



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Fiscal Year 2005-06 Annual Report



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
Andrew Johnson Tower, Ninth Floor
Nashville, TN 37243-0800

(615) 741-2633
Fax: (615) 741-5956
(800) 264-0904
www.tennessee.gov/tccy



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Letter from the Chair

Dear Reader:

When I was first appointed by Governor Bredesen as chair of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth in July 2003, I proudly became part of an almost 50 year history of service to Tennessee's children.

Although a Commission on Youth Guidance already existed as an ad hoc organization, a permanent Commission was not created until 1955. Its first major report was an examination of the juvenile justice system.

There have been a lot of changes over 50 years. For example, during the 1950s the Commission was concerned about violent comic books; now graphic novels are seen by some as a step to improving literacy.

Many of the changes are good – the elimination of institutionalized racism, for example – some, such as the breakdown of families, are not. TCCY is proud to take credit for its role in forging positive changes in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems and in improved provision of services and evaluation of performance.

What hasn't changed is our commitment to the best interests of our children. During the 2005-06 year we:

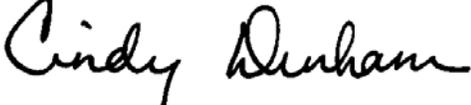
- Gathered more than 500 advocates to meet their legislators and encourage them to support legislation that is good for Tennessee's children at our annual Children's Advocacy Days;
- Supported other community and governmental organizations by serving in 274 different roles in membership organizations and on boards and committees;
- Helped the juvenile justice system reduce its number of deinstitutionalization of status offenders violations to the lowest since 1991;
- Monitored recipients of federal grant funding;
- Organized a task force to create a screening tool to assure that detention would be reserved only for those young people who most needed it;
- Served 500 young people through Title V grantees;
- Funded a program through the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program that received national attention and awards for its success in reducing substance use;
- Supported funding to increase the number of Court Appointed Special Advocate programs funded through TCCY and increase efforts to expand the number of programs in West Tennessee;
- Modeled the quality service review process and helped train Department of Children's Services staff on the process;
- Evaluated the well-being of youth in DCS youth development centers as part of the CPORT process;

- Provided training and networking opportunities for the 2,798 members of TCCY regional councils;
- Released a *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee Regional Report* with 41 indicators of child well-being for every county in Tennessee;
- Provided information to hundreds of people through more than 750,000 visits to the TCCY website;
- Supported 15 bills that were enacted into legislation and helped prevent passage of eight bills that were not in the best interests of children.

It has been a year to be proud of and a half century to celebrate. The TCCY family – the Commission members who volunteer their time and expertise, the skilled and dedicated staff, and the extended family of regional council members and other child advocates – all share in these victories.

I'm ready for another 50 years. Join me as we continue and as we begin anew.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Durham". The signature is written in a cursive style. To the right of the signature is a vertical red line.

Cindy Durham

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader:

In 2005, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth celebrated its 50th Anniversary. Since 1955 there has been a Commission on Children and Youth by one name or another. We spent some time thinking about what we have done over the past half century and looking forward to the future and continued advocacy for Tennessee children and families.

One of the most significant changes of the past year was increased collaboration between the Children's Program Outcome Review Team and the Department of Children's Services for implementation of an integrated Tennessee Quality Service Review process. This effort reflects more emphasis on using evaluation and outcome measures to guide services.

Another effort focused on improved use of evaluation and outcome measures has been in the administration of federal juvenile justice grants. And the TCCY Regional Councils on Children and Youth provide critical networking opportunities to enhance coordination and collaboration and to improve outcomes for Tennessee children and families.

KIDS COUNT provides important data used by people all across Tennessee to document unmet community needs. The 2004 edition focused on many of the programs in Tennessee that make a difference, but unfortunately are still in pilot mode or not funded at the level necessary to meet the needs of all vulnerable children and families who would benefit.

As the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth moves into its second half century, it remains committed to effective, data-driven advocacy to improve the quality of life for children and families and to ensure a better world for Tennessee's children:

- ✓ More children who are born healthy and strong;
- ✓ More infants who live past their first birthday;
- ✓ Fewer children who experience abuse and the trauma of state custody;
- ✓ More at risk four-year-olds who have the opportunity to attend quality pre-kindergarten programs;
- ✓ More families who receive services to bolster their efforts to care for their children.

We have been, are and will continue working for a brighter future every day when we advocate for children with our elected officials, with representatives of other agencies and with other members of our community. We do this when we evaluate the effectiveness of services to children in state custody or when we fund programs to guide children away from delinquent activities and to help them learn skills to be productive citizens.

TCCY staff members have a clear and deeply felt understanding of and commitment to the agency's mission and goals. We invite you to join us as we work to improve the quality of life for Tennessee children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda O'Neal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Linda O'Neal
Executive Director

Administration

In 1949 an ad hoc Youth Guidance Commission was created.
On July 1, 1955, the commission became permanent.

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 through 2006.

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

Seven standing committees oversaw the operations of the agency during fiscal year 2005-06. 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 *Audit* and *Personnel* committees are administrative committees to assure effective operation of administrative processes.

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 *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 *Councils Committee* reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth, the Commission's annual Children's Advocacy Days and interdepartmental activities.

The *Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues 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. This committee also ensured adequate consideration of the needs of minority children in all TCCY efforts, with particular attention given to disproportionate minority contact/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 2005-06, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth met four times to carry out its responsibilities. In addition to Children’s Advocacy Days in March, meetings included reports from commissioners of other state departments who serve as ex officio members of the Commission, or their designees. Topics for meetings included a report on Juvenile Justice Funding and Juvenile Detention Alternatives by Dave Schmidt and Richard (Dick) Lindahl of New Mexico; a video titled, “These are Our Kids: Transforming Juvenile Detention in Three American Cities,” provided by the Casey Foundation; consideration of legislative issues; and approval of grant awards.

Commission Membership*

Cindy Durham, Chair*
Gallatin

Natasha Blackshear
Nashville

Sidney Bynum
Nashville

Dennis Clark
Chattanooga

Beverly Cosley
Chattanooga

Michelle Crowley
Antioch

James B. Ford
Franklin

Tim Goldsmith
Memphis

Marti Herndon
Martin

Denise Hobbs
Shelbyville

Barbara Holden
Memphis

Trudy Hughes
Maryville

Charles Hutchins
Greeneville

Chey Korvandi-Geledar
Brentwood

Susan Lawless-Glassman
Germantown

Dana L. Lesley
Chattanooga

Carlton Lewis
Nashville

Christy Little
Jackson

Jerry W. Maness
Memphis

Diane Neighbors
Nashville

Sue Pilson
Cookeville

Colonel J.A. Robbins
Murfreesboro

Dwight Stokes
Sevierville

Nancy Williams
Memphis

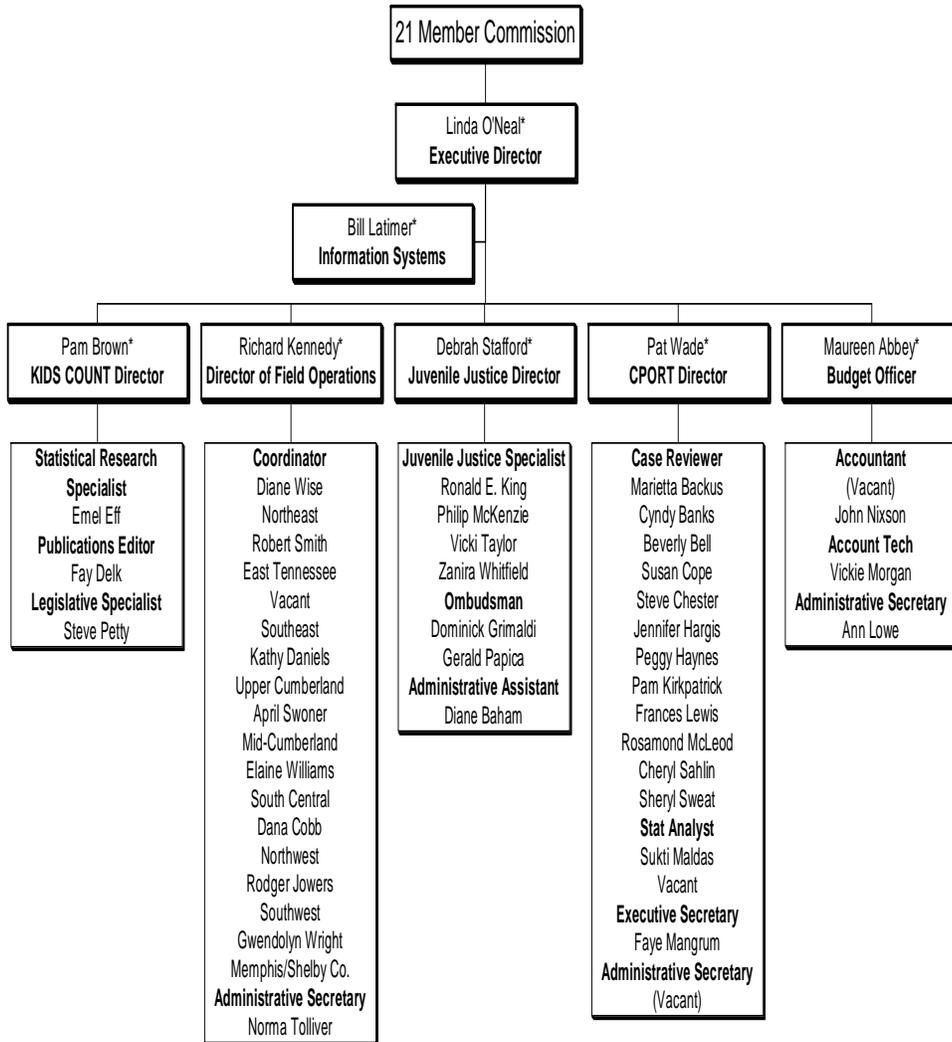
Joetta Yarbro
Dyersburg

Jo Ann Yates
Lookout Mountain

***At press time. E. Ann Ingram, Drew Johnson and James K. Scott served as members of the Commission during fiscal year 2005-06.**

Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 51 full-time positions and two 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. One staff member who monitors grant compliance is located in West Tennessee. The other personnel are located in the Nashville central office. The organizational chart for the Commission indicates staff members at press time. **50**



* Management Team

Budget

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

Actual Expenditures

Fiscal Year 2005-06

	STATE	C-PORT	Juvenile Justice	Kids Count	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits					
1 Salaries / Longevity	603,084.74	603,973.95	486,173.86	58,728.21	1,751,960.76
2 Benefits	194,283.21	229,045.40	194,203.32	21,090.52	638,622.45
Total Personal Services and Benefits	797,367.95	833,019.35	680,377.18	79,818.73	2,390,583.21
Other Expenditures					
3 Travel	43,551.93	72,374.76	131,137.59	3,402.90	250,467.18
4 Printing, Duplicating, Binding	12,064.41	8,155.82	88,034.28	822.59	109,077.10
6 Communications & Shipping Costs	6,074.26	691.10	4,061.41	869.00	11,695.77
7 Maintenance, Repairs and Services	167.89	77.36	35.51	4.74	285.50
8 Prof. and Admin. Services-- Third Party	25,763.79	7,174.62	6,796.51	1,122.01	40,856.93
9 Supplies and Materials	28,691.52	16,943.90	96,660.59	2,289.74	144,585.75
10 Rentals and Insurance	99,689.79	98,153.46	34,586.51	11,624.55	244,054.31
11 Motor Vehicle Operation					
12 Awards & Indemnities	696.58	70.77	53.09	470.23	1,290.67
13 Grants and Subsidies	7,027.30	4,858.39	4,406,293.29	2,386.04	4,420,565.02
14 Unclassified	800.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00
14 Equipment					
25 Professional Services from Other State Agency	38,879.92	39,727.46	29,311.79	3,890.27	111,809.44
Total Other Expenditures	263,407.39	248,227.64	4,796,970.57	26,882.06	5,335,487.66
Total Expenditures	1,060,775.34	1,081,246.99	5,477,347.75	106,700.79	7,726,070.87
State Appropriation	1,060,775.34	149.01	610,390.98	44,050.79	1,715,366.12
Federal Revenue	0.00	0.00	3,741,450.40	0.00	3,741,450.40
Interest Revenue	0.00	0.00	65,495.05	0.00	65,495.05
Interdepartmental Revenue	0.00	1,081,097.98	1,060,011.31	0.00	2,141,109.29
Non-Governmental Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	62,650.00	62,650.00

Advocacy

Children's Advocacy Days begun in the 1980s.
TCCY first compiled an index of relevant Tennessee laws
in the 1960s.

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 – 2006

More than 500 advocates attended the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's two-day 18th annual Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) held on March 14-15, 2006, in the War Memorial Auditorium. This year's events focused on Children's Health: Planning for the Future, and the formal presentations began Tuesday morning with a presentation by Tom Catron, head of the Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination, followed by a luncheon and presentations by representatives of state departments serving children. The event continued on Wednesday, with McComb, Miss., School Superintendent Pat Cooper speaking on coordinated school health and reports by members of the Legislature.

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 Youth Excellence Award;
- ▼ Present the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award;
- ▼ Present the Making KIDS COUNT Media Awards.

Commission Chair Cindy Durham welcomed participants. Viola Miller, commissioner of the Department of Children's Services, Dr. Elizabeth Williams from the Department of Health, Dr. Frieda Outlaw from the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, John W. Scott from the Department of Education, Glenda Shearon of the Department of Human Services and Dr. J.D. Hickey of the TennCare Bureau reported on what their agencies were doing. Each CAD participant received an information packet.

