000
UT College of Human Ecology	Knoxville	\$	30,000
University of Memphis/Psychology Department	Memphis	\$	12,373
YMCA Metropolitan Knoxville	Knoxville	\$	22,500
	Systems Improvements		
TCJFCJ (Information Systems)	Nashville*	\$	23,000
TCJFCJ (Training)	Nashville*	\$	50,000
Total Grants		\$	1,080,249

*Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope of services is statewide.

JUVENILE JUSTICE

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY Grant Period: 10/1/00 - 9/30/01 By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Compliance Monitoring		
TCCY Monitoring	*Nashville	\$75,000
DSO		
Boys to Men	Johnson City	\$19,954
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Dept.	Chattanooga	\$20,000
U.T. College of Human Ecology	Martin	\$20,000
Exchange Club Family Center (Memphis)	Memphis	\$22,742
Crittenton Services, Inc.	Nashville	\$30,000
23rd Dist Juvenile Advocates Inc	Ashland City	\$6,337
Academic Achievement Solutions	Clarksville	\$15,750
Buddies of Nashville (Putnam)	Cookeville	\$19,350
Buddies of Wilson	Lebanon	\$28,102
Children & Family Services Inc	Covington	\$20,000
Community Resource Center-Lewis Co	Brownsville	\$24,750
Exchange Club Family Center	Nashville	\$13,247
Johnson City Schools	Johnson City	\$26,098
Kingsport Housing Authority	Kingsport	\$22,905
Knox Co Schools	Knoxville	\$23,386
Mid South VORP	Hohenwald	\$15,000
The Carpetbag Theatre	Knoxville	\$20,000
The Potter's House	Lebanon	\$20,000
Juvenile Courts		
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	\$17,060
Hardeman County Juvenile Court	Bolivar	\$22,477
Johnson City Schools (Juvenile Court)	Johnson City	\$30,000
TCJFCJ (Information Systems)	*Nashville	\$23,000
TCJFCJ (Training)	*Nashville	\$50,000
Title V Grantees		
Carroll Academy	Huntingdon	\$18,600
Lincoln Co Schools	Fayetteville	\$85,388
Fayette Co Schools	Somerville	\$97,250
Hamilton County Government	Chattanooga	\$89,067
Hancock County Government	Tazewell	\$79,163
Roane County Schools	Harriman	\$25,315
Unicoi Co Schools	Erwin	\$135,845
Challenge Grantee:		
West Tennessee Legal Services	Jackson	\$72,500
Total Grants		\$1,188,286

* Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope is statewide.

Transfer Hearings

Tennessee Code Annotated 33-3-401 et seq. establishes procedures for the involuntary transfer of young people between the departments of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR) and Children's Services (DCS). A transfer hearing is scheduled before a five-person review panel composed of two representatives each from MHMR and DCS and one representative from the Commission.

A transfer hearing is called when:

1. The transferee objects to a transfer;
2. An emergency transfer is needed; or,
3. A transferee is being returned.

During fiscal year 2000-01, 18 hearings were held regarding 10 children. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility. All children involved in the hearings were males.

Fifteen of the 18 transfer hearings were held at the Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute in Nashville; the rest were held at Western Mental Health Institute in Bolivar. ■

During fiscal year 2000-01 TCCY continued to implement the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) evaluation. This process evaluates the service delivery system designed for children and their families involved in state custody. The ultimate goal of CPORT is to promote positive system change by providing qualitative (measuring quality) and quantitative (objective) information for a process of continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families.

The CPORT evaluation collects and organizes essential information about the population of children served, the needs of the children and families, and the system's ability to adequately perform or function to meet the needs of the children and families it serves. The pertinent information was collected using a special instrument called a protocol. The protocol is a booklet containing a series of in-depth, structured interviews, and each interview contains a set of questions regarding the status of the child and family, the functions of the service delivery system, demographics, and TennCare implementation.

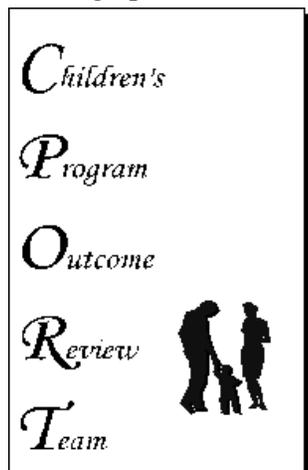
Structured interviews were conducted with the following: child (if age appropriate), parent(s), custodial department worker(s), caregiver(s) (foster parent or direct care staff in a group facility), court representative(s), teacher(s), and other relevant service providers. The case records were reviewed, and Permanency Plans, social histories, and court orders were copied and reviewed. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

The CPORT evaluation, conducted on a calendar-year basis as opposed to a fiscal year, began its seventh year of reviews February 14, 2000, and involved 45 to 60 randomly selected cases in each of the 12 Community Services Agency regions. Data for 2000 were reflective of the population of children in the custody of the Department of Children's Services. By December 8, 2000, 580 cases were reviewed. These data were then summarized and compared to the cases randomly selected for statewide analysis.

The statewide sample consisted of 348 child custody cases and was at expected levels of difference from the total sample because of the impact of regional variations. The sample size was the number of cases needed to be statistically significant at the 95 percent level of confidence statewide within plus or minus five percentage points and at the 85 percent level of confidence for the regional population within plus or minus 15 percentage points.

In 2000, 12 full-time CPORT Case Reviewers determined the status of children and families being served. Seven new external reviewers representing a variety of departments and providers were trained to perform CPORT intensive case reviews.

External reviewers were staff members from various direct service agencies, including private providers, juvenile courts, Department of Children's Services (DCS), Department of Correction (DOC), Department of Education (DOE), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (MHMR), and



Community Services Agencies (CSA). One external-reviewer training workshop was held in Nashville on January 31-February 3, 2000.

Reviewer training required intensive instruction and fieldwork preparation activities focusing on the administration of the CPORT protocol and the procedures required for its use. In addition, basic techniques of interviewing were taught, as well as standards of evaluation and research principles. The full-time case reviewers also spent time in training sessions to review protocol revisions and system changes in order to adequately train external reviewers. A modified training was held on February 4, 2000, to train experienced external reviewers on all revisions. Approximately 21 participants, plus TCCY staff, attended training.

