



Fall 2026 Foster Parent Training Conference

November 14, 2026

Registration Brochure

Presented by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Statewide Training



General Information

The Fall 2026 Foster Parent Conference will be held Saturday, November 14, 2026. This year's conference is a **FREE** virtual event. Pre-registration is required.

Registration Information

The deadline for registration is Saturday, November 7, 2026. [Visit the Foster Parent Conference webpage and select the link provided to register.](#)

Only foster parents who have registered by the deadline will be permitted to attend the conference or join any of the workshop sessions.

1. Complete the registration form and include all requested information. If multiple people within your household will be attending the same conference workshops together, you may submit one form for the household. Include the other household members in the provided field and be sure to provide the full legal names for all attendees. **It is critical that you are able to access the email address you provide with your registration information, or you will not be able to attend the conference.**
2. Select the classes you wish to attend from the dropdown menu provided for each session.
3. When you are satisfied with your selections, submit the form to complete your registration. A copy of your registration will be sent to the email address provided. **Check your promotions, spam, junk, or clutter folders regularly if a confirmation email does not appear in your inbox within 24 hours of submitting your registration.**
4. **Access to workshops:** The week of conference, you will receive an email from Carolyna.Pride@tn.gov with your conference schedule, which will include a link to join each of the workshops you have selected. **Check your promotions, spam, junk, or clutter folders if these emails do not appear in your inbox.** Save these links so that you will be able to join the trainings. If you lose your registration links before training, contact the conference help desk for assistance. Workshops will be delivered using the Microsoft Teams platform. [View the resource guide for additional assistance when accessing live webinars.](#)
5. Course materials will be available in the Brightspace learning management system. Accounts will be created for registrants who do not have Brightspace accounts using the email address provided on the registration form. Communication from Brightspace will appear from system-noreply@tndcs.brightspace.com.

If you have not received links to join training by **Wednesday, November 11, 2026**, contact the ¹for assistance.²for assistance.

Registration Form Overview

Use the following images as a guide when completing your conference registration.

The first section of the registration form collects your role (foster/adoptive/kinship parent, agency staff, or community partner) and agency affiliation (DCS or provider agency), as well as basic contact and demographic information. This information is used to identify participants to ensure that you receive your workshop links and materials, as well as credit for the trainings you attend during conference.

The first item on this form also requests you to indicate whether this is a new registration or a change or update to a previous submission.

² Conference Help Desk direct link: <https://forms.gle/QTErERGeAxniAaFZ8>

2026 Fall Foster Parent Conference Registration



Thank you for registering for the 2026 Fall Foster Parent Conference. This is a FREE virtual event and will take place Saturday, November 14, 2026. To find a complete list of workshops and descriptions, visit the [conference webpage](#).

Foster parents are encouraged to discuss their selections with their Foster Care Support Workers prior to registration.

This is a:*

- ☒ NEW registration
☐ UPDATE or CORRECTION to a previously submitted registration

Role:*

- ☐ Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Parent
☐ DCS Staff/Provider Agency Staff
☐ Other Community Partner

Agency or Organization:*

Participant (enter your full LEGAL name):*

First Name

Last Name

Enter the FULL LEGAL NAME of any other participants who will be viewing the selected trainings with you.

If other members of your household will be participating in the conference but NOT in the same trainings, please submit a separate registration form.

Email:*

Communication about the conference will be sent to the email you provide.

Confirm Email:*

Phone:*

Enter your full 10 digit phone number.

May we text you at this number?:*

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

County:*

If multiple members of your household are attending the same workshop sessions together, you may complete a single registration form and list additional participants in the space provided. If household members are attending different workshop sessions, please submit a separate form for each attendee.

The email address you provide for your registration will be the address used to contact you for the conference. Registrants with existing Brightspace accounts will also receive system communication about the conference to the email associated with their account. Please ensure you have access to this email so that you can receive communication from the Department of Children's Services about the conference.

If you indicate that you have a Brightspace account, you will also be asked to provide your username(s). Accounts will be created for conference attendees as needed using the information provided in this registration.