The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award was presented to Linda Moynihan, executive director of the Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare. The Youth Excellence Award was given to Tierra French, who had been in custody, adjudicated dependent neglected and then delinquent. She is now a writer, an advocate for children in custody and a volunteer for programs dealing with addiction. The Making KIDS COUNT print award was given to Judith Tackett of The Nashville City Paper for focusing on child policy issues. The broadcast awards went to Sue Lasky with WLJT public television in Martin, Tenn., for her work with promoting early childhood education and to Dorinda Carter of WKRN television in Nashville. A special merit award was given to David Sutherland producer of the PBS documentary, "Country Boys."

Committees, Task Forces, and Boards

A major strategy for advocacy and coordination is 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. TCCY staff served in a total of 272 different roles with governmental and nonprofit agencies serving children and their communities. Fifty-six of these positions were with local organizations.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

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

- ▼ Annie E. Casey Foundation KIDS COUNT Network;
- ▼ Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C., Government Relations Committee;
- ▼ Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C., Ethnic Diversity Committee;
- ▼ Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C., Conference Planning Committee;
- ▼ Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Southeastern/Northeastern Conference Planning Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- ▼ United States Ombudsman Association.

State Organizations

Staff members participated on 72 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:

- ▼ Administrative Office of the Courts Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Administrative Office of the Courts Court Improvement Action Plan Subcommittee;
- ▼ Administrative Office of the Courts Court Improvement Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Administrative Office of the Courts Court Improvement Law Subcommittee;
- ▼ Adolescent Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Advocates to the Department of Human Services;
- ▼ Child Abuse Prevention Council;
- ▼ Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Project Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Children's Justice Task Force;
- ▼ Children's Mental Health Policy Academy, Work Group;
- ▼ Drug Endangered Children Task Force;
- ▼ Early Childhood Comprehensive System;
- ▼ Governor's Children's Cabinet;
- ▼ Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination Steering Panel;
- ▼ Governor's Office of Children's Care Council;
- ▼ Home Builders Advisory Board;
- ▼ Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition;
- ▼ Juvenile Justice Advocates;
- ▼ Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Juvenile Justice Assessment Tool Stakeholders Group;
- ▼ Juvenile Justice Mental Health Workgroup;
- ▼ Maternal and Child Health Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Multi-Agency QSR Design Team;
- ▼ National Association of Social Workers Social Work Managers Networking Group;
- ▼ Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee Board of Directors;
- ▼ T-ACT Grant Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Technology Implementation Group;
- ▼ TennCare Advocates;
- ▼ TennCare for Children;
- ▼ TennCare Partners Roundtable, Children and Youth Subcommittee;
- ▼ Tennessee Adolescent Coordination of Treatment;
- ▼ Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services Board of Directors;
- ▼ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Executive Director Search Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Nominating Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Multicultural Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Education Pre-K Advisory Committee;

- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health - Early Childhood Comprehensive System Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Maternal and Child Health Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services Strategic Prevention Framework-State Implement Grant Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Child Fatality Review Team;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Commissioner's Injury Prevention Advisory Council;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Early Care and Coordination System Advisory Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Human Services Advocates Committee;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care Board of Review;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Human Services Star Quality Advisory Board;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Human Services State Day Care Appeals Board;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Mental Health System of Care Council;
- ▼ Tennessee Developmental Disabilities Council;
- ▼ Tennessee Early Care and Education System;
- ▼ Tennessee Lives Count (TLC);
- ▼ Tennessee State Information Systems Management Group;
- ▼ Tennessee State System of Care Council;
- ▼ Tennessee Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant;
- ▼ Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN);
- ▼ Tennessee Voices for Children Board of Directors;
- ▼ Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies Child and Family Policy Studies Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative;
- ▼ Yes 2 Kids Conference Committee;
- ▼ Youth Court Advisory Board;
- ▼ Youth Transition Workgroup.

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 48 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:

- ▼ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Health Regional Health Council;
- ▼ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Regional Mental Health Planning Council.

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 2005-06, TCCY staff members made 60 presentations, one national, 24 statewide, 15 regional and 20 local, to nearly 3,800 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented 25 displays to nearly 3,219 individuals at conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy

TCA 37-3-103(b)(2) mandates the following activities for TCCY:

Prepare and distribute impact statements analyzing the potential effect of proposals under consideration by the general assembly which relate to the health, well being and development of children and youth;

During the 2006 legislative session of the 104th Tennessee General Assembly the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth produced 12 *Legislative Reports*, tracking 483 bills, 15 *Legislative Updates* tracking 183 bills, and 4 *Legislative Summaries* tracking 121 Public Acts. TCCY took positions on 46 bills, 37 in support and 9 in opposition. Of the 37 TCCY supported, 15 passed while only 1 bill TCCY opposed was enacted and then only after being amended to address concerns TCCY identified.

TCCY legislative staff provided regional council members and child advocates with weekly updates beginning March 10th and continuing throughout the legislative session. The updates and other information were made available statewide electronically, both through e-mail and posting to the TCCY web page. The final *Legislative Summary* issued July 7, 2006, included summaries for the 121 Public Acts. These bills affected the health, well-being and development of Tennessee's children and youth and their families over the broad spectrum of policy issues from criminal law to family law, education to health care, and public finance to transportation. They Are:

Increased funding for pre-kindergarten through high school included a focus on expanding the highly successful pre-kindergarten programs that provide children the opportunity to develop critical language and social skills;

- ▼ Increased educational funding for the Basic Education Program (BEP) included additional BEP funding for at risk students and English Language Learner (ELL) students;
- ▼ New legislation awarding all unclaimed lottery prize money (up to \$18 million per year) to the Lottery Education: Afterschool Programs (LEAPs);

- ▼ A \$1.4 million infant mortality initiative and \$3 million for women's health in underserved areas;
- ▼ Governor Bredesen's CoverKids program will provide health insurance coverage for uninsured children and pregnant women in Tennessee who are not eligible for TennCare;
- ▼ A bill to require schools to provide at least 30 minutes of physical activity three times a week evolved into legislation expanding Coordinated School Health Programs statewide;
- ▼ Budget improvement items including \$500,000 to provide a tuition waiver at public two-year and four-year post-secondary institutions for children aging out of foster care in the Department of Children's Services;
- ▼ For the first time since 1996, an increase in funding for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs, improving the prospects for abused and neglected children to have a voice to advocate for their best interests;
- ▼ As a result of a joint resolution, the Select Committee on Children and Youth will be studying children's mental health with instructions to develop a blueprint for improving services to children;
- ▼ A number of bills before the House Education Committee were deferred for study, with several related to the interface of children's mental health and educational issues.

TCCY also provided Internet links to contact information on the Tennessee General Assembly website, including e-mail links, office addresses and phone numbers; links to Portable Document Files (pdf) of specific legislation or amendments under consideration; and links to other relevant advocacy groups, state agencies or reports related to legislative policy issues. 50

Juvenile Justice

Juvenile justice legislation was updated in the 1950s.
Laws removing youth from adult prisons were instituted in 1980s.
The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act was passed in 1970s.
Court Appointed Special Advocate programs began in 1980s.
Special State Supplement grants began in 1980s to assist in housing juveniles in accordance with the laws.

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103(a)(1)(C) 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; and 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, reauthorized in 2002, 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;
- ▼ Address disproportionate minority contact.

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). Each year the Commission submits a plan that includes juvenile crime analysis of court referrals, adjudications, offenses and transfers to adult court categorized by race

and gender. With the use of JJDP Act funds, the three-year plan includes program areas Tennessee will focus on to reduce juvenile delinquency. Funds provided to projects across the state will focus on evidence-based programs that have proven results to work well with at-risk and delinquent youth. Programs are required to submit performance measures to indicate results of services provided. The program areas for this period included: Delinquency Prevention, Minority Over-Representation, Gender Specific Services, Youth Advocacy and Alternatives to Detention.

Program Monitoring

As required by Policy 22, the Department of Finance and Administration monitored programs that received state and federal funds until February 2004, when TCCY staff began monitoring programs funded by the agency.

Department of Finance and Administration Policy 22 requires that all subrecipients receiving state or federal funds from state departments, agencies and commissions in Tennessee be monitored on a regular basis following monitoring guidelines established by the Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), in consultation with the Comptroller of the Treasury. Core monitoring areas to be covered include activities, allowed or unallowed; civil rights assurances; allowable costs/cost principles; eligibility; matching; level of effort, and earmarking; program income; cash management; Davis-Bacon Act compliance; equipment and real property management; period of availability of funds; procurement, suspension and debarment; real property acquisition and relocation assistance; reporting; and special tests and provisions.

During the period January 1, 2005-December 31, 2005, TCCY program and fiscal monitors completed 104 monitoring reviews totaling \$4,967,000.

During the period January 1, 2006-June 30, 2006, TCCY program and fiscal monitors completed 33 monitoring reviews totaling \$992,760, and were scheduled to complete 94 monitoring reviews totaling \$2,933,744 by December 31, 2006.

TCCY Policy 22 guidelines require that each state grantor monitor at least one-third of its contracts totaling at least two-thirds of grant funds each year.

Compliance Monitoring Report

Each year TCCY submits to OJJDP a monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates. The 2005-06 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of 137 deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed is 399. This decrease from 249 the previous year was due to the ongoing education of detention facility staffs and Juvenile Court staffs on dealing with status offenders and finding alternatives to detention.

The violation process is and continues to involve an ongoing training program. Monitoring juvenile detention facilities, temporary holding resources, jails and lockups on a monthly rather than a quarterly basis by Juvenile Justice specialists and TCCY regional coordinators is working to stop problems before they get started. It also provides technical assistance and advice on alternatives to secure placements. Commission members continued reduction efforts by talking to judges and facility directors in their areas regarding the alternatives to secure placements. Knox County, the largest populated county in eastern Tennessee, reduced its violations from 14 to 10 for the 2005-06 year. Only two counties were out of compliance for the state of Tennessee. One county had one violation, and another county had two violations; both counties had fewer than 2,900 juveniles under the age of 18 years of age. Shelby County had the most improvement, going from 138 violations for the 2004-05 year to only 44 for the 2005-06 year.

In regard to the jail removal and separation core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Tennessee has remained in compliance since 1986. The Act has had a strong 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 having five for the 2005-06 year. Tennessee violations increased by three from the 2004-05 year. The increase was due to new employees at all county jails not getting the correct information concerning juveniles, both status and delinquent. However, one county has been visited by TCCY staff, with training, and is fully aware of the problems that will need to be changed. The other county will be visited by the end of October 2006 with training, due to scheduling conflicts. Only one county had Separation Violations; the county will be visited by TCCY staff and provided with training on Separation issues once scheduling is confirmed.

DSO Violations Present and Past			
1989-90	118	1998-99	783
1990-91	100	1999-00	364
1991-92	182	2000-01	290
1992-93	242	2001-02	184
1993-94	318	2002-03	166
1994-95	391	2003-04	147
1995-96	346	2004-05	249
1996-97	351	2005-06	137
1997-98	484		

TCCY continues to strive to make Tennessee violation free. Juvenile Justice staff continue to travel the state training local staff and help regional coordinators with whatever assistance is needed. Training is planned for new Juvenile Court judges and their staffs, new sheriffs and jail administrators and their staffs in an election year. TCCY has notified youth service officers and Administrative Office of the Courts' staff that it is willing to provide any and all information required to those who are having trouble understanding or those who are unaware of the DSO, Jail Removal and Separation rules and guidelines of the JJDP Act.

TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 2005-2006

Number	Type of Program	Monitoring/On-Site Frequency	Total Number of TCCY Monitoring On-Site Activities
11	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA)	Annually	11
95	State Supplement Accounts*	Annually	32
36	Reimbursement Accounts**		36
25	Federal Formula Grant Programs	Annually	25
3	Title V Grant Program	Annually	3
11	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program	Annually	11
0	Challenge Program	Annually	0
9	Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant Program	Annually	9

Subtotal

110	Jails and/or Lockups***	Annually/Quarterly	148
9	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	108
18	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	216
8	Youth Development Centers	Annually/Quarterly	12
1	Youth Development Program	Monthly	12
146	Total		496

* Each year monitors do desk reviews for 30 percent of the State Supplement Grants.

** For Reimbursement Accounts a desk review is completed. A desk review allows counties to send in requested information. This allows the monitor to review the cases without having to bother the daily schedule of others. If there are questions/violations, each county is allowed time to come up with an action plan that will provide TCCY with a solution along with an on going preventive plan.

*** Jails and Lockups are generally monitored annually unless the numbers are so large that the monitor will visit quarterly due to the volume of inmates to save time. Temporary Holding Facilities are monitored monthly as well as Juvenile Detention Centers both public and private. Youth Development Centers are monitored annually unless the monitor feels it is necessary to monitor quarterly due to the volume of juveniles.

The Youth Development Program was begun by the Department of Children Services to help find temporary beds for juvenile delinquents. Youth Development Centers (YDCs) made available space to be used as detention beds for delinquent youth. Several YDCs started the program in January 2006; however, due to a lack of use, only one remained open. Only delinquent juveniles will be placed into the program facility. TCCY will monitor the program on a monthly basis just as it does a juvenile detention center.

Minority Over-Representation

One of the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 was to address minority over-representation (MOR) in secure confinement. The act, when reauthorized in 2002, also included disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system as a core requirement to replace disproportionate minority confinement. Minority over-representation occurs when the “proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention facilities, secure correctional facilities, jails, and lock-ups who are members of minority groups...exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general population.”