Necessary revisions and refinements were made to the CPORT protocol and process. This is an integral part of the process. The evaluation suggests improvements in the delivery of services to children and families, and CPORT continually improves the data-gathering process.

The Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL) and the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) provide supplemental assessments to the CPORT review process. These assessment tools were administered during the review process. The CBCL was developed by Thomas M. Achenbach and provided a behavior-rating scale, which assessed behavior problems and social competencies of the children reviewed. The CAFAS was developed by Kay Hodges and was used to assess a child's psychosocial functioning. It has been adopted by several other states for evaluating state-served children.

The CPORT evaluation documented the adequacy of the status of the child and family and how the system is functioning to meet the needs of the child by providing qualitative and quantitative data for continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families. The quantitative data were a result of an examination of 13 status indicators for the child and family and 17 essential system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. The indicators for determining the status of the child and family and for determining the adequacy of service system functions were established by a Design Team representing the Departments of Education (DOE), Finance and Administration (F&A), Health (DOH), Human Services (DHS), Mental Health and Mental Retardation (now MHDD), Youth Development (DYD); Assessment and Care Coordination Team (ACCT); Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ); service providers; and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work (UTCWSW). Its function was to develop the specifications for the CPORT evaluation.

The following 13 status indicators were examined for the child and family. Design Team members agreed the indicators with asterisks must be found positive for an overall adequate finding regarding the status of the child and family. The indicators were:

1. Safety of the child and community; *
2. Emotional well-being; *
3. Physical well-being; *

4. Caregiver functioning; *
5. Stable home;
6. Permanence;
7. Appropriateness of placement;
8. Educational and vocational progress;
9. Family unification;
10. Independent living if 13 years of age or older;
11. Family satisfaction;
12. Child satisfaction; and,
13. Overall status of child and family.

The reviewers evaluated the following 17 essential system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. Once again, the functions or capabilities with the asterisks must have been found positive for an overall adequate finding for the system. The functions or capabilities were:

1. Assessment of needs; *
2. Long-term view for services; *
3. Child participation;*
4. Family participation;*
5. Service plan design;*
6. Service plan implementation;*
7. Service coordination;*
8. Monitoring change;*
9. Advocacy;
10. Early child and family intervention;
11. Home and community resources;
12. Placement resources;
13. Supportive interventions for staying or returning home;
14. Urgency response;
15. Progress achieved-child;
16. Progress achieved-family; and,
17. Overall adequacy of services.

The quantitative results were presented at an Exit Conference in each region. Overhead transparencies or a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the data with charts and graphs and a qualitative report summarizing specific strengths, noteworthy accomplishments, and weaknesses of the system were used. The participants in the review process, such as direct service staff; supervisory and management personnel; social counselors and case managers from DCS, CSA, MHDD, and DOE; placements; and juvenile courts, attended.

Exit Conferences were scheduled following each review to report the data-gathering results. Research standards and guidelines specify the importance of reporting results to all research participants. The average attendance at a CPORT Exit Conference per region was approximately 23 professionals. Statewide, approximately 276 professionals attended. Additional state agency administrative staff, legislators, and child advocates

were also provided copies of the CPORT results. The first Children's Plan Outcome Review Team 1994 Evaluation Results report was published in February 1995. The 1995 CPORT results were published in June 1996, and the 1996 results were published in August 1997. At that time the name of the evaluation project was changed to the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT). The 1997 CPORT results were published in August 1998, the 1998 results were published in June of 1999, and the 1999 results were published in July of 2000.

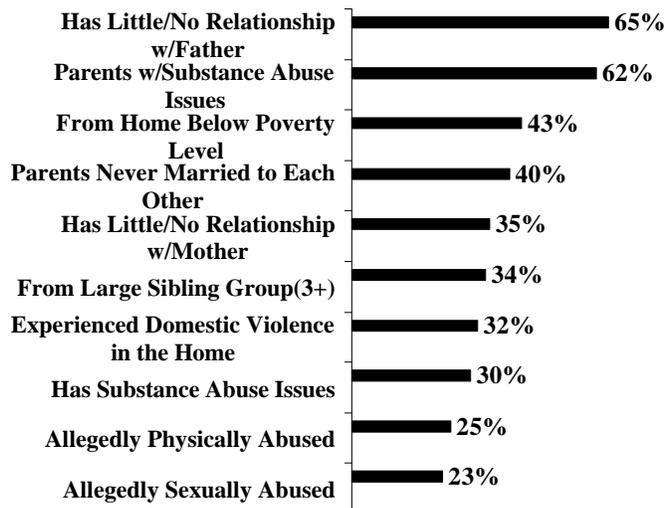
For 2000, CPORT reported the following data on children in state custody:
55 percent of the total petitions were filed by Department of Children's Services/Department of Human Services; followed by juvenile courts (14 percent) and law enforcement (10 percent);
68 percent of the children were adjudicated dependent; 24 percent, delinquent; and 8 percent, unruly;
32 percent of the children were in custody primarily due to neglect by caretaker, and 28 percent because of child's behavior problems;
40 percent were in a foster placement (including regular and therapeutic custodial department foster homes and regular and therapeutic contracted foster homes); 27 percent were in a group placement (any congregate living environment); 26 percent were with birth or adoptive parents or other relatives; 7 percent were on runaway status;
60 percent were 13 years or older; 27 percent were 6 to 12 years; 13 percent were newborns to age 5;
59 percent of the children were White; 34 percent African-American; 7 percent were categorized as "other" (includes Asian-American, Hispanic, and biracial);
60 percent of the children were male; 40 percent were female; 54 percent, male; 46 percent female was the breakdown on adjudication of dependent/neglect; 43 percent male, 57 percent female, for unruly adjudication; 82 percent male, 18 percent female, for delinquent;
43 percent of the children came from single-parent families where the mother was the head of the household; and,
59 percent of the children reviewed had parents who were or had been incarcerated; 25 percent involved the father, 14 percent of the families involved the mother, and 20 percent involved both parents
Most children were appropriate for custody at the time of custody
28 percent of the children in custody remained in custody too long due to delays in release from custody, delays in termination of parental rights, and delays in the adoption process

The data for custody too long made a dramatic switch from 1998 to 1999. In 1998 there were significantly more children who needed termination of parental rights (36 percent of those who had been in custody too long), and by 1999 significantly more children had been through termination of parental rights and now needed to complete adoption (38 percent). In 2000 the percentages reversed, 34 percent needed termination of parental rights, while 23 percent needed to complete adoption.