The second section of this form collects workshop selections.

All conference attendees will be registered to attend the Conference Welcome Session as well as the keynote session on Saturday morning. Use the dropdown menus to select additional workshops for the rest of the conference.

If your Saturday Afternoon Session C workshop selection ends before 3:00pm Central/4:00pm Eastern, you will have the opportunity to register for an additional workshop.

If you do not wish to attend a workshop during any of the breakout session times, select, "I do not wish to attend a training at this time." at the bottom of each list.

Course Selection

Conference Welcome Session *

Conference Welcome Session and Updates (9:00 AM-9:30 AM C/10:00 AM-10:30 AM E)

Conference Keynote *

1A: What Care Made Possible: The Transformative Power of Caregiving (9:30 AM-11:00 AM C/10:30 AM-12:00 PM E)

Morning Workshops: Session B *

1B: AIMHI TN - Helping Little Ones Understand Big Emotions: The Three R's (11:15 AM-12:15 PM C/12:15 PM-1:15 PM E)

Early Afternoon Workshops: Session C *

6C: C-FIRST for Foster Parents Virtual (1:00 PM-3:00 PM C/2:00 PM-4:00 PM E)

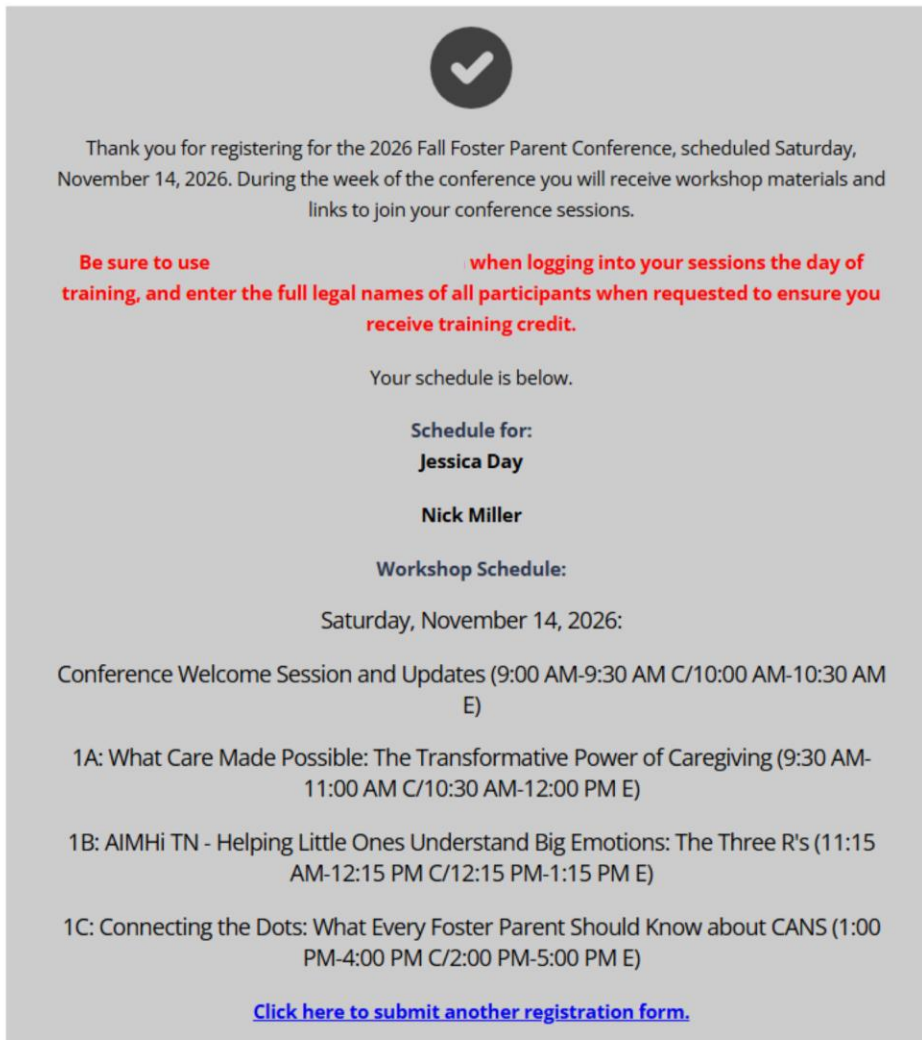
Late Afternoon Workshops: Session D *

2D: Intellectual Developmental Disorder (IDD) (3:15 PM-4:15 PM C/4:15 PM-5:15 PM E)