The State of Tennessee remains in compliance with the minority over-representation (MOR) core requirement of the JJDP Act by:

- ▼ Collecting data, which verified a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement in rural and metropolitan areas of the state;
- ▼ Educating local Tennessee communities regarding disproportionate minority contact/confinement (DMC);
- ▼ Completing DMC Assessment Study on minority over-representation in secure confinement in the Tennessee Juvenile Justice System;
- ▼ Using Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) Consultants to provide technical assistance on the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) to re-educate professionals, (i.e., juvenile court staffs, law enforcement agencies and other juvenile justice professionals) on better ways to determine what youth are incarcerated;
- ▼ Attending and presenting achievements made in Tennessee at national conferences on DMC and keeping updated on the latest information on minority over-representation;
- ▼ Assisting citizens from Montgomery County to form a DMC Task Force in the city of Clarksville;
- ▼ Continuing Technical Assistance (TA) from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and Design Systems Group (DSG) on strategies to address and reduce the large numbers of children of color at all levels of the juvenile justice system;
- ▼ Recruiting a citizen from Montgomery County to start a local DMC Task Force in Clarksville and become a member of the statewide DMC Task Force;
- ▼ Making DMC Task Force presentations at the Legislative Caucus Retreat, Tennessee Judges’ Conference and having workshops presented on Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) before a legislative subcommittee of the Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY) and at TCCY’s Children’s Advocacy Days and Children’s Caucus;
- ▼ Receipt of a mandate by Tennessee House Resolution authorizing TCCY with responsibility to lead the development of a draft template of a Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) on detention;
- ▼ TCCY’s Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues Committee requested and received approval for shifting Federal Formula Grant funds from the category of child advocacy to alternatives to detention

The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 works to address minority over-representation issues at the state and local levels. The task force (see current membership list in this section) met four times during fiscal year 2005-06 to develop strategies to reduce DMC in problem areas. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) and the DMC Task Force have found that the latest research and best practice programs show the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) has proven to be the best nationwide effort to reduce the number of children of color found in secure confinement, as well as the number of majority American children who find themselves confined in secure confinement.

For Tennessee as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 are children of color. Overall referrals of minority youth to juvenile court were at a significantly higher rate than White youth. This significantly higher referral rate, translates into significantly higher incarceration rates in state secure facilities. A 2004 evaluation was conducted by the Juvenile Justice Mental Health Task Force of several types of facilities used in Tennessee to serve youth, and information from the report is included on the table following this paragraph. Juvenile Detention Centers (JDCs) are operated by county governments. Only the Upper East facilities are not affiliated with one county, but some JDCs also contract with smaller counties to house their youth. Temporary Holding Resources (THR) are usually county facilities that agree to serve youth on an as-needed basis in counties where there is no JDC and the need for youth detention is not regular. The Youth Detention Centers (YDCs) are usually operated by governmental agencies to serve and treat youth who have been adjudicated and are serving a sentence and include one adult prison with a unit specifically for youth under age 21. Similarly, governmental agencies also contract with other public and private agencies (Other) to house youth who are not suitable for the YDCs but need a secure placement. The final type of facility, usually the Regional Mental Health Institutes (RMHIs) operated by the state Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities and its contractors, houses youth in order to conduct Juvenile Court Commitment Orders (JCCO). All these facilities are hardware secure and serve youth with juvenile justice involvement, either pre- or post-adjudication. As shown in the following table, the more punitive state facilities (JDC and YDC) have more minority youth housed than majority youth.

Race/Ethnicity of Youth by Type of Facility					
	African-American	White	Hispanic	Asian-America	Other
JDC	54%	42%	2%	1%	1%
THR	13%	87%	0%	0%	0%
YDC	57%	40%	2%	1%	1%
JCCO/RMHO	44%	52%	0%	0%	4%
Other	79%	20%	0%	0%	1%
Total (Percent and Number)	57% (690)	40% (483)	2% (18)	1% (10)	1% (14)

Juvenile Justice/Mental Health Work Group 2004

TCCY is serious and proactive in trying to reduce the number of children of color in secure confinement. Several initiatives have been completed that will actively assist TCCY in its overall goal: 1) completion of the statewide DMC Assessment Study on Disproportionate Minority Confinement in Tennessee; 2) Establishment of and continuation of four local DMC Task Forces in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox and Shelby counties; 3) The hiring of four Americorp*Vista Volunteers to coordinate the DMC Task Force activities in the four local aforementioned counties; 4) Passage of HR 890, calling for legislative study and report on DMC, by the legislature; 5) Funding of several youth programs regarding delinquency prevention and minority over-representation; 6) Technical assistance by the Annie E. Casey Foundation staff presentations concerning Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) to a legislative subcommittee of the Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY), to the juvenile court judges and juvenile court staff at the Tennessee Juvenile Court Judges Conference, and TCCY's Children's Advocacy Days and Children's Caucus; 7) Acceptance of leadership of the effort to develop, with the assistance of 25 juvenile delinquency professionals, a draft of a Risk Assessment Instrument (RAI) on detention authorized by a Tennessee legislative mandate; 8) Redirection of additional Federal Formula Grant funds into the alternatives to detention category.

Disproportionate Minority Contact/Confinement (DMC) Task Force Members*

West

Morrie Noel	Juvenile Court	Shelby County
Lorenzo Caldwell	Clergy	Shelby County
John Hall, Vice Chair	Service Provider	Shelby County
Randi Guigui	Service Provider	Shelby County
Susan Adams	Service Provider	Shelby County
Wanda Halbert, Esq.	Memphis School Board	Shelby County

Middle

Gwen Harris	Department of Children's Services	Mid-Cumberland
Jill Kelly, Esq.	Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services	Mid-Cumberland
Jaunita Veasy	Black Children's Institute	Mid-Cumberland
Denise Nickleberry	Therapeutic Interventions	Mid-Cumberland
Trish Hayes	Public Defender's Office	Mid-Cumberland
Jenny Jones	Social Science Professor	Mid-Cumberland
Jimmie Garland	NAACP (Clarksville)	Mid-Cumberland
D. Michael Carter, Esq.	Disability Law and Advocacy Center	Mid-Cumberland
Jessica Hooper	Administrative Office of the Courts	

East

Dennie Littlejohn, Chair	Social Worker, Head Start	Northeast
Beverly McKeldin	Service Provider	Southeast
Beverly Cosley	TCCY Commission Member	Southeast
Dwight Stokes, Esq.	Juvenile Judge	Northeast
Beverly McKeldin	Service Provider	Southeast
William Murrah	Service Provider	East
Bo Walker	Administrator	East

Federal Formula Grants

In addition to monitoring for compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002, TCCY annually awards grants from funds provided through the Act. Federal Formula Grants are awarded for one year and are renewable for up to two additional years. Renewal is not automatic, and 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 funds be allocated for programs as a part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services, including collaborative efforts such as the Community Prevention Initiative. It is important that funded programs ensure services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency are consistent with policies focusing on preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environments. TCCY gives preference to programs that provide direct services to youth. 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. In addition, TCCY encourages private and public partnerships in the delivery of services for the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency.

Tennessee received approximately \$1.1 million in Federal Formula Grant funds in fiscal year 2005-06. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention projects to ensure youth at risk of committing offenses receive appropriate services. During this reporting period, grantees served more than 11,000 children.

TCCY staff provided grant-writing training and technical assistance to potential applicants for all federal grants it administers. In addition, an orientation session was conducted for grantees approved for funding. TCCY staff also provided technical assistance to agencies and organizations to assure successful implementation of programs.

Title V Delinquency Prevention Grants

The 2002 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. TCCY holds training sessions for local units of government community teams to develop long-range planning for their neighborhoods. A community-based planning process focused on reducing risks and enhancing protective factors to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system is required. Local communities completed risk and resource assessments to determine effective strategies and specific programs for target populations.

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 (PPB) and the development of a three-year plan for delinquency prevention. In addition, the local unit of government must provide a 50 percent cash or in-kind match. Also, to be eligible, the county must be in compliance with the mandates of the JJDP Act.

In fiscal year 2005-06, TCCY continued its participation with the Tennessee departments of Health, Children's Services and Education and the United Way in the Community Prevention Initiative for children. Title V programs and those funded by the Department of Health through the Community 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. During this reporting period, Title V grantees served more than 500 children.

Listed next are the local units of government awarded the Title V funds.

Title V Grantee	FY 2005-06 Award Amount
City of Bristol	\$110,000
Hamilton County	\$66,330
Hancock County	\$80,170

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program

In fiscal year 1998, Congress authorized the attorney general to provide grants under the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program for use by states and units of local government to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. The Department of Children's Services (DCS) initially administered the JAIBG program for Tennessee. In October 2001, JAIBG program administration was transferred to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. For federal fiscal year 2001, Tennessee received \$4,302,300 in federal JAIBG dollars to be used for projects that reinforced accountability through a graduated sanctions system for crimes committed by juveniles. Grantees must submit an application to TCCY every year because renewal is not

automatic. In October 2002, when the program was reauthorized the name was changed to the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program.

If it does not request a waiver, each state must distribute not less than 75 percent of the state's allocation among units of local government in the state. In making this distribution, the state allocates to each unit of local government an amount by a federal formula based on a combination of law enforcement expenditures for each unit of local government and the average annual number of violent crimes reported by each unit of local government for the three most recent calendar years for which data are available.

There are two types of distribution for the JABG funds. They include local Pass-Through funds and State-Allocated funds. According to the federal formula calculations, all local jurisdictions eligible to receive at least \$10,000 can receive these funds if they request them. The amount for each unit of local government is determined by the state's percentage for pass-through funds. TCCY did not apply for a waiver; therefore, 75 percent of the JABG funds were passed to the units of local government. The remaining 25 percent were used by the state to benefit those areas not eligible to receive at least \$10,000. Grants were distributed through a request for proposals focused on accountability and enhancing services for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Funds are available for the following 16 program purpose areas (a 10 percent cash match is required when applying for these funds, except for Purpose Area 1):

- Purpose Area 1. Developing, implementing and administering graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders.
- Purpose Area 2. Building, expanding, renovating or operating temporary or permanent juvenile corrections, detention or community corrections facilities.
- Purpose Area 3. Hiring additional juvenile court judges, probation officers, and court-appointed defenders and funding pre-trial services for juveniles, to promote the effective and expeditious administration of the juvenile justice system.
- Purpose Area 4. Hiring additional prosecutors, so more cases involving violent juvenile offenders can be prosecuted and case backlogs reduced.
- Purpose Area 5. Providing funding to enable prosecutors to address drug, gang and youth violence problems more effectively and for technology, equipment and training to assist prosecutors in identifying and expediting the prosecution of violent juvenile offenders.
- Purpose Area 6. Establishing and maintaining training programs for law enforcement and other court personnel with respect to preventing and controlling juvenile crime.
- Purpose Area 7. Establishing juvenile gun courts for the prosecution and adjudication of juvenile firearms offenders.
- Purpose Area 8. Establishing drug courts for juvenile offenders that provide continuing judicial supervision over juvenile offenders with substance abuse problems and to provide the integrated administration of other sanctions and services.

- Purpose Area 9. Establishing and maintaining a system of juvenile records designed to promote public safety.
- Purpose Area 10. Establishing and maintaining interagency information-sharing programs that enable the juvenile and criminal justice system, schools and social service agencies to make more informed decisions regarding the early identification, control, supervision and treatment of juveniles who repeatedly commit serious delinquent or criminal acts.
- Purpose Area 11. Establishing and maintaining accountability-based programs designed to reduce recidivism among juveniles who are referred by law enforcement personnel or agencies.
- Purpose Area 12. Establishing and maintaining programs to conduct risk and needs assessments of juvenile offenders that facilitate the effective early intervention and the provision of comprehensive services, including mental health screening and treatment and substance abuse testing and treatment to such offenders.
- Purpose Area 13. Establishing and maintaining accountability-based programs that are designed to enhance school safety.
- Purpose Area 14. Establishing and maintaining restorative justice programs.
- Purpose Area 15. Establishing and maintaining programs to enable juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers to be more effective and efficient in holding juvenile offenders accountable and reducing juvenile recidivism.
- Purpose Area 16. Hiring detention and corrections personnel and establishing and maintaining training programs for such personnel to improve facility practices and programming.

The JABG benefits to Tennessee have been numerous, including the following list.

- ▼ Tennessee has received a total of \$27,211,900 from 1998 through 2004 for accountability-based juvenile justice system programs.
- ▼ Rural counties across the state have received funds to help with juvenile court services and the backlog of juvenile cases.
- ▼ Programs funded have included 1) intensive probation services; 2) residential observation and assessment services; 3) intensive after care services; 4) alternative school and summer adventure-based programs; 5) additional referees to handle cases; 6) improved data systems for tracking juveniles; 7) new youth and drug courts for diversion from the regular juvenile justice system; etc.
- ▼ Juvenile courts in rural areas, which normally have minimal resources, now have a greater variety of services to meet more individualized needs.
- ▼ In Tennessee, the number of juvenile offenders for crimes such as homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, larceny and burglary has been reduced by 30 percent from 1997 to 2003.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funded Programs

State Allocated Funds	
Bradley County (X-CEL Academy)	\$65,600
Frontier Health	\$100,000
Madison County Government	\$150,000
Upper Cumberland Comm Services Agency	\$53,374
Upper Cumberland Human Resources Agency	\$69,250
Total	\$438,224

Pass Through Funds	
Metro Nashville-Davidson	\$141,755
Hamilton County	\$39,725
Knox County	\$47,427
City of Knoxville	\$10,625
Rutherford County	\$10,059
Shelby County	\$213,350
Total Pass Thru	\$462,941

Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program

Adolescence marks the age in which experimentation with mood-altering substances is most active. More youth in the United States drink alcohol than smoke tobacco or marijuana, making it the drug most used by American young people. Binge drinking among girls is growing at a faster rate than boys. Long-term studies now show a direct link between alcohol advertising and youth drinking. Young people who see and hear more alcohol ads are more likely to drink than their peers.