For the past seven years CPORT results identified the need for additional attorneys and paralegals to expedite the release of children from custody, terminate parental rights more timely, and complete permanency through adoption. In 1999 the 101st General Assembly passed legislation to fund 36 additional attorneys in order to improve the legal advocacy for children in state custody. If resources are still insufficient, additional funding should be requested to ensure timely permanence for children.

For 2000, children and family conditions that possibly contributed to the risk of entering or remaining in custody were categorized under “Critical Issues.” These are issues characteristic of children and their families that influence the need for services.

Critical Issues for the Child All Cases



All of these issues contribute to the child’s emotional and physical well-being and to the need for the system to address them in the form of supportive services for both the child and the family.

Strengths Identified Statewide in 2000 CPORT Findings

- Overwhelmingly children in custody were in a positive status.
- Most children were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.
- Most children were placed in the least restrictive, most appropriate placement to meet their needs.
- Efforts were made to place siblings together when appropriate.
- In most cases the TNKIDS extract contained accurate information.
- The majority of foster homes were high quality and very committed to children, and many were willing to adopt.
- Most children were receiving current EPSDT screenings.

Substantial services had been provided in an effort to prevent custody.
There was an overall reduction in TennCare issues.

Weaknesses Identified Statewide in 2000 CPORT Findings

- Many children remained in custody too long.
- Many Permanency Plans were inadequate, not addressing current issues.
- A majority of caseworkers possessed 12 months or less experience.
- Many children experienced multiple placements (four or more).
- A number of children experienced excessive stays in temporary placements, emergency shelters, and diagnostic shelters.
- The assessment of needs identified for children/families was often inadequate.
- Service coordination and communication between various system components were often inadequate.
- Many caseworkers experienced caseloads of 25 or more.
- A small number of children experienced multiple custodies, in some cases three times.
- A small number of children received Home TIES/Crisis Intervention but still entered custody.

CPORT Findings on the Status of the Child/Family Reported as Percents

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Cases reviewed in an overall positive status	74	75	79	83	81	87	84
Safety of children positive	91	93	92	93	95	95	93
Children’s physical well-being addressed	95	94	96	95	99	98	97
Children placed with adequate caregivers	90	92	91	94	94	96	93
The child’s emotional well-being was being addressed	78	78	82	84	85	90	88
Families were receiving services to remain intact or to reunify with children	58	62	66	68	60	74	80
Families were satisfied with services received	85	59	67	69	65	70	68

The overall status of the child/family was 84 percent positive in 2000, a decrease from 87 percent in 1999, but higher than previous years. The safety and physical well-being of children remained a strength.

The emotional well-being of the child improved from 85 percent in 1998 to 90 percent in 1999, but dropped to 88 percent in 2000. Children who were rated negative in emotional well-being most frequently were in need of treatment because of issues related to abandonment, separation and attachment, grief and loss, and sexual or physical abuse. Services to address these issues were not always being provided, and/or not recognized as a treatment need. Frequently, children with a history of sexual or physical abuse or behavior problems needed a psychological evaluation but had not received one, because the case manager had not requested one, as the need was not recognized. Consequently, children were not always able to access appropriate mental health services. Overall, the emotional well-being indicator has progressively improved and needs to be maintained.

CPORT results indicate improvements in a more focused approach in providing services to families, but family satisfaction appeared to be the greatest overall deficiency, at 68 percent in 2000, down from 70 percent in 1999. Families least satisfied were those with children adjudicated unruly. In some regions across the state case managers expressed the need for training in how to engage families. Families least likely to achieve progress were those families with children residing in foster placements. When children were placed at home with their families, the families were least likely to have an adequate assessment of needs and/or an adequate permanency plan to address their needs. Almost a third of the families were not satisfied with the system because they were not receiving appropriate services at the level needed in a timely manner.

CPORT Findings on Adequacy of Service System Functions Reported as Percents

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Service system functioned adequately to meet needs of child/family	40	46	51	33	46	42
Assessment of needs of child/family	80	86	86	73	70	68
Plan of Care design	63	71	72	48	63	63
Service plan implementation	66	67	73	69	79	78
Service coordination	61	65	70	59	67	71
Monitoring/change	61	66	72	60	74	80
Supportive intervention for children to stay or return home	64	65	72	64	76	76
Progress achieved by family	50	56	56	52	55	59

Overall, the system performed adequately 42 percent of the time, a decrease from 46 percent in 1999. While the system’s ability to identify child and family problems had been a strength from 1995 to 1997, this performance area began to decline in 1998 and continued to decline to 68 percent in 2000, the lowest performance ever on this indicator. These results mean that one-third of the children in custody receive an inadequate assessment of their needs. Service plan design (63 percent adequate), the weakest indicator, remained the same as last year, contributing to the overall system inadequacy.

Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) Findings Summary

Among the cases reviewed, the two domains with the most problems in functioning reported were role performance (the effectiveness with which the child fulfills the roles most relevant to his or her place in the community) and behavior toward self or others. Almost two-thirds of the children (62 percent) were rated as impaired in at least one of five areas, with 44 percent receiving impaired ratings in two or more areas. Overall, the CAFAS total scores indicated the following treatment needs for the sample population of children and youth in state care: 38 percent needed supportive intervention; 22 percent, short-term treatment (up to six months); 15 percent, periodic treatment over a six- to 24-month period; and 25 percent, long-term treatment (one to five years). This indicates a significant proportion of children needing long-term care.

Thirty-eight percent of the children had a formal mental health diagnosis reported, and, of these, many were also rated with moderate or severe impairment in psychosocial functioning. Twenty-one percent of the CAFAS sample could be classified as seriously emotionally disturbed (SED).