Submit Form

When you are ready to complete your registration, select the button labeled Submit Form beneath the workshop selections. Once your form has been successfully submitted, you

will be taken to a confirmation screen with a summary of your form responses.



This information will also be emailed to the address provided. Participants will receive a conference schedule letter the week of the conference containing links to join each workshop.

When recording your conference attendance, be sure to enter the same name(s) and email address and the correct Brightspace username (if applicable) you used when registering to ensure you receive proper training credit. The workshop presenter or technical assistant will instruct participants how to receive credit during each session.

Virtual Conference Agenda

Conference attendees can earn up to 6 hours of training credit by attending workshops scheduled during all sessions.

- **Saturday, November 14, 2026**
- 9:00am-9:30am Central/10:00am-10:30am Eastern – Conference Welcome
Conference attendees receive 0.5 hour training credit.
- 9:30am-11:00am Central/10:30am-12:00pm Eastern – What Care Made Possible: The Transformative Power of Caregiving
Attendees receive 1.5 hours of training credit. Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours.
- 11:15am-12:15pm Central/12:15pm-1:15pm Eastern – Morning Workshops
Attendees receive 1 hour of training credit.
- 12:15pm-1:00pm Central/1:15pm-2:00pm Eastern – Lunch
- 1:00pm-4:15pm Central/2:00pm-5:10pm Eastern – Afternoon Workshops
Attendees can receive up to 3 hours of training credit.

Conference Welcome Session

This session kicks off our conference and includes important updates and information for foster parents. Please plan to attend this session just as you would attend the Opening Ceremony of an in-person conference.

Virtual Conference Training Etiquette

- All participants must be able to view the training presentation. Participants who call in only will not be able to receive credit for these trainings.
- Participants may not attend training while in a moving vehicle (driver or passenger) or while operating heavy machinery.
- Participants may not attend training while working at their job.
- Cameras are NOT required for conference; however, while on video, participants must be clothed in appropriate classroom attire and may not be in bed.
- All participants must be physically present with the device being used to attend training (for example, participants may not participate via FaceTime, phone, etc., with another participant who is attending the training).
- Participants may not vape, smoke, use tobacco products, or consume alcohol during training.

Keynote Session - What Care Made Possible: The Transformative Power of Caregiving

Drawing from lived experience in both kinship and traditional foster care, Kiantha Duncan offers an honest and hope-filled exploration of trauma, resilience, and the life-changing power of caregiving. She shares how the people who cared for her helped expand what she believed was possible for her life. This keynote invites caregivers and child-welfare professionals to recognize that consistent,

compassionate care is never a small act. When children are given safety they can become more than what they have survived.

This session will be held Saturday, November 14, from 9:30am Central/10:30am Eastern to 11:00am Central/12:00pm Eastern. Attendees will receive 1.5 hours of training credit, which foster parents can count toward trauma and therapeutic hours.

About Kiantha Duncan:



Kiantha Duncan is an award-winning author, keynote speaker, entrepreneur, and healing-centered leadership strategist. With more than 30 years of experience across business, nonprofit, philanthropic, and community spaces, she supports caregivers and child-serving communities in transforming lived experience and complex challenges into opportunities for growth.

Her work equips foster parents with practical, relationship-centered approaches to building trust, strengthening a sense of belonging, and creating stable,

healing environments for children. Through her coaching, writing, and leadership development programs, Kiantha helps families cultivate resilience, deepen connection, and navigate the foster care journey with confidence and compassion.