According to the Tennessee Department of Education, in the 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), information regarding Tennessee showed that:

- ▼ 31 percent of high school students and 38 percent of middle school students reported drinking their first alcohol before age 13;
- ▼ 72 percent of ninth and tenth graders had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more occasions;
- ▼ 43 percent of students in high schools of Nashville and Davidson County had at least one drink of alcohol one or more days in the past 30 days.

In order to combat underage drinking, in 1999 Congress appropriated \$360,000 to each state to address and reduce the use and sale of alcohol to minors. The Department of Children’s Services (DCS) administered the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) program in Tennessee from its inception until February 2002. The funds were given to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for its program to target establishments selling

alcohol to minors and educate youth regarding alcohol and its effects. Its activities consisted of the following programs and goals:

Youth in Action (YIA) Program

- ▼ The significant increase in knowledge regarding alcohol and its effects;
- ▼ An increase in youth activism in the state concerning underage consumption;
- ▼ An increase in youth believing that they have the control and ability to make life-altering decisions;
- ▼ An increased ability to dispel alcohol-related myths.

Youth Leadership Statewide Training

- ▼ To provide young people with the skills necessary to return to their individual communities in order to make changes in attitudes, policies and laws that condone underage drinking and other drug use;
- ▼ To develop the skills necessary to implement effective programs that help reduce social and retail availability of alcohol to minors.

Compliance Measures

- ▼ Reduce the sale and availability of alcohol to minors.

Zero Tolerance/Shoulder Tap

- ▼ Reduce third party transactions;
- ▼ Decrease the number of adults willing to purchase alcohol for minors;
- ▼ Educate the community and retail establishments of the laws governing third party transactions.

Media Awareness

- ▼ Increase awareness about the consequences of underage drinking and help young people understand the laws in their state;
- ▼ Increase youth's concept that adolescents do have control over their futures through the choices they make;
- ▼ Increase the ability of youth to dispel alcohol-related myths;
- ▼ Increase in youth activism in the state regarding underage alcohol consumption.

In February 2002, the administrative responsibility for the EUDL program was transferred to TCCY. A request for proposals was developed, and training on the program was given to agencies and organizations (including MADD) interested in reducing the sale and use of alcohol. Activities funded currently are as follows:

- ▼ Statewide task forces of state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies that target establishments suspected of a pattern of violations of state laws governing the sale and consumption of alcohol by minors.
- ▼ Innovative programs to prevent and combat underage drinking.
- ▼ Public advertising campaigns that can demonstrate data reducing underage drinking.

Programs funded include Bradley County Government, Brownsville Police Department, City of Bristol, Center for Youth Issues (STARS), Fayette County Schools, STAND, MADD and Knoxville Metro Drug Commission.

Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account

The Commission administers a combination of state (\$18,000) and federal (\$117,000) JJDP Act funds to provide financial assistance to counties for alternatives to placing children in adult jails. 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 services, emergency transportation, emergency shelter care and foster care, temporary holding and secure detention. In fiscal year 2005-06 TCCY contracted with 36 counties for the use of Reimbursement Account funds.

Each county accepting these 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. Counties that established secure detention centers since the passage of legislation in 1983, which prohibited the placement of children in adult jails, are eligible for reimbursement for nonsecure placements only. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the grants.

Juvenile Justice State Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services as provided by TCA 37-1-162. In fiscal year 2005-06, each county received \$9,000 (initially this amount had been \$10,000). This reduction has led to fewer services being provided for juveniles, less training for youth services officers, cuts in travel expenses and less overtime pay for youth services officers.

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 (YSO) who is appointed and supervised by the juvenile court judge. The youth services officer must meet identified educational requirements (60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of undergraduate credit from an accredited college or university in a social service-related field) and receive training annually (40 hours during the first year of employment and 20 hours of training during each subsequent year).

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 2005-06, all 95

Reimbursement Account		
County	City	Amount
Anderson		\$ 7,000.00
Cannon		\$ 600.00
Carter		\$ 6,000.00
Cheatham		\$ 800.00
Cocke		\$ 2,000.00
Coffee		\$ 3,500.00
Crockett		\$ 500.00
Dickson		\$ 7,000.00
Fayette		\$ 1,000.00
Gibson		\$ 500.00
Giles		\$ 2,000.00
Hamblen		\$ 12,000.00
Hardeman		\$ 3,000.00
Hardin		\$ 500.00
Hawkins		\$ 8,100.00
Haywood		\$ 1,800.00
Henderson		\$ 700.00
Hickman		\$ 600.00
Jefferson		\$ 5,000.00
Lauderdale		\$ 4,500.00
Lawrence		\$ 1,000.00
Loudon		\$ 3,800.00
Marion		\$ 3,500.00
Marshall		\$ 1,800.00
Maury		\$ 9,000.00
McMinn		\$ 3,200.00
Meigs		\$ 400.00
Montgomery		\$ 12,000.00
Roane		\$ 300.00
Robertson		\$ 4,000.00
Sequatchie		\$ 1,500.00
Smith		\$ 600.00
Stewart		\$ 1,000.00
Sullivan		\$ 12,000.00
Unicoi		\$ 1,800.00
Washington		\$ 12,000.00

counties used approximately 89 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or other staff to enhance the services of the court. In addition, funds are used for travel for YSOs, equipment and supplies for the court. Use of these funds can vary as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Programs

TCCY also administers state funds for Court Appointed Special Advocate (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 the 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.

For the first time since 1996, there is increased funding for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs beginning in the FY 2006-07. In fiscal year 2005-06, state CASA funds provided services for more than 3,500 children in Anderson, Blount, Davidson, Hamblen, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson and Wilson counties. Each county received \$15,000.

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY
Grant Period: October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005
By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders		
Knox County Government	Knoxville	\$ 57,431
Shelby County Government	Memphis	\$ 60,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (DMC)	Knoxville	44,025
TN Legal Community Foundation	*Nashville	60,000
UT Chattanooga	Chattanooga	40,000
Youth Visions, Inc.	Memphis	22,500
Delinquency Prevention		
American Family Institute	Chattanooga	17,000
Children's Advocacy Center, Inc.	Chattanooga	23,466
Catholic Charities of TN, Inc.	Nashville	60,000
DVIC/Teen PEACE	Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson	45,000
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	45,000
Frontier Health, Inc.	Johnson City	15,000
Girl Scouts of Cumberland Valley	Nashville	21,040
Henry County Board of Education	Paris	21,454
Junior's House, Inc.	Fayetteville	39,467
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (Spec Ed)	Knoxville	37,500
Little Children of the World, Inc.	Etowah	35,205
Shelbyville Housing & Development Corp.	Shelbyville	41,412
United Way of Blount County	Maryville	15,000
Warren County	McMinnville	12,500
West Tennessee Legal Services, Inc.	Jackson	45,000
Systems Improvement		
TCJFCJ Training	*Nashville	35,000
Total		\$ 793,000

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

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY
Grant Period: October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006
By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Alternatives to Detention		
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Memphis	Memphis	\$ 60,000
Youth Emergency Shelter	Morristown	\$ 60,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Catholic Charities of Tennessee, Inc.	Nashville	45,000
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (DMC)	Knoxville	29,350
Shelby County Division of Corrections	Memphis	45,000
Youth Visions, Inc.	Memphis	15,000
Delinquency Prevention		
Children's Advocacy Center, Inc.	Chattanooga	15,644
Coalition for Kids, Inc.	Johnson City	50,000
Cumberland County Juvenile Court	Crossville	10,000
DVIC/Teen PEACE	Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson	30,000
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	30,000
Family Guidance Training Institute	Clarksville	50,000
Henry County Board of Education	Paris	14,302
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (Special Ed)	Johnson City	25,000
Little Children of the World, Inc.	Etowah	23,470
Madison County Juvenile Court	Jackson	6,255
Shelbyville Housing and Development Corp	Shelbyville	27,608
Tennessee Legal Community Foundation	*Nashville	60,000
Gender Specific		
Girl Scouts Council of Cumberland Valley	Nashville	15,780
Junior's House	Fayetteville	26,312
Martha O'Bryan Center	Nashville	37,653
Webb Alumni Association	McKenzie	80,000
Youth Advocacy		
Administrative Office of the Courts	*Nashville	46,610
Knox County Government	Knoxville	38,286
Oasis Center	Nashville	58,000
		\$ 802,984

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

Transfer Hearings

Tennessee Code Annotated 33-3-401 establishes procedures for the involuntary transfer of youth between the departments of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD) and Children's Services (DCS). A transfer hearing is scheduled before a five-person review panel composed of two representatives each from MHDD 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 2005-06, no hearings were held regarding any children. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility. 50

Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT)

Foster Care review boards began in 1970s.
The Children's Plan went into effect in 1992. Its evaluation
component, the Children's Program Outcome Review
Team., began in 1994.

During fiscal year 2005-06 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 and quantitative 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.

In late 2004 and even more intensively in 2005, TCCY staff worked collaboratively with the staff of the Department of Children's Services to assist in the integration of a protocol design for use in a case-based quality services review (QSR) process. Integration of the CPORT and DCS QSR continuous quality improvement processes will mean using common definitions and common measures to assess the well-being of children in custody and their families, and how well the service system is functioning to meet the needs of children and families.

While the collaborative work continued, the CPORT evaluation staff completed special reviews in Knox, Northeast and South Central DCS regions to assist DCS in responding to the federal Child and Family Service Review requirements for the 8th quarter data reporting on child well-being (including physical and emotional well-being), and particularly service plan design and implementation of services for children in care of the state. The reviews were conducted July 18-27, 2005 in Knox, Northeast and South Central. Twelve cases from each region were randomly selected for review, for a total of 36 cases.

In addition, the CPORT evaluation completed reviews focusing on a target population of children residing in Woodland Hills Youth Development Center, also referred to as a state correctional facility. State correctional facilities are considered hardware secure facilities that house children who have been adjudicated delinquent and who meet criteria as established by the Department of Children's Services for placement at the facilities. The Woodland Hills review was conducted August 4-17, 2005. The number of children randomly selected for review was selected based on the number of children residing in

the Youth Development Center (YDC) at the time of the review. The sample consisted of a total of 42 child-custody cases designed to be statistically significant at the 90 percent level of confidence with +/-10 margin of error.

The process for the reviews included face to face interviews (except when circumstances prevented) with the following: child (if age appropriate), parents, custodial department workers, caregivers (foster parent or direct care staff in a group facility), court representatives, teachers and other relevant service providers. The case records were reviewed, and Permanency Plans, social histories, court orders and other pertinent reports were copied and reviewed. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

Twelve full-time CPORT case reviewers examined and determined the status of children and families and the adequacy of performance of key system practices and services for the reviewed child. In addition, supplemental assessment tools were administered during the review process and included the Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL), Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS), and the Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII). 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. The CAFAS has been adopted by several other states for evaluating state-served children. The Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII) was included to identify the most appropriate level of care needed for the children reviewed. The CASII was developed by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in response to the need for the development of a common framework for making decisions on the level of care placement, continued stay, and outcomes in the treatment of children and adolescents.

The CPORT evaluation documented the adequacy of the status of the child and family and how the system was 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 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time.

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

1. Safety of the child and community; *
2. Emotional well-being*;
3. Physical well-being*;
4. Caregiver functioning*;
5. Stability;
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. Child satisfaction;
12. Family satisfaction; and
13. Overall status of child and family.

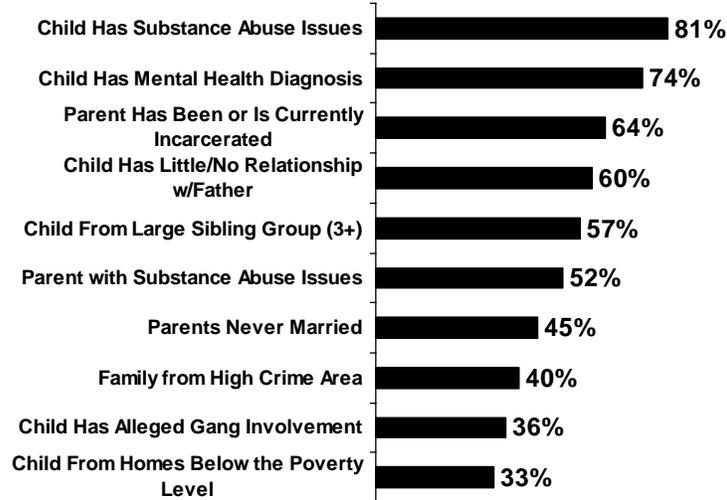
The reviewers evaluated the following 17 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. Once again, the functions or capabilities with the asterisks must have been found positive for an overall adequate finding for the system. The functions or capabilities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

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.