2001 CPORT Reviews

In late 2000 the CPORT protocol was revised, and full-time case reviewers were trained on the new protocol as well as system changes. One external-reviewer training workshop was held on January 23-26, 2001. Six new external reviewers, plus four representatives from the TennCare Consumer Advocacy Program, and two from Administrative Office of the Courts were trained to adequately implement the review process. In addition, one modified training workshop was conducted on February 4, 2001. The modified training included TCCY staff and past external reviewers. The 2001 CPORT reviews began February 13, 2001, and as of June 30, 2001, 295 cases had been reviewed, encompassing six of the 12 CSA regions. ■■

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-106 requires the Commission on Children and Youth to organize a regional council on children and youth in each of the state's nine developmental districts. It establishes the councils as the ongoing communication link between the Commission and regional and local areas in Tennessee. The statute requires one locally based staff person for each regional council and identifies the following duties of the councils:

To provide for mutual exchange of information and networking among service providers, advocates, and elected officials;

To educate council members, officials, others involved in services for children and youth, and the general public concerning the needs and problems of children and youth in the region and the state;

To coordinate regional and local efforts between public and private service providers to enhance services for children and youth;

To advocate for legislation, policies, and programs at the local and regional level to promote and protect the health, well-being, and development of children and youth; and,

To collect, compile, and distribute data and to make recommendations of the needs and problems of children and youth.

In fiscal year 2000-01, nearly 3,300 community representatives and professionals were members of the nine regional councils. The information below presents the nine regions and the regional coordinators. Summary information about each council is presented on the following pages.

TCCY Regional Councils and the Coordinators

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Marilyn Davis
Southeast
540 McCallie Avenue, Ste.
643
Chattanooga, TN 37402
(423) 634-6210
(423) 634-3094 (Fax)
Marilyn.Davis@state.tn.us

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Regional Coordinator: Diane Wise
1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension
Johnson City, Tennessee 37604
Phone: (423) 979-3200, Extension 105 FAX (423) 979-3267
E-mail: Diane.Wise@state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth has 282 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Mark Sirois, Johnson City Police Bureau
Past President	Diane Cupp, Johnson City Juvenile Court
Vice President	Diana Finlay, Frontier Health, Inc
President Elect	Anita Kilbourne-Greer, Advocate
Secretary	Terry Henson, TN Department of Health
Treasurer	Glenda McCracken, Johnson City Schools

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative	Ron Helsabeck, Department of Children's Services Arthur Masker, Holston United Methodist Home
Juvenile Justice	Renee Pickering, Greene County Juvenile Court
Child and Family Support	Michael Forrester, Coalition for Kids
Membership/Nominating	Sandi Fisher, Community Services Agency
Hospitality/Public Relations	Patty Neas, Johnson City Schools Bonnie Jones, East Tennessee State University
Regional Advocacy	Jennifer Berven, Community Services Agency

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

September 29, 2000	"Jetting into the New Millennium with NETCCY"
November 17, 2000	"Media Magic: Maximizing Your Success with the Press"
February 2, 2001	"Predators on the Internet"
May 4, 2001	"Legislation of the 102 nd General Assembly"

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

February 9, 2001	Breakfast for Our Legislators
March 30, 2001	"Special Children/Special Needs" Seminar
April 27, 2001	Child Watch Project on Early Childhood Education

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

The 2000-2001 Northeast Tennessee Council's Child Advocacy Award was presented to Michael Forrester, Program Director for Coalition for Kids.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Regional Coordinator: Robert E. Smith
531 Henley Street, Suite 735
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone (865) 594-6658
FAX (865) 594-6658
E-mail: Robert.E.Smith@state.tn.us

East Tennessee Council Membership

The East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth has 330 members representing the 16 counties in the region: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier, and Union.

East Tennessee Council Officers

President	Sue Nance, East Tennessee Community Services Agency
President-Elect	Cynthia Hudson, Knox Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative
Secretary	Cathy Caldwell, Tennessee Voices for Children
Treasurer	Jane Schwarting, OmniVision

East Tennessee Council Committees

Executive Committee	Sue Nance, East TN Community Services Agency
Nominating Committee	Charlayne Frazier, Knox County Health Department
Legislative Committee	Tannis Duncan, Sevier County Schools, Special Education
Membership Committee	Patricia Pearson, East TN Community Services Agency
Juvenile Justice/Community	Cynthia Hudson, Knox Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative
Education Committee	

East Tennessee Council Meetings

September 6, 2000	East Tennessee CPORT Results
November 1, 2000	“Youth Violence”
January 3, 2001	A Review of East Tennessee Council’s Committees
February 7, 2001	Juvenile Offenders and Their Victims
March 7, 2001	Legislative Briefing/Children’s Advocacy Days
May 2, 2001	Awards Presentation/Installation of New Officers

East Tennessee Council Special Events

October 4, 2000	Children’s Mental Health Programs: What Works and What is Needed: A Mental Illness Awareness Week Event
December 1, 2000	Public Officials’ Breakfast/Knox County CPORT Results
March 13-14, 2001	Children’s Advocacy Day
April 4, 2001	Juvenile Justice Seminar: “Building Character, Not Criminals”

EAST TENNESSEE COUNCIL AWARDS

Dr. Mildred Doyle Advocate of The Year Award winner was Dr. Carolyn Stinnett, Knox County Family Resource Center. Dr. Mame MacIlwain Volunteer of the Year Award winner was Jo Lynn Cunningham, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, College of Human Ecology.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Southeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Regional Coordinator: Marilyn Davis
540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 643
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: (423) 634-6210 Fax: (423) 634-3094
E-mail: marilyn.davis@state.tn.us

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership:

The Southeast Council has 442 members representing the 10 counties in the region: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers

President: James Nelson
Ham. Co. Gov't. Title VI
Vice President: Shula Yelliott
Volunteer Center
Secretary: Jennifer Jackson
Community Foundation
Treasurer: Jamie Bergmann
Invest In Children

Hiwassee Council Officers

President: Lisa Mantoath
American Red Cross of Bradley Co.
Vice President: Liesl Martz
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Secretary: Shannon Bishop
Cleveland City Schools
Legislative: Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Denise Williams
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Public Relations:
Eddie Jewell
Southeast Tennessee Human Resource Agency
Nominations/Awards:
Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Membership:
Sharon Putnam
SE Dept. of Children's Services
Janah Henry
Rhea County Juvenile Court

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative:	Max Hood, CADAS
Public Relations:	Frank Hill, Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Hospitality:	Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Center Charlesia Brewer, Public Education Foundation
Nominations/Awards:	Michelle Bostwick, Fortwood Center
Membership:	Sharon Putnam, Southeast Department of Children's Services Jeanne Bille, Hamilton County Health Department
Juvenile Justice/Youth Issues:	All Committee Chairs

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings and Topics

Southeast Council:

September 13, 2000

November 15, 2000

Zero Tolerance:

Mike Herrmann, Tennessee Department of Education

Early Childhood Education Panel:

REGIONAL COUNCILS

January 11, 2001
March 13-14, 2001
May 9, 2001

Sandra Williamson, Director Early Childhood Programs
Janet Coscarelli, Head Start Collaboration Office
Susan Doughty, Director, Family Literacy Program,
Even Start
Healthy Children/Healthy Communities Conference
Children's Advocacy Days in Nashville
"Bullying and School Safety," Chattanooga Kids on the
Block

Hiwassee Council
October 25, 2000

Tennessee Sex Offender Board and the Role of DCS:
Lenny Lococo, Chair, and John Brogden, M.S., Child
Protective Services

December 6, 2000

Education, Collaboration, Social Services: A panel
discussion of needs, barriers: Supporting Each One.