Having experienced all ten Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and grown up in both kinship and traditional foster care, Kiantha understands that hardship can shape a life without defining it. Her story of survival, becoming, and the transformative power of care brings uncommon depth to her work. She helps audiences recognize their resilience, reconnect with what matters, and imagine new possibilities for themselves and their communities.

Kiantha is the founder of Conversations with Kiantha and creator of Excavating the Soul, a framework that guides individuals and organizations through excavation, illumination, and integration. Her approach helps leaders understand what shapes their decisions, identify strengths and barriers, and turn insight into courageous action and sustainable impact.

She is a board member and vice president of Canopy Credit Union. Kiantha brings strategic insight, practical wisdom, and soulful honesty to every room. She inspires people to honor what they have survived, reclaim what is possible, and lead with trust, courage, and belonging. Her message is clear: healing is not separate from leadership, success, or impact—it is the foundation beneath them.

Department of Children's Services
Statewide Training

Training Requirements

[Policy 16.9 Attachment: Required Training Chart for Foster Parents³](#)

Effective March 7, 2024:

Each **foster parent or caregiver** must complete the following post approval training courses during the specified timeframes below:

- First Year
 - Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting (3 hours)
 - Any approved exploitation/trafficking course (credit hours vary)
 - One approved trauma-informed training (credit hours vary)
 - Preventing Suicide among Foster Care Youth (3 hours)
 - This training fulfills the trauma requirement. This training also counts toward therapeutic hours for therapeutic foster homes.
 - Each **foster parent or caregiver** must complete additional training to total 8 hours with the above requirements.
- Second Year and thereafter:
 - CPR & First Aid every 2 years (minimum of 6 hours)
 - Medical Resources and Information Refresher every 2 years (2.5 hours)
 - One trauma-informed training required annually (credit hours vary)
 - Additional training hours to meet 8-hour annual requirements (read below for additional information)

All **foster parents and caregivers** in the home must complete CPR & First Aid (minimum 6 hours) and Medical Resources and Information Refresher (2.5 hours) every two years. The remaining hours may be chosen from other trainings offered or approved by the Department of Children's Services Office of Statewide Training.

If you have questions or would like additional information about training, please contact your Foster Care Support (FCS) Worker.

³ Required Training Chart for Foster Parents direct link:
<https://public.powerdms.com/TNDCS/documents/2104735>

Workshop Detail

Saturday, November 14, 2026

Opening Session and Keynote Speaker

Start	End	Course Detail
9:00am C 10:00am E	9:30am C 10:30am E	Conference Welcome Session Presented by Ronya Faulkner 0.5 hour credit
9:30am C 10:30am E	11:00am C 12:00pm E	Keynote 1A: What Care Made Possible: The Transformative Power of Caregiving Presented by Kiantha Duncan 1.5 hours credit Drawing from lived experience in both kinship and traditional foster care, Kiantha Duncan offers an honest and hope-filled exploration of trauma, resilience, and the life-changing power of caregiving. She shares how the people who cared for her helped expand what she believed was possible for her life. This keynote invites caregivers and child-welfare professionals to recognize that consistent, compassionate care is never a small act. When children are given safety they can become more than what they have survived. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Session B