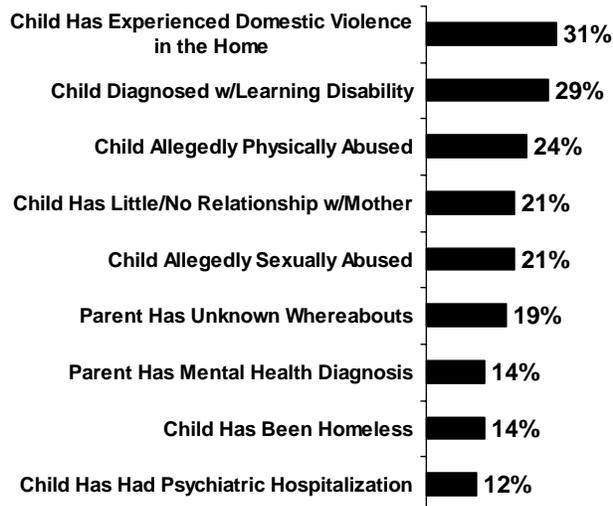
The following information summarizes the findings of the service reviews of children residing in the Woodland Hills Youth Development Center.

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. The risk factors presented below are not mutually exclusive.

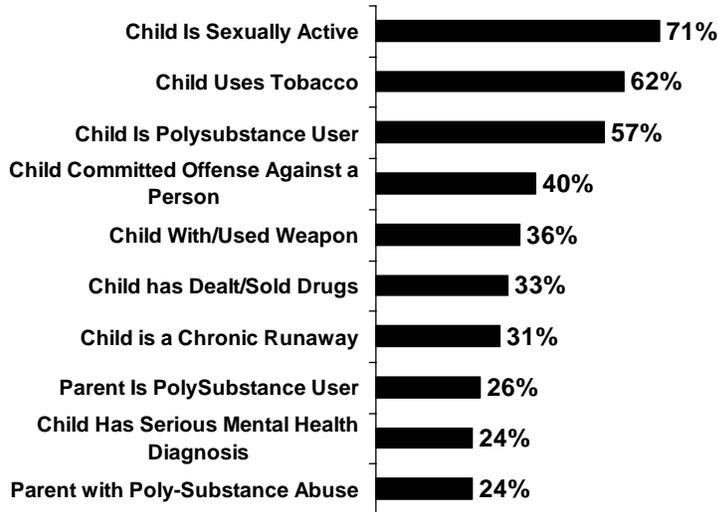
High Risk Critical Issues for the Child



High Risk Critical Issues for the Child

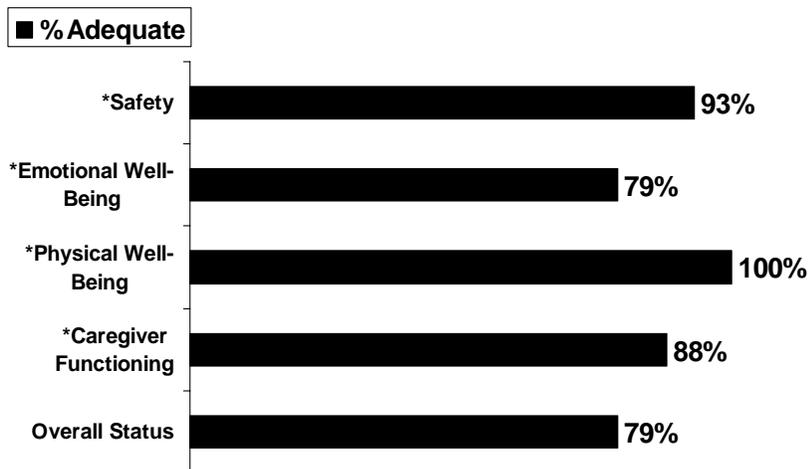


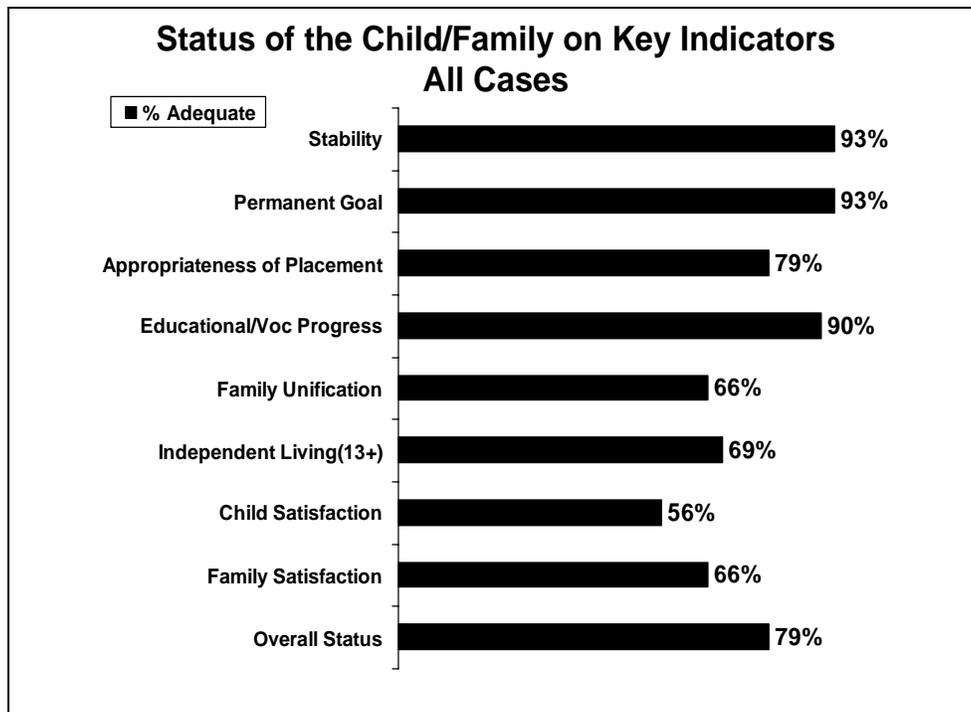
Other Critical Issues for the Child



Reviewers must rate each of the status indicators on a 6-point rating scale with scale values of 1-3 being in the inadequate or unacceptable range and scale values of 4-6 being in the adequate or acceptable range. A “1” is defined as the least desirable rating on an indicator, and “6” is defined as the most desirable or optimal rating. Each gradient contains a descriptor. The reviewer chooses a rating that best describes the current child and/or family situation on each indicator. The graphs below show the total percent of cases rated in the acceptable range on each status indicator.

Status of the Child/Family on Key Indicators All Cases



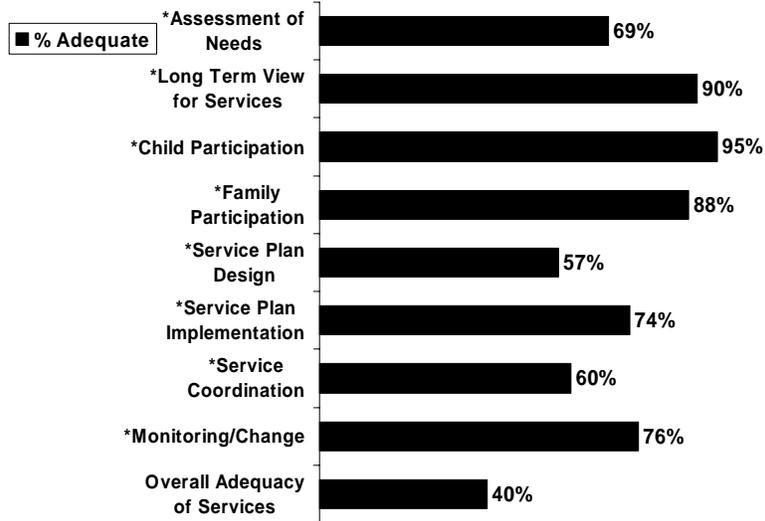


**CPORT Findings on the Status of the Child/Family in Woodland Hills
Reported as Percents**

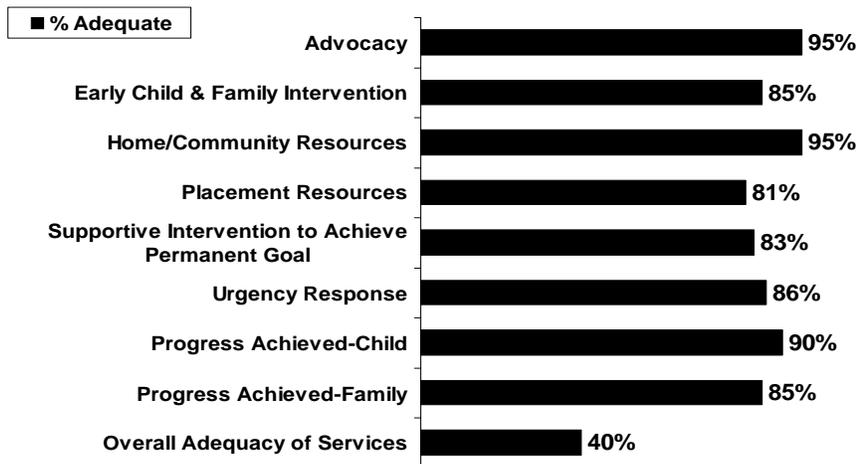
	Woodland Hills
Cases reviewed in an overall positive status	79
Safety of children positive	93
Children's physical well-being addressed	100
Children placed with adequate caregivers	88
The child's emotional well-being was being addressed	79
Families were receiving services to remain intact or to reunify with children	76
Families were satisfied with services received	66

Reviewers must rate each of the system performance indicators on a 6-point rating scale with scale values of 1-3 being in the inadequate or unacceptable range and scale values of 4-6 being in the adequate or acceptable range. A "1" is defined as the least desirable rating on an indicator, and "6" is defined as the most desirable or optimal rating. Each gradient contains a descriptor. The reviewer chooses a rating that best describes the current child and/or family situation on each indicator. The graphs below show the total percent of cases rated in the acceptable range on each system performance indicator.

Adequacy Service System Functions on Key Indicators All Cases



Adequacy Service System Functions on Key Indicators All Cases



**CPORT Findings on Adequacy of Service System Functions in Woodland Hills
Reported as Percents**

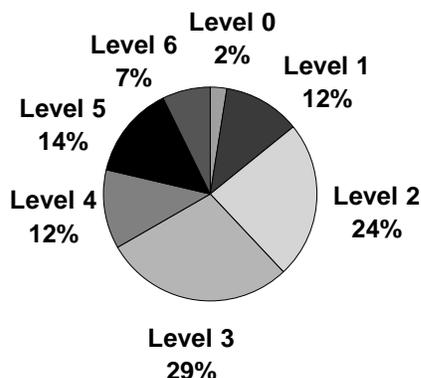
	Woodland Hills
Service system functioned adequately to meet needs of child/family	40
Assessment of needs of child/family	69
Service plan design	57
Service plan implementation	74
Service coordination	60
Monitoring/change	76
Supportive intervention for children to stay or return home	83

The Child and Adolescent Service Intensity Instrument (CASII) Results Summary

The CASII is a tool used to determine the service needs of children and adolescents ages 6 through 18 years with the full range of presenting problems, including mental illness, substance use disorders and developmental disorders. The focus is on the level of resource intensity, and the intensity is defined by a combination of service variables: physical facilities (care environment), clinical services, support services, crisis stabilization, and prevention services. There are seven levels of care ranging on a scale from Level 0 (zero) to Level 6. They can be compared with the differences between the services available in a single pediatrician's office (the lower levels of care) to a major medical center or secure, 24-hour, inpatient or residential treatment facility (higher levels of care). Overall, 38 percent of the children required a range of basic services from prevention and health maintenance to recovery maintenance and health management to limited outpatient services. Sixty-two percent needed more complex services from intensive outpatient to secure, 24 hour, psychiatric management. The CASII is especially helpful in quantifying the clinical severity and service needs of children, assisting the user in level of care placement decisions.

A description of each level of care and the percentage of children that fell within each level of care category are found below.

CASII Level of Care Recommendation



2005 Woodland Hills
CPORT Results

CASII Level of Care	Description
Level 0	Basic services of prevention and health maintenance
Level 1	Recovery maintenance and health management
Level 2	Traditional outpatient services and limited use of community-based services
Level 3	Intensive outpatient services including case management and informal community supports
Level 4	Intensive integrated services without 24-hour psychiatric monitoring
Level 5	Non-secure, 24-hour services with psychiatric monitoring but may be provided in foster care or in family homes with a complex array of services in place and a high level of care coordination
Level 6	Secure, 24-hour services with psychiatric management

2005 CPORT and DCS Quality Service Reviews (QSR)

By September of 2005 the collaboration with DCS resulted in a newly designed QSR protocol and an expansion of the process to include case manager feedback at the frontline and supervisory level. New indicators were created for appraising system performance as well as child and family status with new definitions to better identify outcomes for children and families, while some indicators remain the same.

The QSR protocol was tested in a pilot study in two counties (Bedford and Coffee) in the South Central region September 19-23. CPORT reviewers assisted in the

pilot test as lead reviewers with DCS staff shadowing. Human Systems and Outcomes, Incorporated, Ray Foster, the same consultants used to design CPORT protocol assisted in the development of the QSR protocol and the pilot study as did the Vanderbilt Child and Family Policy, Brian A. monitor's office staff. The results of the pilot study were reviewed and the QSR protocol was used to review a random sample of children in Northwest, October 3-October 7; Southwest, October 24-October 28; Upper Cumberland, November 14-November 18; and Mid-Cumberland, November 28-December 2. The remaining eight regions will be reviewed the first part of the calendar year 2006, moving the QSR review to a fiscal year cycle. 50

Regional Councils

Regional councils were formed in all regions by 1990.
The Upper Cumberland Regional Council was chartered in 1977.