February 7, 2001
April 9, 2001

The Reality Program: John D. White, SE Director
Hope For Children. CASA presentation/kickoff with
Congressman Zack Wamp

Southeast Council Special Events
February 26, 2001

Advocacy Training
Paul Starnes, former State Representative
Linda O'Neal, Executive Director, TCCY

Special Projects for Children and Youth

Polk County Family Resource Center – Christmas Donation for Needy Children

Hamilton County Juvenile Court, Intensive Probation Program – Christmas Party Donation for
Students

Hamilton County Santa For All Seasons – Christmas Donation for Children in Foster Care

Chattanooga Schools for the Creative Arts, Donation for Youth Performance
Group Activities

Southeast Tennessee Council Awards

Outstanding Service award was given to Anne Gamble, UTC Children's Center.

Recognition of Retired Legislators in May for Rep. Bill H. McAfee and Rep. Arnold A. Stulce.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Upper Cumberland Council On Children and Youth

Regional Coordinator: Kathy Daniels
435 Gould Drive
Cookeville, TN 38506
Phone: (931) 432-4494
FAX: (931) 432-6995
E-mail: Kathy.Daniels@state.tn.us

Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 275 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren, and White. Eighty-five (85) agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Felicia Prowse, Family Day Care Registration, Tennessee Technology University
President Elect	Charlene Hall, Families & Schools Together (FAST)
Secretary	Myra Hargis, H.J. Stephens Center, Livingston
Treasurer	Derrick Young, TRIAD Group Home, Cookeville

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive	Officers, Past President, and Chairpersons
Legislative	Dr. Sherrie Foster, University of Tennessee
Youth Issues/Juvenile Justice	Greg Bowman, YSO, Putnam County
Prevention	John Rust, U.C. Community Services Agency
Membership/Nominating	Shelly Painter, Family Day Care Registration, Tennessee Technology University

Upper Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

September 15, 2000	“Trifling Children,” Michael O’Neil
October 25, 2000	Networking Conference, Dr. Bill Allen
December 1, 2000	Legislative Breakfast, H.J. Stephens Center
February 27, 2001	Poverty Simulation, Agriculture Extension
May 8, 2001	Parenting Plan, Judge Nolan Goolsby, Judge Maddux

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

July 21, 2000	“Early Reading Forum,” Rural Cumberland Resources
August 24, 2000	“Focus on Child Abuse,” Dave Pelzer Community Forum
April, 2001	Child Abuse Prevention Collaborative Project

Upper Cumberland Council Award

The 2001 Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Charlene Hall, coordinator of Families and Schools Together (FAST) in Crossville.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Mid-Cumberland Council on Children And Youth

Coordinator: Jo Stanley
710 James Robertson Parkway, Ninth Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-0800
Phone:(615) 532-1579
FAX: (615) 741-5956
E-mail: Jo.Stanley@state.tn.us

Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 984 members representing the following 13 counties in the region: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson, and Wilson.

Mid-Cumberland Council Officers

President	Elizabeth Reinhardt, OmniVisions, Inc.
Past President	Darci Halfman, Monroe Harding Children's Home
Vice President	Kelley Binkley, TRAC, Inc.
Secretary	Nancy Denning, Monroe Harding Children's Home
Treasurer	Phillip Many, University of Tennessee

Mid-Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Child and Adolescent Health	Susanne Roy, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Tennessee
Child Welfare	John Tongate, Therapeutic Interventions, Inc. Terri Lawson, Residential Services Inc.
Juvenile Justice	Sam Worley, Domestic Violence Intervention Program
Legislative	Michelle Covington, Centerstone/Home TIES Mark Just, Mental Health Co-op
Membership	Ronnie Russell, Centerstone/Home TIES Phillip Many, University of Tennessee

Mid-Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

September 14, 2000	Cultural Competence: Dr. Shelia Peters, Greene Peters and Associates; Robinson Regan, Mental Health Association; panel chaired by Meryl Taylor, Metro Social Services
December 7, 2000	Family Violence: Mark Wynn and a panel of family violence survivors from the YWCA Domestic Violence program
May 10, 2001	Mental Health Law Revisions and Disproportionate Minority Confinement. Speakers: Dr. Larry Thompson, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; Ron King, TCCY
June 7, 2001	Juvenile Court Centennial Initiative. Speaker: Rep. John Arriola

Mid-Cumberland Council Special Events

October 20, 2000	Professional Development Conference, Murfreesboro
November 9, 2000	Foster Parent Appreciation Dinner: Judge Betty Adams Green

Mid-Cumberland Council Award

The MCCY 2000 Child Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Rhonda Simpson.

REGIONAL COUNCILS

South Central Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Francis Elaine Williams
P.O. Box 397
815 South Main Street
Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0397
Phone: (931) 388-1053 or 381-2040
FAX: (931) 381-2053
E-mail: ewilliams@sctdd.org

South Central Tennessee Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council has 307 members representing but not limited to the 13 counties in the region: Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, Perry, and Wayne.