Start	End	Course Detail
11:15am C 12:15pm E	12:15pm C 1:15pm E	1B: AIMHi TN - Helping Little Ones Understand Big Emotions: The Three R's Presented by Sarah Judkins, AIMHi TN 1 hour credit This training introduces foster parents to Dr. Bruce Perry's Three R's- Regulate, Relate, and Reason- as a practical framework for helping young children navigate big emotions and stress. Participants will learn how stress and trauma can affect a child's ability to think, communicate, and regulate emotions, and explore how caregivers can first help children feel calm and safe, then build connection and trust, before expecting them to reason or problem-solve. The training will provide practical strategies foster parents can use during challenging moments to support regulation, strengthen relationships, and help children develop emotional resilience. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements
11:15am C 12:15pm E	12:15pm C 1:15pm E	2B: Why "Calm Down, Sit Down, and Be Quiet" Doesn't Work in a Crisis Situation and What to Say and Do Instead Presented by Dr. Keith Bailey, Harmony Family Center 1 hour credit "Calm down, sit down, and be quiet" may be words we heard when we were acting out as children, and sometimes they may come out of our mouths when we are really frustrated by our children's behaviors. We will explore what brain science teaches us about what is going on in a child's brain and body during a crisis and how trauma responsive approaches guide us to direct their energy and behavior and help them regulate. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements
11:15am C 12:15pm E	12:15pm C 1:15pm E	3B: Ways to Support Children with ADHD who have Experienced Trauma Presented by Dr. Joseph W. Graham, Vanderbilt/TRIAD 1 hour credit Children with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) who have experienced trauma often face unique challenges with attention, behavior, emotional regulation, and relationships. This session will provide foster parents and caregivers with practical, evidence-based strategies to better understand these challenges, strengthen connections, and support children's success at home, school, and in the community. Participants will leave with actionable tools and resources to support emotional well-being, navigate behavioral challenges, and foster positive family relationships. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Start	End	Course Detail
11:15am C 12:15pm E	12:15pm C 1:15pm E	4B: BlueCare and SelectKids: Resources and Support for Foster Families Presented by Jeremiah Hughes, Tyler Greer, and Seth Spencer, BCBS 1 hour credit Join BlueCare Tennessee for an informative session designed to help foster parents navigate health care services and support available for children and teens in foster care. Participants will learn about the SelectKids team, medical and behavioral health benefits, member ID cards, provider access, transportation assistance, adult transition resources, and convenient ways to connect with BlueCare.
11:15am C 12:15pm E	12:15pm C 1:15pm E	5B: Supporting Children with Diverse Needs: Helping Every Child Thrive Presented by Dr. Teri Rouse 1 hour credit "Children entering foster care often present with a variety of developmental, learning, behavioral, communication, emotional, and physical needs. This session focuses on practical strategies that empower caregivers to support the whole child while building confidence in everyday interactions. Participants will explore: • Looking Beyond the Label • Understanding Developmental, Learning, Behavioral, and Emotional Differences • Practical Supports That Make Everyday Life Easier • Partnering with Schools, Therapists, and Service Providers • Building on Children's Strengths to Foster Confidence and Independence" Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Break for Lunch

12:15pm-1:00pm Central/1:15pm-2:00pm Eastern

Session C

Start	End	Course Detail
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	4:00pm C 5:00pm E	1C: Connecting the Dots: What Every Foster Parent Should Know about CANS Presented by Nena Horton, Vanderbilt Center of Excellence for Children in State Custody 3 hours credit The Child and Adolescents Strengths and Needs Assessment (CANS) is used by DCS to communicate needs and strengths of youth and their families. In addition to the importance of the child/youth's voice and the family's voice for the CANS, the foster parent's voice is also one of the most critical and vital elements to ensure positive outcomes for that child/youth. This course will share information about the what/why/how of CANS, what can be learned about traumatic experiences and reactions a youth may have, and ways that teams can help youth to "build their bounce."
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	4:00pm C 5:00pm E	2C: Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting Presented by Amanda Felts, Harmony Family Center 3 hours credit This training introduces and instructs participants on how to create normalcy through reasonable prudent parenting standards which is characterized by careful, thoughtful parental decision making that is intended to maintain a child's health, safety, and best interest, while creating a more normal life. Fulfills 1st Year Training Requirements
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	4:00pm C 5:00pm E	3C: Your Money, Your Goals Presented by Randi Howard, TN DCS 3 hours This course is for foster parents and other professionals working with youth in foster care. You will receive an interactive toolkit you can use to empower young people to understand their relationship with money and how to make it work for them to help them achieve their goals. Topics include starting the money conversation; emotions, values, and culture behind money choices; paying bills and other expenses; managing cash flow; setting goals; protecting your money. Youth are welcome to attend this workshop.