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 development 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;
- ▼ 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;
- ▼ Coordinate regional and local efforts between public and private service providers to enhance services for children and youth;
- ▼ 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
- ▼ Collect, compile and distribute data and to make recommendations of the needs and problems of children and youth.

In fiscal year 2005-06, 2,798 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

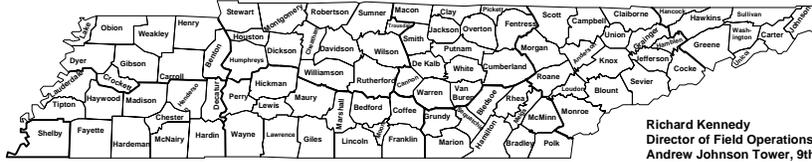
Dana Cobb
 Northwest Council
 P.O. Box 586
 Huntingdon, TN 38344
 (731) 986-4243
 FAX: (731) 986-3200
 Dana.Cobb@state.tn.us

April Swoner
 Mid-Cumberland Council
 Andrew Johnson Tower,
 9th Fl.
 710 James Robertson Pky.
 Nashville, TN 37243-0800
 (615) 532-1579
 (615) 741-5956 (Fax)
 april.swoner@state.tn.us

Kathy Daniels
 Upper Cumberland
 Nashville State Tech
 Cookeville Center
 1000 Neal Street
 Cookeville, TN 38501
 1(931) 520-4445
 (931) 520-0017 (Fax)
 Kathy.Daniels@state.tn.us

Robert Smith
 East Tennessee
 531 Henley St., 7th Floor
 Knoxville, TN 37902
 (865) 594-6658 (Voice &
 Fax)
 Robert.E.Smith@state.tn.us

Diane Wise
 Northeast Council
 1233 Southwest Ave.,
 Extension
 Johnson City, TN 37604
 (423) 979-3200 Ext. 105
 (423) 979-3267 (Fax)
 Diane.Wise@state.tn.us



Richard Kennedy
 Director of Field Operations
 Andrew Johnson Tower, 9th Fl.
 710 James Robertson Pky.
 Nashville, TN 37243-0800
 (615) 532-1570
 Richard.Kennedy@state.tn.us

Gwendolyn Wright
 Memphis/Shelby County Council
 170 North Main Street
 Memphis, TN 38103
 (901) 543-7657
 (901) 543-6462 (Fax)
 Gwendolyn.Wright@state.tn.us

Rodger Jowers
 Southwest Council
 Lowell Thomas Bldg. Suite 440
 Box 13
 225 Martin Luther King Drive
 Jackson, TN 38301
 (731) 423-6545
 (731) 423-6612 (Fax)
 Rodger.Jowers@state.tn.us

Elaine Williams
 South Central Council
 Post Office Box 397
 Columbia, TN 38402-0397
 (931) 490-5887
 (931) 381-2053 (Fax)
 Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us

Vacant
 Southeast Council
 540 McCallie Avenue, Ste. 643
 Chattanooga, TN 37402
 (423) 634-6210
 (423) 634-3094 (Fax)

Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Diane Wise
1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension
Johnson City, TN 37604
Phone: (423) 979-4585
Fax: (423) 979-3267
E-mail: Diane.Wise@state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Council has 335 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Ray White, Frontier Health, Inc.
Past President	Kathy Bailey, ETSU Center for Excellence
Vice President	Nona Shepard-Whisenhunt, E.T.S.U.
Secretary	Jamie Fuller, CASA of Sullivan County
Treasurer	Beth Rader, Northeast TN Regional Health Office

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative	Patricia Miller, Communities in Schools
Juvenile Justice	Nancy Davis, Hawkins County Juvenile Court
Child and Family	Sarah Jane Bruner, Sullivan County Schools
Membership/Nominating	Stephanie Edwards, Washington County Health Dept.
Hospitality/Public Relations	Lucretia Sanders, Department of Children's Services
Regional Advocacy	Kellie Taylor, Coalition for Kids, Inc.

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

September 23, 2005	You've Come a Long Way Baby! Teen Pregnancy Prevention
November 18, 2005	Battling Bullying: Programs in Progress
May 19, 2006	Legislation of the 104th General Assembly

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

December 2, 2005	Drugs in Northeast Tennessee? Conference
February 10, 2006	Breakfast for Our Legislators
March 14 and 15, 2006	18 th Annual Children's Advocacy Days
May 5, 2006	The Youth Sex Offender Conference

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

The 2006 Child Advocate of the Year award was presented to Tony Cox, director of SteppenStone Youth Treatment Center.

East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

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 166 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 George Gorghis, Knox County Juvenile Court
President-Elect Edna Eickman, Commuity Action Council Family Friends Program
Secretary Charity Smith, Knox County Health Department
Past President Amy Dilworth, Tennessee Protection and Advocacy

East Tennessee Council Committees

Nominating Committee Cynthia Hudson, Knox County Health Department
Legislative Committee Tannis Duncan, Sevier County Schools, Special Education
Juvenile Justice/ Education Jim Griffin, Tennessee Voices for Children

East Tennessee Council Meetings

October 4, 2005 A Council of Councils? A Roundtable Discussion
January 10, 2006 Teen Empowerment Initiatives
March 19, 2006 Children of Meth
June 2005 Juvenile Justice Training Information

East Tennessee Council Special Events

2005 Knox Teen Assessment Program (Ongoing)
April 29, 2006 Children’s Mental Health Day

Southeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

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

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Southeast Council has 386 members representing the 10 counties in the region: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers

President: Jeanne Bille
Community Advocate
Vice President: Hugh Reece
Chattanooga City Court
Secretary: Dalton Mook
UTC Social Work Department
Treasurer: Jamie Bergmann
United Way
Membership
Past President

Hiwassee Council Officers:

President: Denese Williams
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Vice President: Lisa Wiley
Bradley County Juvenile Court
Secretary: Shannon Bishop
Cleveland City Schools
Legislative: Max Hood
HCA Valley Hospital
Clark Graham
Rhea County Dept. Of Education
Carolyn Gibbon
Regional Intervention Program

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs:

Legislative	Becky Encizo, Bradford Health Care
Public Relations	Frank Hill, Parks & Recreation, Chattanooga
Hospitality and Child Welfare	Katie Larue, Partnership FCA
Nominations/Awards	Shula Yelliott, Bradley County Visitation Center
Membership	Cynthia Coleman, Community Advocate
Mental Health	Stephanie Austin, HCA Parkridge Valley
Juvenile Justice/Youth Issues	Hugh Reece, Chattanooga City Court Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Mental Health Center

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings and Topics

September 9, 2005	Southeast Council: "Breaking the Cycle: Treatment of the Adolescent Sex Offender" – Jim Meginley, Ph.D., House of Hope
October 26, 2005	Hiwassee Council: National Inhalant Prevention Council Mr. Harvey Weiss, National Founder and Director
November 11, 2005	Southeast Council: Juvenile Court Services in Hamilton County: CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Denise Cook, Coordinator VORP (Victim Offender Reconciliation Program, Berti LeWinter, Director Juvenile Fire Stoppers Program, District Attorney's Office, Dana Lesley, Director
January 11, 2006	Southeast Council: "STOP the MADNESS," Inc., Rev. Terna T. Jordan, Director

Ms. Candace Bent, Program Mgr.
Introduction by City Mayor, Ron Littlefield
April 4, 2006 Southeast and Hiwassee Councils: "Raising Bully
Proof Kids," Mr. Bill Corbett,
Redirecting Children's Behavior
May 3, 2006 Southeast Council: "SHOW ME U CARE" Children's
Mental Health Conference
Keynote: Dr. Susan McGuire, HCA Parkridge Valley
Evidenced-Based Programs
"It's Love Isn't It?" – Teen Dating Violence,
Springboard Productions, Partnership FCA
"Child Abuse Prevention Issues in the Courts"
Mary Sullivan Moore, Child Abuse Prosecutor,
District Attorney's Office, Hamilton County

Southeast Council Special Events

May 6, 2006 "SHOW ME U CARE" – Family Resource Fair at
Coolidge Park; Over 400 people visited information
tables
March 14 -15, 2006 Children's Advocacy Day in Nashville
March 30, 2006 Federal Formula Grant Training, Chattanooga, Philip
McKenzie and Zanira Whitfield, TCCY

Special Projects for Children and Youth

Collected Donations for Katrina Evacuees
Hamilton Co. Juvenile Court, Intensive Probation Program – Christmas Party
Donation for Students
Santa for All Seasons – Christmas Donation for Children in Foster Care
Collected cell phones for the Domestic Violence Shelter

Southeast Tennessee Council Awards

The Advocacy Award was given to Dorthy Stephens, Fortwood Mental Health Center.

Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Kathy Daniels
Nashville State Tech Cookeville Center
1000 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38501
Phone: (931) 520-4445
Fax: (931) 520-0017
E-mail: Kathy.Daniels@state.tn.us

Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 250 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren and White. Fifty agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Jody Reecer, Advocacy Resources Corp. (ARC)
President Elect	Jody Roberts, Coordinator, Avalon Center
Secretary	Shannon Railling, Educator, Regional Health Office
Treasurer	Patty Jones, Director, Relative Caregiver Program UC
Past President	Christy Nason, Eckerd Wilderness Educational System

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive Committee	Officers, Past President, and Committee Chairpersons
Advocacy/ Early Childhood	Martha Howard, TN Early Childhood Training Alliance Betty Vaudt, Upper Cumberland Child Care Resource and Referral Center
Youth Issues/Juvenile Justice	Nathan Miller, Advocacy Resources Corp.
Public Relations/Membership	Sandy Sauceman, Department of Children’s Services
Hospitality/Nominating Program/Planning	Christy Nason, Eckerd Wilderness Education System Randi Moser, Department of Children’s Services

Upper Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

September 30, 2005	UCCCY 9 th Annual Networking Conference. Nashville Community College in Cookeville. “Self Injury: The Silent Scars,” Tim Perry, Chief of Staff, Children & Youth Division, Frontier Health Industry, Bristol.
November 4, 2005	Juvenile Justice Training. “The Children We Share” by Farlie Chastain, Parkridge Valley, Chattanooga
December 2, 2005	“State of the Child in the Upper Cumberland,” Sandra Jordan, Regional Director of DCS, Upper Cumberland; “Legislative/Advocacy Forum: Policy vs. Reality,” Senator Charlotte Burks and State Representative Jere Hargrove
February 10, 2006	Quarterly Council Meeting. “Autism 101” presented by Filomena Palmer and Sue O’Connor, UC TN Early Intervention Systems (TEIS). Focus on UC Early Childhood Services, presented by Nancy Martin, Pre-K; Martha Howard, Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance (TECTA); and Betty Vaudt, Upper Cumberland Child Care Resource and Referral Center (CCRRC).
May 5, 2006	UCCCY Quarterly Council Meeting. “Choices Made by Teens: The Impact” presented by Suzanne Robichaud, MADD.

Upper Cumberland Focus on Prevention Initiative
Grants presented by Roger Smith, DeKalb County, and
Amanda Jones, Warren County

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

- October 14, 2005 Co-Sponsored the “3rd Annual Building Healthy Homes” workshop with the UC Regional Health Office at Nashville Community College/Cookeville
- February 17, 2006 Co-Sponsored “TN Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention” (TAPP) training workshop with the Regional Health Office at Nashville Community College/Cookeville. (NSCC)
- April 5, 2006 Co-Sponsored “Raising Bully Free Children” training presented by Bill Corbett. (NSCC)
- April, 2006 Co-Sponsored the “Blue Ribbon “Tree Memorial” project in five counties in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, sponsored by the Stephens Center for Prevention of Child Abuse.
- May 23, 2006 Co-Sponsored the “Underage Drinking: Town Hall Meeting” in Putnam County sponsored by the Putnam Anti-Drug and Violence Coalition.

Upper Cumberland Council Award

The Upper Cumberland 2005 Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Carolyn Isbell, Executive Director, Exchange Club/HJ Stephens Center for Prevention of Child Abuse. The 2006 Award will be presented at the Fall Networking Conference in 2006.

Mid-Cumberland Council on Children and Youth

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

Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 374 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 Executive Officers

President Tom Murdock, Centerstone
Past President Kim Stringfield, 23rd District Children’s Advocacy Center

Vice-President	Phillip Morrison, Magellan Healthcare Systems - AdvoCare
Secretary	Suzanne Roy, Metro Health Department, TENNderCare
Treasurer	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children

Mid-Cumberland Council County Representatives

Cheatham and Robertson	Regina Duffie, TN Child Protective Services
Davidson	Doris Pell, Tennessee Voices for Children
	Michael Kirshner, Mental Health Cooperative
Dickson	Kim Stringfield, 23rd District Children’s Advocacy Center
Houston	Camille Lashlee, Centerstone Mental Health Center
Humphreys	Amy Sue Williams, Department of Children’s Services
Montgomery	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children
	Patrice Jessie, community member
Rutherford	Vacant
Stewart	Nancy Spiers, Dover Elementary School
Sumner and Trousdale	Thomas Marks, Department of Health
Williamson	Betsy Adgent, Williamson County Juvenile Court
Wilson	Saranne Winfield, Southern Stars
	Joey Hunnicutt, Wilson County Youth Ranch

Mid-Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Child Welfare and Adolescent Health	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children
Juvenile Justice	Phillip Morrison, Magellan Healthcare Systems
Legislative	Ronnie Russell, Centerstone
	vacant

Mid-Cumberland Council Quarterly Meetings and Topics

September 16, 2005	Fall Networking Conference-Nashville: “Bi-Polar Disorder in Children and Adolescents, Recognizing, Diagnosing and Treatment.” Presenters: Dr. Fredrick Starr and Dr. Catherine Fuchs, Associate Professor, Vanderbilt University
December 12, 2005	2005 Winter Quarterly Meeting-Nashville: “Bullying and Normal Conflict: Recognizing the Difference and What to Do About it.” Presenters: Rodger Dinwiddie, Students Taking a Right Stand; Laura Fabor, Fox 17 WZTV; State Senator Diana Black.
March 9, 2006	Legislative Event-Nashville, TN “Advocating for Tennessee’s Future”
May 12, 2006	Spring Networking Conference-Clarksville, TN “Building Care Networks.” Presenter: Elaine Jackson, Coordinated School Health, Stewart County; Phillip

Morrison, Network Relations Coordinator Magellan Health Services

Mid-Cumberland Council Sponsored Events

May 5, 2006

Children's Advocacy Days, TCCY, Nashville.