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	Gerald Geho, Director Lawrence CARES, Lawrenceburg
Vice-President	Elizabeth Rasori, Director of Youth Services Marshall County Juvenile Court, Lewisburg
Secretary/Treasurer	Nedra Dailey, Youth Services Officer Giles County Juvenile Court, Pulaski

South Central Tennessee Council Committees And Chairs

Executive/Juvenile Justice	Gerald Geho, Council President
Legislative	Elizabeth Rasori, Council Vice President
CARE Committee	Wayne Tatum, Child Advocate

South Central Tennessee Council Meetings And Topics

August 22, 2000	Henry Horton State Park, Conference Lodge, Chapel Hill, Asset Mapping - Summary of County Meetings – Jan McKeel, Director South Central Tennessee Workforce Investment Board Local Area 10, Profile of Children in State Custody – Pat Wade, Director CPORT, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
October 27, 2000	Motlow State Community College, Lynchburg Results of 2000 CPORT Evaluation in South Central – Pat Wade, Director of CPORT
December 1, 2000	Council Meeting and Open House, Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia, Children in the Juvenile Justice System – A Look at South Central
February 1, 2001	Council Meeting, First Christian Church, Tullahoma Legislation and Community Asset Mapping
March 22, 2001	Council Meeting, Chapel Hill Results of Community Asset Mapping – Western Side South Central Region
May 10-11, 2001	Council Meeting and Juvenile Justice Training: May 10th - South Central Tennessee Career Center, Columbia, and the May 11th - Motlow State Community College, Lynchburg, PARENTING With The Kids At Heart – Gerald Geho, presenter
May 31, 2001	Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia

REGIONAL COUNCILS

June 7, 2001

Changes in Title 33 - Dr. Larry Thompson, speaker
First Christian Church, Tullahoma, TN

South Central Tennessee Council Special Events

July – August, 2000

Community Asset Mapping and County Meetings on
KIDS COUNT, A Joint Project of SCTCCY and the
South Central Tennessee Workforce Investment Board –
Local Area 10

November, 2000

Generation Gap Program - Building Positive Assets in
Youth

A project of SCTCCY in partnership with the South
Central Tennessee Development District's Guardianship
Program. This program is aimed at connecting youth
with the elderly to bridge the generation gap.

December 1, 2000

SCTCCY Open House

January-March, 2001

Thirteen County Meetings were held on KIDS COUNT

March 13-14, 2001

Children's Advocacy Days, Nashville

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Northwest Council on Children And Youth

Regional Coordinator: Dana M. Cobb

Post Office Box 586

1235 Buena Vista Road

Huntingdon, TN 38344

Phone (731) 986-4243

Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 227 members representing the following nine counties: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President

Denise Nichols, Baptist Behavioral Health Care

Vice President

Kim Stephenson, Carey Counseling Center

Secretary

Joetta Yarbrow, Family Resource Center, Dyersburg City Schools

Treasurer

Becky Holland, Family Resource Center, Henry County

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention

Bret Brooks, Northwest CSA

Michelle Horton/Valerie Averitt, Carey Counseling Center, Inc.

Juvenile Justice

Steve Isbell, Dyersburg Police Department

Michael Cooper, DCS

Legislative

Kris Moore, Youth Villages

Raymond Jenkins, Northwest CSA

Membership

Lori Hendon, Carey Counseling Center

Amy Birmingham, Carey Counseling Center

Northwest Council Meetings and Topics

June 9, 2000

Summer Conference/REALITY Program, Body

Piercing/ADHD/Transition from D&E to PTC

December 8, 2000

Quarterly Council Meeting/Zero Tolerance

Northwest Council Special Events

November 8, 2000

Reception at NWCSA for new coordinator

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Southwest Tennessee Council on Children And Youth

Coordinator: Rodger D. Jowers
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Jackson, TN 38301
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Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 145 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison, and Tipton.

Council Leadership

Chairperson	Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home
Vice Chairperson	Jimmie Trice-Baylor, Southwest Community Services Agency
Treasurer	Janis McCall, Citizen Advocate
Secretary	Lori Wiggington, Tennessee Voices for Children

Council Meetings and Events

September 15, 2000	"MST2000: An Introduction to Multisystemic Therapy"
December 8, 2000	"Prevention Update: A Look at Statewide Initiatives"
January 18, 2001	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Reporting Rights and Responsibilities?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center
February 15, 2001	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Is it physical abuse?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center
March 13-14, 2001	Children's Advocacy Days
March 15, 2001	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Is it sexual abuse?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center
March 16, 2001	Southwest Region CPORT Exit Conference
March 30, 2001	"Hot Issues: Parenting Education for Divorcing Parents, Title 33 Revision, TennCare Recertification, Legislative Update" - Council Quarterly Meeting
April 19	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Is it physical neglect?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center
May 17	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Psychological Maltreatment?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center
June 21	"Recognizing Child Abuse: Is It Reportable Parental Disability?" – Videoconference hosted with Union University and the Exchange Club-Carl Perkins Center and Council Quarterly Meeting

REGIONAL COUNCILS

Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council

Regional Coordinator: Gwendolyn Glenn
170 North Main Street, Ninth Floor
Memphis, TN 38103
Phone: (901) 543-7657
FAX: (901) 543-6462
E-mail: Gwendolyn.Glenn@state.tn.us

Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 303 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President	Mona Winfrey, Special Kids and Families
President-Elect	Barry Mitchell, Memphis/Shelby County Juvenile Court
Secretary	Judy Brown, Department of Children's Services
Treasurer	Vince Robertson, Memphis/Shelby County Community Services Agency

Memphis/Shelby County Committees and Chairs

Prevention	Diana Bedwell, United Way
Youth and Juvenile Justice	Vacant
Legislative (co-chairs)	Bobbie Thompson, Department of Human Services Juanita White, Department of Children's Services
Executive	Mona Winfrey, Special Kids and Families

Meetings And Topics

August 30, 2000	Girls and Delinquency...What Are the Trends?
November 29, 2000	Choices in Adoption
February 28, 2001	Prevention and Intervention: Addressing the Needs of the Seriously Emotionally Disturbed Youth
May 30, 2001	Models in Education

Council Events

December 6, 2000	Annual Legislative Reception
January 19, 2001	Promising Programs for At-Risk and Delinquent Girls Workshop
March 21, 2001	Fostering Resilience in Children Workshop
March 22, 2001	Annual Spring Conference, 2001: A Youth Odyssey

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

Gwendolyn Harbert with the Memphis/Shelby County Community Service Agency was the recipient of the Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award. ■

KIDS COUNT Project Publications

The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is part of a national effort to track the status of children throughout the United States. KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state, and national discussions of ways to secure better futures for all children by providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being. Publications completed and promoted during fiscal year 2000-01 included the national KIDS COUNT Project's the *Kids Count Data Book*, released in June, and *The Right Start*, released in December.

KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee

At the state level, the principal activity of the Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is the publication and dissemination of the annual *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* uses the best available data to measure the physical, educational, social, and economic well-being of children and families in the state. The report also fulfills TCCY's mandate, according to Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(a)(1)(F), to annually publish "a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee."

This 120-page report produced in 2000, presented data on 31 statistical indicators on the well-being of children from birth to age 18. The report narrative used national trends and other information to add a contextual framework for the statistics. Sixty-one graphics and 32 tables were used to illustrate the statistical information. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* was widely disseminated in Tennessee, and to a limited extent, nationally. The 31 indicators are as follows:

- TennCare;
- WIC;
- Teen Pregnancy and Birth;
- Prenatal Care;
- Low-Birthweight Babies;
- Infant Mortality;
- Child Death;
- Immunizations;
- Teen Death;
- Alcohol and Drug Abuse;
- School Nutrition;
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- Mental Health;
- Education;
- Special Education;
- High School Dropouts;
- Child Care;
- Head Start;
- Population;
- Labor and Unemployment;

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

- Housing;
- Single Parent Families;
- Families First;
- Food Stamps;
- Tax Burden;
- Income and Poverty;
- Domestic Violence;
- Child Abuse;
- Juvenile Justice;
- Children in State Custody; and,
- School Safety.

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* included the Tennessee departments of Children's Services, Education, Employment Security, Health, Human Services; and the TennCare Bureau; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Business and Economic Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University; the Business and Economic Research Center, University of Tennessee; the Tennessee Housing Development Agency and other state agencies; and various state and national reports.

National KIDS COUNT Data Book

At the national level, the principal activity of the KIDS COUNT Project is the publication of the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, which uses the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic, and physical well-being of children. Individual states and the District of Columbia are ranked on 10 indicators of child well-being. Tennessee ranked 43rd overall in the national data book released in 2001. The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project works with the Casey Foundation and Podesta Associates, the Casey Foundation's public relations firm, to disseminate and publicize the findings of the Data Book. TCCY also distributed two national KIDS COUNT Program *The Right Start* reports on the conditions of babies and families, one on conditions in America's largest cities, which included Nashville-Davidson County and Memphis, and one on conditions in the states.

The Advocate Newsletter

TCCY publishes *The Advocate*, a newsletter on children's issues, to inform children's advocates, children's service providers, legislators, policy makers, and regional council members about children's issues. During fiscal year 2000-01, TCCY produced and distributed nearly 5,000 copies each of four issues of *The Advocate*.

The first 2000-01 issue of *The Advocate* was released in September 2000 and focused on foster care and on reporting 1999 CPOR evaluation results. The issue included information on research into the problems faced by former foster children after they age

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

out of the system and a summary of the KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee.

The December 2000 issue of *The Advocate* focused on disproportionate minority confinement, documenting the problem in Tennessee and discussing some of the proposed causes and related problems. This edition also discussed the press event held in Nashville by the Coalition for Juvenile Justice to release its annual report, which highlighted the success of Youth Villages' Multi-Systemic Therapy Program.

The April 2001 issue of *The Advocate* was written on child care and legislation. Included in this edition were information about a proposed increase in CASA funds; a summary of the Governor's Reading Initiative; guidelines to receiving TCCY legislative information; the TNKIDS Internet data site; and a report on Children's Advocacy Days and the winners of the Youth Excellence, Jim Pryor Child Advocacy and Making KIDS COUNT Media awards.

The issue published in June of 2001 focused on foster care and the 2000 CPORT Evaluation. It also included a summary of the national 2001 KIDS COUNT Data Book.

The newsletters also included events of interest to child advocates, news from TCCY, and reports from TCCY's regional councils.

News Media Contacts

Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year. The Tennessee Department of Health's HIT or Health Information Tennessee and SPOT Websites provided access to *The State of the Child 2000* database to Internet users. TCCY also made the information available on the agency's Website (www.state.tn.us/tccy).

TCCY also improved its tracking and reporting on media coverage. Stories on the national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* were broadcast on numerous radio and television stations across the state. More than 58 stories, including 10 editorials or columns, appeared in Tennessee newspapers in fiscal year 2000-01. Both large and small papers ran several-part articles on the reports expanding KIDS COUNT coverage to days or weeks. In addition, TCCY staff members reported being contacted by 29 representatives of the media, including eight people representing radio stations; 10 representing television stations; nine, newspapers; and three, wire services or other groups serving many outlets.

During the fiscal year 2000-01, the *2000 KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*, which was released in October 2000, was covered in 60 newspaper articles, including four editorials. Three graphics were also included in the newspaper coverage. TCCY staff members had contact with 28 representatives of the media, including 11 from newspapers, seven from radio, six from television, and four from wire services.

INFORMATION DISSEMINATION

In February 2001, the national KIDS COUNT project produced two *The Right Start* publications focusing on infant health and well-being in the states and in the nation's largest cities, which TCCY helped to promote. The only two Tennessee cities included in the *City Trends* book were Memphis and Nashville. Twenty-three articles, including one editorial, were printed in newspapers as a result of TCCY activity, and representatives of one newspaper, one radio station, and one television stations contacted TCCY staff members. Eleven newspapers printed an op-ed piece on poverty statistics by Linda O'Neal. Twenty-five other articles mentioned KIDS COUNT publications and the data reported in them.

In addition to the KIDS COUNT Project news coverage, other TCCY programs, events, and staff members received coverage in 60 newspaper articles, including seven articles about Children's Advocacy Days, 11 on CPORT, four on funding, two on DMC problems and juvenile justice issues, 14 on DSO violations, 28 on regional events and awards, and 30 on other issues. Staff members were interviewed by more than 43 members of the media, including representatives from four radio stations, seven television stations, 12 newspapers, and five other organizations.

Website

During the 2000-01 year, the TCCY Website continued as a vehicle to convey information. All TCCY publications were placed on the web in a pdf format that replicated the hard copies of the publication. Federal Formula and Title V grant applications were available on the web for the first time this year. Between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2001, the Website had 169,507 hits, with an average of 14125 hits per month. Usage peaked in June with 45,507 hits.