Start	End	Course Detail
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:30pm C 4:30pm E	4C: Medical Resources and Information Refresher Presented by Belinda Bernard, TN DCS Nurse Trainer 2.5 hours This course is required for all DCS foster parents every two years after approval. This refresher course includes an update on medication administration policies and procedures. The course also provides an update on the knowledge to safely and effectively administer medications to children in care. Topics included in this class range from self-storage and disposal of medication to common errors in medication administration. Fulfills biennial MRI training requirement.
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	5C: Permanency Values for Foster Parents Presented by Tamara Gray, TN DCS 2 hours credit This course will help Foster Parents to understand the purpose and importance of permanency within Tennessee DCS's mission and child welfare practice. Through the course, you will be able to recognize the importance of permanency and the connection between permanency and positive outcomes for youth, build independent living skills for youth in your care, and develop tools to understand the impact that permanency planning has on families healing from trauma.
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	6C: C-FIRST! Training for Foster Parents Presented by Kaleigh Hicks, TN DCS 2 hours credit C-FIRST! is the new Tennessee Department of Children's Services Child Welfare Information System that is replacing TFACTS. DCS Foster Parents will learn how to request a C-FIRST! parent account, navigate the Parent Portal, confirm placement for board payments, submit incident reports, request services, and related activities. This training is ONLY applicable to DCS foster parents.
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	7C: Introduction to TBRI® Correcting Principles Presented by Shianne Newell Ricks, TN DCS 2 hours credit This course introduces participants to the Correcting Principles of Trust-Based Relational Intervention® (TBRI®), emphasizing the balance of structure and nurture needed to support children effectively. The training highlights how caregiving styles influence behavior, teaches practical tools for maintaining connection during correction, and demonstrates how play, shared power, and felt-safety contribute to lasting behavioral change. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Start	End	Course Detail
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	8C: Trafficked Youth Needs & Vulnerabilities Presented by Hayley Griffith & Angie Outlaw, Grow Free TN & Ancora TN 2 hours credit This course will cover the stages of development, the vulnerability of children & youth, and the implications for trafficking. Learners will have a better understanding of the impacts of trauma on trafficked youth that may affect their core beliefs and present in challenging behaviors. Learners will learn evidence-based frameworks for engaging and supporting young people who have experienced trafficking-related trauma, struggle with mental and behavioral health challenges, and have unique needs. Fulfills 1st Year Trafficking Course Requirements
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	9C: Sexual Assault 201 Presented by Brenna Filbrun, Sexual Assault Center 2 hours credit This training offers a deeper exploration of concepts and frameworks that can be used by those providing support to survivors of sexual violence. Participants will get a better understanding of how sexual violence intersects with many other forms of trauma and experiences. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	10C: Support Program: Self Care When Parenting Harder to Parent Kids Presented by Shawna Welker, TN DCS 2 hours credit In this curriculum, parents will learn why self-care is so important when parenting kids who have challenging behaviors or come to their homes with a history of trauma. Parents will learn about the realities of compassion fatigue and secondary trauma. In addition to learning how to identify the common barriers that parents face when seeking self-care, they will also learn how to form a plan for meaningful self-care. Parents who are in a significant partnership or marriage are encouraged to prioritize self-care for their relationship.