South Central Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Francis Elaine Williams
815 South Main Street
P.O. Box 397
Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0397
Phone: (931) 490-5887 or 381-2040
Fax: (931) 381-2053
E-mail: Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us

South Central Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council has 371 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 counties.

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	Bobbie Cox, Director of Foster Grandparent Program, South Central Human Resource Agency, Fayetteville
Vice President	Jennifer Thomas, Youth Services, Marshall County Juvenile Court, Lewisburg
Secretary/Treasurer	Brenda Miller, Administrative Assistant, Middle Tennessee Juvenile Detention Center, Lewisburg
Past President	Tabitha Steadman, EMT IV, Lawrenceburg

South Central Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Executive/Juvenile Justice	Council President, Council President
Legislative	Elaine Williams, SC Regional Coordinator
Juvenile Justice	Bobbie Cox, Council President

South Central Council Meetings and Topics

August 30, 2005	“Looking Towards Tomorrow, While Remembering Yesterday”; Fayetteville, TN; Co-sponsor South Central Human Resource Agency; Business Meeting with Training focus on Early Childhood; 40.
Nov. 15, 2005	“Country Boys”; Outreach film by David Sutherland. Group discussion followed on how the film relates to the youth in South Central and the role communities play in influencing young people in regard to health, mental health and education.

March 24, 2006	“Issues Facing Teens”, Columbia, TN; Juvenile Justice and Health; 50
April 27, 2006	SCTCCY Board/Business Meeting; Fayetteville
April 28, 2006	SCTCCY Legislative/ Juvenile Justice Committee Meetings; Pulaski
June 7, 2006	SCTCCY Business Meeting and Committee Meetings
June 9, 2006	“Our Changing Times”; Fayetteville; Early Childhood and Education; 80

South Central Council Special Events

Sep. 16, 2005	Served as a co-sponsor for the South Central Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network Conference; Columbia;
November-December 2005	Adopted two families for winter season; Marshall and Lewis counties;
February 2, 2006	“Regional Issues – Group Forum; Tullahoma
March 2, 2006	Legislative Workshop; Tullahoma
March 14-15, 2006	Children’s Advocacy Days; Nashville
March-April 2006	“Backpack for Children Project” in Cooperation with Thrivent; Lawrenceburg
March 22, 2006	WMRB radio program on KIDS COUNT data: Columbia
May 10, 2006	WMRB radio program on Children’s Mental Health with KIDS COUNT Data; Columbia
May 17, 2006	Participated in Health Expo; Columbia. Participants included 110 Foster Grandparents in South Central

Northwest Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Dana M. Cobb
 1235 Buena Vista Road
 Post Office Box 586
 Huntingdon, TN 38344
 Phone (731) 986-4243 Fax (731) 986-3200
 E-mail: Dana.Cobb@state.tn.us

Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 261 members representing the nine counties in the region: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President	Bret Brooks, Northwest Community Services Agency
Vice President	Kris Moore, Behavioral Healthcare
Secretary	Kim Stephenson, Carey Counseling Center
Treasurer	April Curlin, Northwest Community Services Agency

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention	Joyce Hale, Weakley County Alternative School Marilyn Goodman, Milan Special School District Betty Rasberry, Retired
Juvenile Justice	Allen Webb, Benton County Juvenile Court Eddy White, Dyer County Juvenile Court
Legislative	Joetta Yarbrow, Dyersburg Family Resource Center Barbara Quinn, Martin Primary School
Membership	Janie Alexander, Retired Jenifer Hart, Baptist Behavioral Health

Northwest Council Meetings and Topics

July 20-22, 2005	Co-sponsored Tennessee Alternative Education Conference
August 16, 2005	Sponsored “You’ve Got Mail: Internet Safety”
September 23, 2005	Co-sponsored “RX: Prescription for Disaster” Conference, Anti-Drug Coalition Conference
September 29-30, 2005	Co-sponsored Association of School Social Workers Conference
November 4, 2005	“Stopping the Hurt: Behaviors That Present A Challenge,” Council Fall Conference
January 20, 2006	NW Council Legislative Forum
March 14-15, 2006	Children’s Advocacy Days
March 23, 2006	“DCS: Understanding the Central Intake Process” (Co-Sponsor)
March 28, 2006	TCCY Federal Formula Grant Training
March 29, 2006	Co-sponsored Media and the Reporting of Suicide
May 19, 2006	Co-sponsored Youth in Transition Conference - UT Martin Social Work
June 25-30, 2006	West Tennessee Teen Institute (Co-Sponsor)
June 28, 2006	Co-sponsored with the Southwest Regional Council the Preventing Sexual Abuse of Children and Youth in Custody

Northwest Council Special Events

October, 2005	Red Ribbon Week Bookmark Project: Bookmarks were purchased and distributed to all Northwest 8 th grade students.
April, 2006	Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month: Cookie/goody baskets were made and delivered to 30 agencies.

Southwest Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Rodger D. Jowers
Lowell Thomas State Office Building, Suite 440 - Box 13
225 Dr. Martin Luther King Drive
Jackson, TN 38301
Phone: (731) 423-6545
Fax: (731) 423-6612
E-mail: Rodger.Jowers@state.tn.us

Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 185 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison and Tipton.

Council Leadership

Chairperson	Jimmie Trice-Baylor, Department of Children's Services
Vice Chairperson	Carol Burroughs, Henderson County Schools
Treasurer	Barry Cooper, JACOA
Secretary	Rhonda Ewing, Tennessee Voices for Children
Past Chairperson	Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home

Council Meetings and Events

August 11	Council Business Meeting
September 22	"IDEA 2004 Reauthorization: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly" Workshop. Presented by West Tennessee Legal Services and co-sponsored by TCCY
September 23	Co-sponsored "Prescription for Disaster: Abuse of Pharmaceuticals – The Challenge for the Community" Conference, in partnership with a collaborative of seven organizations
October 18	Council Business Meeting
December 13	Council Business Meeting
January 5	Preview Party for "Country Boys" Documentary Series
February 28	Council Business Meeting
March 14-15	Children's Advocacy Days
March 28	TCCY Grant Applicant Training Hosted by Northwest and Southwest Councils
March 29	"Media and Reporting Suicide" Workshop In conjunction with Rural West Suicide Prevention
April 5	"Meeting the Special Education Needs of Foster Children" Web Conference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
April 20	"Using Your Parks and Recreation Department to Combat Youth Obesity" Audioconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY

April 26	“Engaging the At-Risk Youth” Workshop Co-sponsored by SWCCY with JACO and Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Jackson/Madison County
May 15	Council Business Meeting
May 18	“Building Assets: What Cities Can Do to Help Low- Income Working Families” Audioconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
May 24	“Preventing Gangs in Communities” Videoconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
June 6	“Preventing Gangs in Communities” Videoconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
June 7	“Promoting Stability in Foster Care Placement” Web Conference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
June 15	“A Most Precious Resource: Keys to City Support for Parents of Young Children” Audioconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY
June 16	Preview Party for “A Lion in the House” Documentary Series Co-sponsored by SWCCY and National Association of Social Workers - Tennessee
June 28	“Preventing Sexual Abuse of Children and Youth in Custody” Videoconference Local participation site hosted by SWCCY and NWCCY

Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council

Coordinator: Gwendolyn Wright
170 N. Main Street, 9th Floor
Memphis, TN 38103
Phone: (901) 543-7657
FAX: (901) 543-6462
E-mail: Gwendolyn.Wright@state.tn.us

Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 244 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President	Kelli Grissom, Memphis Child Advocacy Center
President-Elect	Sandy Guntharp, University of Memphis
Secretary	Jacqueline King, Porter Leath Children’s Center
Treasurer	Vince Robertson

Memphis/Shelby County Committees and Chairs

Prevention	Marsha Ewart, University of Tennessee Boling Center
Youth and Juvenile Justice	Henrietta Jones, Senior Services
Legislative	Bobbie Thompson, Department of Human Services
Executive	Kelli Grissom, Memphis Child Advocacy Center

Memphis/Shelby County Meetings and Topics

August 31, 2005	Up With Babies: Infant Mortality in Memphis and Shelby County
November 16, 2005	Gangs: From the Inside Out
February 22, 2006	Trafficking is a Two Way Street: The Street Away From Home and the Road Back to Recovery
May 24, 2006	Putting the Pieces Back Together

Memphis/Shelby County Council Events

December 7, 2005	Annual Legislative Reception
March 11, 2006	Triple “A” Retreat Conference for Middle School Students
March 14-15, 2006	Children’s Advocacy Days, Nashville

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

Sherry Schedler was the recipient of the Council’s Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award. 50

Information Dissemination

Agency newsletter begun in 1973.
Participation in the KIDS COUNT program begun in 1992.

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 2005-06 included *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee* and the national *KIDS COUNT Kids Count Data Book 2005*.

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 in Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(a)(1)(E) to annually publish "a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee."

The 102-page report produced in fiscal year 2005-06 presented data on 41 indicators of child well-being. The report focused on areas of unmet needs for Tennessee children.

The areas are as follows:

- ▼ Births to Unmarried Females;
- ▼ Child Abuse, substantiated;
- ▼ Child Abuse, reported;
- ▼ Child Care;
- ▼ Child Death;
- ▼ Children in State Custody, Commitments;
- ▼ Children in State Custody, Remaining in;
- ▼ Cohort Dropout Rate;
- ▼ Dentists by County of Practice;
- ▼ Event Dropout Rate;
- ▼ Fair Market Rents;
- ▼ Families First;
- ▼ Food Stamps Total;
- ▼ Food Stamps Children Under Age 18;
- ▼ Free and Reduced Price Lunch;
- ▼ Housing Cost Index;
- ▼ Housing Costs, Median;
- ▼ Infant Mortality;
- ▼ Juvenile Court Referrals;

- ▼ Low-Birthweight Babies;
- ▼ Medical Doctors by County of Practice;
- ▼ Per Capita Personal Income;
- ▼ Population Total;
- ▼ Population, Youth;
- ▼ Population, Total Hispanic;
- ▼ Population, Hispanic Younger Than Age 18;
- ▼ Population, Minority Under Age 18;
- ▼ Prenatal Care;
- ▼ Recorded Divorces;
- ▼ Recorded Marriages;
- ▼ School Expulsions;
- ▼ School Suspensions;
- ▼ Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- ▼ Special Education;
- ▼ Teen Pregnancy;
- ▼ Teen Births;
- ▼ Teen Violent Death;
- ▼ TennCare, total;
- ▼ TennCare, under 21;
- ▼ WIC;
- ▼ Youth Unemployment.

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* were the Tennessee departments of Children’s Services, Education, Health and Human Services; the TennCare Bureau; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Business and Economic Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University; Department of Economics and Finance, the Business and Economic Research Center, University of Tennessee; the Center for Business and Economic Research; the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration; the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; the Tennessee Department of Revenue; Tennessee State Special Schools; other state agencies; and Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Juvenile Court; 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 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 in overall cumulative rankings when compared with other states in the 2005 publication. The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project works with the Casey Foundation and the Casey Foundation’s public relations firm to disseminate and publicize the findings of the Data Book.

The Advocate

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 2005-06, TCCY newsletter continued to be available on the agency's Internet site and distributed through TCCY's ListServ.

The first 2005-06 issue of *The Advocate* was released in October 2005 and addressed school health. The December 2005 issue of *The Advocate* was a double issue tracing the history of the Commission and its predecessor agencies on the occasion of the 50th anniversary. The May 2006 issue of *The Advocate* reported on after-school education and Tennessee's programs to fund them. A final newsletter reported on the 2006 legislative session's actions regarding children.

ListServ

TCCY now has a ListServ with which it distributes updates about state legislation during the legislative session, alerts about other issues and national legislation and information about newsletters as they are released.

Electronic Access to Data

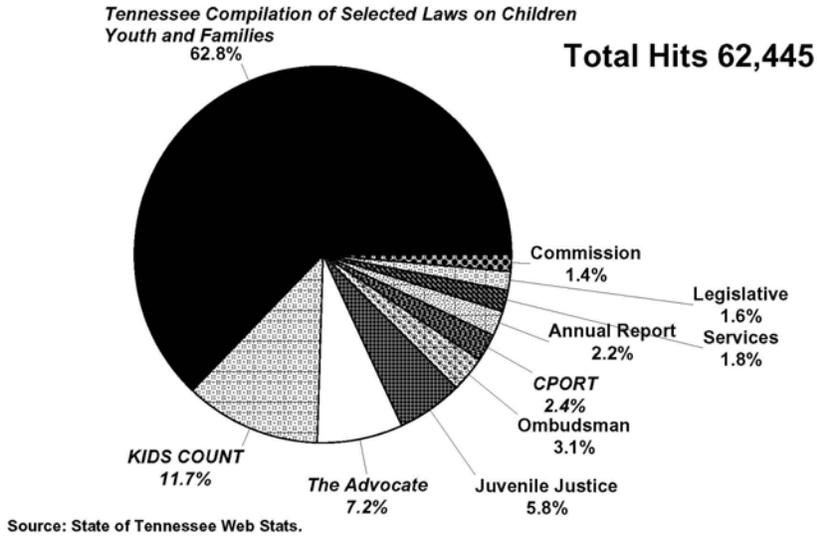
Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year 2005-06 using the National KIDS COUNT CLIKS site at <http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/cliiks.cgi>. The KIDS COUNT CLIKS site houses information for all 95 Tennessee counties on 71 indicators, with the option to map, graph, rank, and download raw data for Tennessee.