Juvenile Justice Publications

TCCY contracts with Matthew Bender Publishing to publish *The Tennessee Compilation of Selected Laws on Children, Youth, and Families*. Nearly 2,000 copies were distributed to juvenile courts, state government staff, and other children's services professionals. In 2001 the Compilation was added to the agency Website. Members of the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges have asked for annual updates of the compilation when financially possible. ■

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's Ombudsman for Children and Families serves as a neutral reviewer of questions and concerns regarding state child custody services. As a neutral reviewer, the Ombudsman is understood to be an advocate for the child, family, and service system when appropriate. It should be underscored that the Ombudsman will not mediate a dispute resolution that is contrary to the best interests of the child or is inconsistent with the law or state policy. Additionally, the Ombudsman cannot and will not:

- serve as an agent of law enforcement;
- find individual fault;
- act as an attorney;
- provide legal advice, or,
- in any way participate in a case that is imminently bound for court upon the petition of termination of parental rights, abuse, neglect, dependency, or child custody.

Any individual who has knowledge of a child or family who may be the recipient of state custody services may contact the Ombudsman program with his or her questions or concerns. To date, referrals have been received from representatives of the following: the departments of Children Services, Education, Health, and Mental Health and Mental Retardation;

- the governor's regional offices;
- juvenile court judges and staff, various Legal Services offices, private legal representatives;
- therapists and residential services providers;
- foster parents;
- biological and adoptive parents, and family members;
- neighbors; and,
- child and family services ombudsmen from other states.

Upon initial contact, the Ombudsman will first determine if the referent has attempted to resolve his or her question or concern through normal administrative channels. The Ombudsman program is not designed or intended to supersede the existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the child and family services system. Referents who have not attempted to have their concerns answered in this manner are informed of the appropriate contacts for their specific issue. When referents have valid reasons to depart from normal administrative systems or have attempted these and been dissatisfied with the results, the Ombudsman may accept the referral.

During the data-gathering phase of the referral review, the Ombudsman initiates a series of structured interviews with individuals directly involved in the child's and family's custody case. These contacts may include the parent or parents, Department of Children's Services case manager or probation officer, Department of Children's Services field services management or central office staff, juvenile court staff, direct caregiver, residential provider, foster parent, therapist, counselor, Home TIES therapist, guardian ad litem, attorney, managed care organization (MCO) representative, behavioral health

organization (BHO) representative, private insurance representative, medical provider, teacher, school principal, school superintendent, relatives, and friends.

Preliminary contacts are used to:

verify referral information specific to the child's custody status;
the type and level of services provided; and,
facts specific to the question or concern.

Following initial interviews, follow-up contacts are used on an ongoing basis to share information among parties involved in the case. The data-gathering phase of the referral process may require anywhere from two days to two weeks on any given case.

Through case-specific contacts, the validity of the question or concern is determined. Referrals determined to emerge from a lack of information or misinformation concerning state custody services result in Ombudsman efforts to provide the referent with accurate and pertinent information. This information may be provided directly by the Ombudsman, when appropriate, or a topic-related expert, when available or necessary.

Referrals determined to emerge from issues related to the referent's concern about or mistrust of the information provided within the children's services system are responded to with a neutral explanation of policies and procedures by the Ombudsman. Referrals that emerge from issues related to specific complicating factors resulting in obstacles to the agreed case outcome or the best interests of the child result in mediation facilitated by the Ombudsman. Building on a common goal – the best interests of the child – the Ombudsman facilitates communication between all parties involved in a problematic case. Mediation efforts lead to the re-staffing of the case to finalize the agreed-upon strategy for overcoming the obstacles in the case.

Upon resolution of the referral, the Ombudsman conducts periodic follow-up interviews with the parties involved. The intent of these follow-up contacts is to determine satisfaction with Ombudsman services, answer additional or remaining questions, and monitor adherence to agreed-upon strategies for problem resolution. In referrals where communication between consumer and provider was problematic, periodic Ombudsman re-involvement may be required to facilitate the ongoing progress.

The TCCY Ombudsman office has created outreach opportunities with a wide range of Tennessee children's services stakeholders. Efforts have included addressing TCCY regional councils and child advocacy organizations at their statewide meetings and conferences.

Through the Ombudsman Program, funded under Activity F, TCCY furthers its mandate to improve the quality of life for the children and families of Tennessee on an individual basis. This program serves as a neutral party in the review and mediation of questions, concerns, and complaints about children in state custody. Referrals to the ombudsmen are accepted from any individual who has knowledge of a child or family who may be the recipient of state custody services. Referrals must involve conditions that may adversely

affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of children and youth in state custody and their families. The ombudsmen serve in various capacities, which include as:

- An advocate on behalf of the child;
- A mediator between a child or his or her representative and the bureaucracy;
- A communicator to help all parties involved understand policies and procedures regarding the child; and
- A facilitator expediting the delivery of services.

During this period, the Ombudsman Program assisted with more than 170 referrals either by direct involvement or providing information and referral sources to referents. ■

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states:

“No person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” (Public Law 88-352, Title VI, § 601, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 252.)

As an administrator and recipient of federal funds, it is the intent of TCCY to bind all agencies, organizations, or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control or receiving its funding to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

From July 1, 2000, to June 30, 2001, there were no complaints reported to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth regarding discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI. TCCY improved the distribution of the Title VI policies this year.

Specific Title VI related activities during fiscal year 2000 - 2001 included the following: The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth continued to administer the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act federal formula grant and Title V prevention funds in Tennessee.

A copy of the Title VI Plan was given to each TCCY employee, Commission member and sub-grantee.

Title VI requirements were also included in the Monitoring Review Tool submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration to be used when monitoring TCCY sub-grantees.

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth submitted its annual Title VI Plan before the required deadline of June 30, 2001. In compliance with the previous suggestion, the 2001 Title VI Plan included a letter from a minority person verifying review of the plan.

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth had no Title VI complaints.

An explanation of the Title VI policies was presented at grantee application training and orientation training for new sub-grantees. Training sessions were held in Knoxville, Memphis, and Nashville. The grant application packet for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth included Title VI requirements.

TCCY regional coordinators visited sub-grantees to assure compliance with the Title VI policies and provided technical assistance on Title VI issues.

Additional Title VI activities included distribution of a Title VI brochure and poster.

Each year the TCCY Minority Issues Committee reviews and gives input on the development of the Title VI Plan. ■