Start	End	Course Detail
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	11C: Tool Time for Dads: Relational Parenting When It's Tough Presented by Dr. Joshua Legg & S. Chris Troutt, The Papillion Center 2 hours credit Parenting children from hard places can be challenging. Kids from hard places, just grow up to be adults from hard places. But what happens when those adults, particularly men, are faced with parenting a child from a hard place or one that has special needs? Every infraction parents have as an individual will be challenged. The rate of divorce in families with a special needs child may be as high as 87% in the US. In addition, nearly 1 in 10 men in the US experience depression or anxiety but less than half will receive treatment. Also worth noting, over 6 million men suffer from depression per year, but male depression often goes under diagnosed. Lastly, men are less likely to address previous traumatic experiences they have had. These statistics combined with parenting a child from a hard place can create a high stress atmosphere leaving lasting impacts on families and the men who love them. This presentation offers understanding and tools to equip and support men who are parenting children from hard places to rise above their own wounds, to heal, move from surviving to thriving and becoming fully present with their loved ones. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements
1:00pm C 2:00pm E	3:00pm C 4:00pm E	12C: Teen Connect: Understanding the Influence of Attachment on Behavior Presented by Monique Jenkins, TN Voices for Children 2 hours credit Children in care arrive carrying an "attachment suitcase" — past relationship experiences that shape how they think, feel, and behave in a new home. Withdrawal, clinging, anger, or testing the placement aren't defiance; their attachment signals. In this facilitator-led workshop, caregivers learn to: -Decode the meaning behind difficult behavior -Offer both a safe haven and a secure base -Step back and connect first, before addressing expectations -Use tone, gesture, and presence to communicate safety -Practice gentle curiosity about a child's inner world Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Session D

Start	End	Course Detail
3:15pm C	4:15pm C	1D: Nutrition on the Go

4:15pm E	5:15pm E	Presented by Dr. Shayna Smith, TN DCS 1 hour credit This course teaches you how to move past the "fast-food trap" by mastering the art of balanced meals that incorporate all essential food groups. You will learn to optimize your energy through smart hydration and the reduction of sugary, processed snacks, replacing them with nutrient-dense alternatives. By focusing on simple "plan-ahead" strategies, you'll eliminate mealtime decision fatigue and reduce daily stress, ensuring that a busy lifestyle never comes at the expense of your health.
3:15pm C 4:15pm E	4:15pm C 5:15pm E	2D: Intellectual developmental disorder (IDD) Presented by Dr. Kelsey Maloney, UT Health 1 hour credit Intellectual developmental disorder (IDD), or intellectual disability (previously mental retardation), occurs in 1-3% of the population. Children with IDD are twice as likely to enter the foster care system. Despite this, child welfare professionals and foster parents may not receive specific training in caring for this population. After attending this session, participants should be able to define IDD, identify common behavior concerns, develop strategies for behavior management, establish strategies to address hygiene and puberty concerns, implement methods to support socialization, and determine paths to school advocacy. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements
3:15pm C 4:15pm E	4:15pm C 5:15pm E	3D: Calming Down with Your Vagus Nerve Presented by Ashley Jasinski, TNDMHSAS 1 hour credit In this session, you will learn the science behind meltdown and tantrums! Participants will explore the internal systems that cause people to feel overwhelmed and how trauma and environment can impact. Lastly, participants will practice a few strategies and leave extra tools for their toolbox to help calm and regulate the children in their care.
3:15pm C 4:15pm E	4:15pm C 5:15pm E	4D: The 5 B's of Trauma: Exploring how Trauma Impacts Areas of Development, and how to Support Healing for Your Child Presented by Sinead Love, Harmony Family Center 1 hour credit When children experience trauma and adversity early in life, it can impact them across various developmental areas. In this training, we will explore what those areas are: brain, biology, behavior, body and beliefs. We will also explore what common symptoms may look like for each area, and will brainstorm ways to provide practical support to our children and teens so that they can heal, grow and thrive. Fulfills Trauma and Therapeutic Requirements