Website

During the fiscal year 2005-06, the TCCY website included information about all of the Juvenile Justice funds available, the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) report, *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*, and *The Advocate*. All of the publications on the web were in pdf format so they can be reproduced as a replica of the hard copy publications. The TCCY calendar of events was updated weekly, and a listing of sources of information on social service providers was also included on the site. During 2005-06, visits to the site increased to a monthly high of 100,256 in June 2006. 50

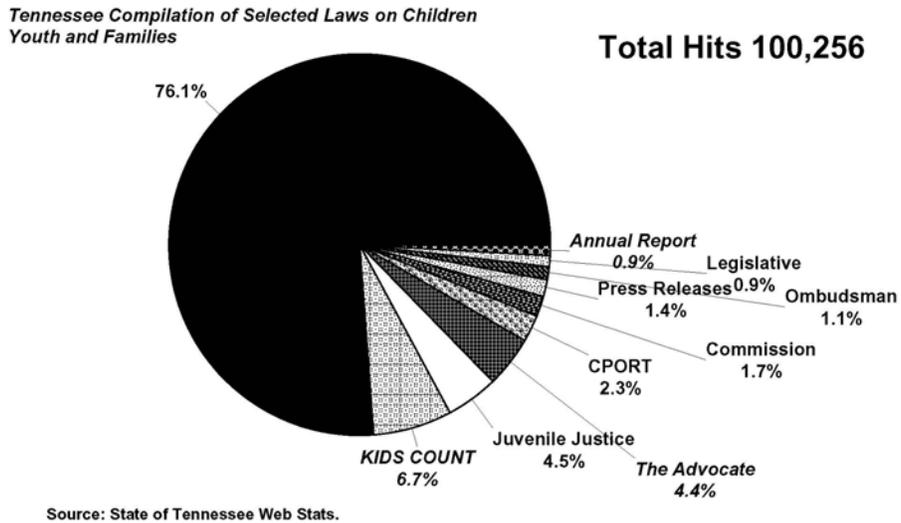
TCCY Web Statistics

Top 10 Visited Areas, January 2006



TCCY Web Statistics

Top 10 Visited Areas, June 2006



Ombudsman Program

The Ombudsman Program began in 1996.
In fiscal year 2002-03 the program was expanded to
include children in kinship care.

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's (TCCY) Ombudsman, in the Juvenile Justice Unit, acts as an impartial and independent reviewer of concerns, issues, and complaints pertaining only to children in state custody (foster care system) and in the kinship care (relative caregiver) program. As a neutral and autonomous reviewer, the ombudsman is a public servant who advocates for the well-being of children, ensures adequate family support and evaluates appropriate delivery of services.

The Ombudsman Program does not seek problem resolution of a dispute if it is contrary to the best interest of the child or is inconsistent with local, state or federal laws and regulations. Additionally, the ombudsman cannot and will not:

Serve as an agent of law enforcement;

- ▼ Act as an attorney;
- ▼ Provide legal advice;
- ▼ Find individual fault; or,
- ▼ Participate in a case bound for court due to Termination of Parental Rights, Child Protective Services, child custody or other non-jurisdiction circumstances.

Any individual or agency calling about a child or family receiving state services may get in touch with the ombudsman office with his or her questions or concerns. Referrals are obtained from a variety of sources:

- ▼ The departments of Children Services, Education, Health, and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities;
- ▼ The offices of the governor and state legislators (senate and state representatives);
- ▼ TennCare Consumer/Child Advocacy Program;
- ▼ Tennessee Voices for Children;
- ▼ ACLU and Legal Aid Services;
- ▼ Guardians ad litem, therapists, and service providers;
- ▼ Out of state children's advocacy groups;
- ▼ Foster parents, caregivers, and relatives;
- ▼ Biological/adoptive parents; and
- ▼ Child/youth, neighbors and friends.

Statistical information for FY 2005-06 is included at the end of this summary.

Upon initial contact, the ombudsman will determine if the referral has merit or legitimate per Ombudsman Program protocol and jurisdiction. Additionally, the ombudsman will assess if the referent has sufficiently attempted to resolve his or her problem through normal administrative channels. The service is not designed or intended to supersede any existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the custodial

department or other agencies providing state-funded services to children. Referents who have not attempted to get their concerns addressed in this manner are informed of the appropriate contacts and steps that can assist with their specific issues. When referents have sufficient reasons to depart from normal administrative systems or have been reasonably dissatisfied with the outcome of their complaints, the ombudsman may activate the referral as a valid case.

During the data-gathering phase, the ombudsman will plan a series of interviews with individuals directly involved in the case. These contacts may include the parents or caregivers, child or youth, custodial department's case managers, probation officers and middle to upper level management, juvenile court staff, caregivers or caretakers, residential and medical providers, foster parents, therapists, guardians ad litem, attorneys, teachers, relatives, friends and relevant others or stakeholders.

Preliminary contacts are used to:

- Verify referral information specific to the child's status or condition;
- Collect additional facts or information specific to the question or concern.

Through case-specific contacts, the validity as well as reliability of the complaint is assessed. Following initial interviews, follow-up contacts are used on an ongoing basis to provide updates and share information with individuals invested in the case. The data-gathering phase of the referral process may require anywhere from two days to two weeks or more on any given case.

The Ombudsman Program also provides information-only service. Increasingly, the number of information-only cases has become proportionate to the number of active or open cases. Referrals related to the referent's non-familiarity or misunderstanding of information given by the Department of Children's Services or service providers are resolved by providing a thorough explanation of policies and procedures adhered by the custodial department or other agencies.

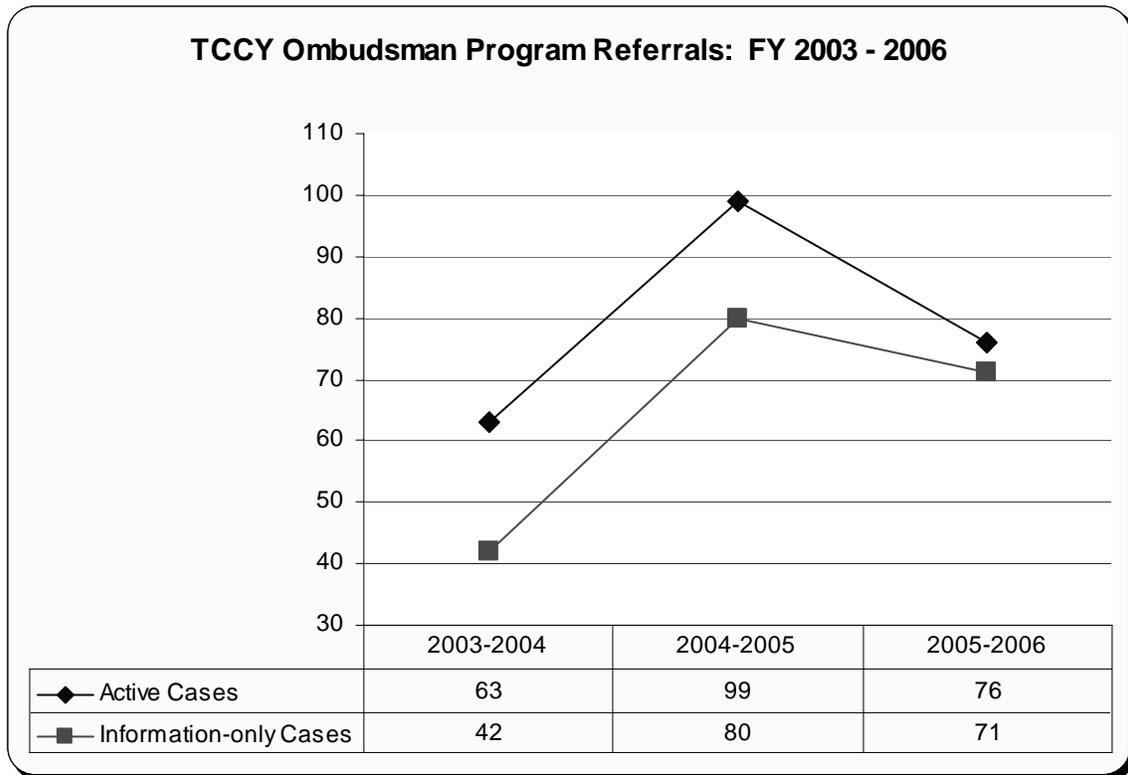
Referrals about obstacles to achieving agreed upon case outcome can lead to formal or informal mediation facilitated by the ombudsman. The ombudsman also tries to establish seamless communication among all parties involved in the case. Education and mediation efforts can lead to a meeting or re-staffing to strengthen and finalize the strategy for overcoming obstacles and achieving the desired outcome. Building on a common goal – the best interest of the child – is the overarching goal.

The TCCY ombudsman office takes advantage of ongoing outreach opportunities with a wide range of Tennessee children's services stakeholders. Dissemination of information efforts have included participation in TCCY regional councils and child advocacy organizations. Informative presentations during local and statewide meetings and conferences are made upon requests. The Ombudsman Office is always available to provide lectures and workshops to any interested community groups, nonprofit organizations, and other agencies working with children.

Originally funded in 1996, by a Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Challenge Grant (Activity F), the Ombudsman Program has a mandate to improve the quality of children's life in Tennessee by emphasizing thorough and expeditious service delivery. In fiscal year 2002-03 the program was expanded to include children in kinship care. As the Challenge Grant funds phased out, the state continued to fund the program.

The program, among other things, relies on confidentiality and a credible review process in achieving problem resolution. Referrals to the ombudsman are taken from any individual or agencies concerned with the plight of a child in the foster care system or relative caregiver program. Referrals must involve conditions or situations that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of children and youth. The ombudsman assumes various roles that include:

- A voice or an advocate on behalf of the child;
- An informal or formal mediator between a child and the system;
- A communicator or educator to help stakeholders understand policies/procedures;
- An arbiter or facilitator expediting timely delivery of services.



Note: Data for FY 2003-04 began on October 1, 2003.

Highlights of FY 2005-06

- ▼ Total number of referrals received from July 1 to June 30 was 147.
- ▼ Total number of referrals closed from July 1 to June 30 was 147.

- ▼ There were 76 active cases and 71 information-only cases.
- ▼ From January 2001 to mid-October 2006, a grand total of 1,282 referrals were received.
- ▼ The Ombudsman Program has recently produced a poster and a new brochure explaining its unique services designed for children in state custody and kinship care/relative caregiver program.
- ▼ TCCY hosted the United States Ombudsman Association's (USOA) 26th Annual Conference at Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville on September 19-22, 2005. Mayor Bill Purcell gave the Welcome Remarks. Sen. Ron Ramsey (Chair, Senate Ethics Committee), Rep. Kim McMillan (Chair, House Ethics Committee), and Prof. Harry Hollis (Belmont University) were panelists in an "Ethics in the 21st Century" plenary session.
- ▼ The chair of the USOA's Conferences and Training Committee for the last four years is a TCCY ombudsman. After helping organized conferences in New Hampshire (2001) and Chicago (2002), he spearheaded the annual conventions in Honolulu (2003), Portland (2004), Nashville (2005), and Des Moines (2006). Plans are underway to organize the 2007 (Anchorage, AK) and 2008 (Lexington, KY) conferences.

How to find an Ombudsman: www.state.tn.us/tccy/ombuds.html or 1 (800) 264-0904. 50

Title VI

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states:
No person in the United States shall, on the grounds 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 the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (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, 2005, to June 30, 2006, there was no complaint reported to TCCY regarding alleged discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI implementation plan.

Specific Title VI-related activities during fiscal year 2005-06 included the following list.

- ✓ All grantee programs awarded funds by TCCY completed the Title VI Self Survey by the scheduled due date.
- ✓ TCCY improved the distribution of the Title VI policies this year. A copy of the Title VI Implementation Plan was given to each TCCY employee, Commission member and grantee. Additional Title VI information, including Title VI brochures and posters, was also distributed to the appropriate groups.
- ✓ Title VI requirements were included in the Monitoring Review Guide used by the Department of Finance and Administration 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, 2006.
- ✓ The 2006 Title VI Implementation Plan included a letter from a minority person verifying review of the plan.
- ✓ An explanation of the Title VI policies was presented at grantee application trainings for new grantees. Training sessions were held in Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, Nashville and Jackson.
- ✓ All grant application packets for Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth funds included Title VI requirements.
- ✓ TCCY regional coordinators and central office staff visited grantees to assure compliance with the Title VI policies and provided technical assistance on Title VI issues.

- ✓ TCCY Minority Issues Committee reviewed and gave input on the development of the Title VI Plan.
- ✓ TCCY Grantee Matrix on Minority Vendors.
- ✓ Reviewed the Title VI Self Survey for updating.