Workshops Fulfilling Training Requirements

Workshop	Fulfills
1A: What Care Made Possible: The Transformative Power of Caregiving	• Trauma, therapeutic
1B: AIMHi TN - Helping Little Ones Understand Big Emotions: The Three R's	• Trauma, therapeutic
2B: Why "Calm Down, Sit Down, and Be Quiet" Doesn't Work in a Crisis Situation and What to Say and Do Instead	• Trauma, therapeutic
3B: Ways to Support Children with ADHD who have Experienced Trauma	• Trauma, therapeutic
5B: Supporting Children with Diverse Needs: Helping Every Child Thrive	• Trauma, therapeutic
2C: Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting	• First year training requirement
4C: Medical Resources and Information Refresher	• Biennial Medical
7C: Introduction to TBRI® Correcting Principles	• Trauma, therapeutic
8C: Trafficked Youth Needs & Vulnerabilities	• First year training requirement
9C: Sexual Assault 201	• Trauma, therapeutic
11C: Tool Time for Dads: Relational Parenting When It's Tough	• Trauma, therapeutic
12C: Teen Connect: Understanding the Influence of Attachment on Behavior	• Trauma, therapeutic
2D: Intellectual developmental disorder (IDD)	• Trauma, therapeutic
4D: The 5 B's of Trauma: Exploring how Trauma Impacts Areas of Development, and how to Support Healing for Your Child	• Trauma, therapeutic

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the deadline for conference registration?

The deadline for registration is Saturday, November 7, 2026. Due to the online nature of the conference and the need to communicate with participants ahead of workshops, there will be no exceptions.

How do we register if we are a couple or have other adults in the home?

Household members who will be attending the same courses can submit a single registration form. Follow the prompts on the registration form to identify co-parents or additional household members in your conference registration.

If you do **NOT** intend to attend the same workshops, please submit separate registrations for each attendee.

How do I change my workshop selection?

Conference attendees may request changes to workshop selections through November 7, 2026. Please submit another registration form for any participants wishing to modify their workshop selections.

Choose the option labeled "UPDATE or CORRECTION to a previously submitted registration" for the first item on the registration form.

How many training credit hours are available this year?

Depending on workshop selections, participants can earn up to 6 credit hours by attending workshops during morning and afternoon sessions both days of the conference.

The conference is a great opportunity for DCS parents to fulfill training requirements for the year and helps provider parents fulfill therapeutic training requirements.

How do I access my virtual workshops?

Participants will receive a confirmation letter the week of the conference containing links to join each workshop. The sender for these emails will be Carolyna.Pride@tn.gov. Please save this email address in your contacts, and check your spam, junk, clutter, and promotional folders if you have not received these emails in your inbox. **These links will also appear inside your Brightspace account in the conference course.**

If you have not received your conference schedule email by November 12, 2026, contact ei_dcs.brightspace@tn.gov for assistance.

Workshops will be delivered using Microsoft Teams. [View the resource guide](#)⁴ if you are unfamiliar with the platform or need assistance troubleshooting the app. Please ensure the

⁴ Microsoft Teams Resource Guide:

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/dcs/documents/training/fpresources/MSTeams-guide.pdf>

app has been downloaded to your device and is up to date before the day of the conference. Links for the mobile app and web app are included in the resource guide.

How do I access workshop materials?

Workshop materials, including handouts, slide deck presentations, and resource links will be available in Brightspace. You may download these items ahead of time or follow along during the presentation as applicable.

Conference participants will be enrolled in their selected workshops in Brightspace, where they will be able to access these materials and other resources.

How do I get credit for attending conference workshops?

Participants will be instructed how to ensure their attendance has been captured during each workshop. The week following the conference, attendance will be recorded in Brightspace. Attendees will be able to access awards and certificates directly from their Brightspace accounts. Learners receive email notifications once awards have been issued; these are sent to the email associated with each learner account.

If you have not received your conference certificates by **Tuesday, November 24, 2026**, please contact ei_dcs.brightspace@tn.gov for assistance.

How do I know if a training fulfills trauma or therapeutic hours/another training requirement?

The course descriptions in the brochure indicate which requirements are fulfilled by each course, if applicable. Additionally, the table under the “Workshops Fulfilling Training Requirement” section lists courses fulfilling specific requirements. Attendees will receive a badge for applicable requirements in Brightspace to indicate these trainings should be applied to their required hours.

To find additional training opportunities, visit our website:

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt.html>

Live Virtual Classroom Deliveries (Webinars):

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt/calendars/post-state.html>

Self-Paced Online Training:

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt/info/brightspace.html>

Podcast Series:

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/cw-resources/dcs-talks.html>

Child Welfare Resources:

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/cw-resources.html>