



Department of

Children's Services

FOSTER PARENT NEWS DCS TRAINING NEWSLETTER



Foster Parent Training Resources

[CLICK HERE](#)



CALENDAR OF LIVE TRAININGS

[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)

Online Trainings



NAMI Basics Class is comprised of six session workshops for parents and caregivers of children and adolescents with a mental illness. The class covers illnesses, medication, in-depth documentation with additional resources with forms for the various systems like medical and school.



**START DATE: TBA
TO REGISTER:
CONTACT DENISE STEWART
615-361-6608
DSTEWART@NAMITN.ORG**

FOSTER PARENT INCENTIVE BONUS



Fostering Incentive Bonus is for eligible placements only. Here's how to apply.

- Eligibility Requirements:**
- ✔ Placed on or after 2/15/23
 - ✔ Child/ youth has been in the home 6 consecutive months or more.
 - ✔ Child/ youth is 12 years of age or older when the placement began.
 - ✔ Child/ youth is a member of a sibling group placed together for the duration of the 6 month timeframe.
 - ✔ Foster Parent is compliant with training requirements (7/1/22 through 6/30/23)

Apply Here

Link
https://stateoftennessee.formstack.com/forms/incentive_bonus_application_for_dcs_foster_parents

thank you!

QR Code:



Domestic Violence Awareness Month

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Department of Children's Services and partners are offering resources to educate child welfare professionals, court professionals, community partners, and families about the impact of violence on families. October is a time to mourn the impact, listen to survivors and connect with others to impact change.



Teen Dating Violence

10/17/2023 1:00 - 3:00PM CST

Presenters: Kimery Cockrell, LCSW
and Bianca Ho, LMSW, MNPD
Family
Intervention Program

[CLICK HERE](#)



If you need help for someone else in a domestic crisis, contact:

911 for emergency assistance

The National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

Tennessee Statewide Domestic Violence Helpline 1-800-356-6767

The Tennessee Child Protective Services Hotline at 1-877-237-0004

 Resources

Episode 5: The Impact of Domestic Violence on Child Welfare Cases

Episode 26: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Episode 40: Learn about the New Domestic Violence Allegation

Episode 58: Caring Dads: Helping Fathers Value Their Children

[CLICK HERE](#)



DCS PARENT REGISTRATION
INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Register as an Individual/Household for the conference.
2. Once registered, you will receive access to the conference resources page where you can find the participant guide, slides, attendance certificate, and more.
3. Following the conference, parents will complete and submit a short quiz to receive training credit:

SHOW  HOPE

HOPE
for the Journey
CONFERENCE

Simulcast Launch:
Friday, April 5, 2024
8:00 am CST

CLICK HERE

Explore the principles of TBRI Connecting, TBRI Empowering, and TBRI Correcting.

This training meets TBRI and therapeutic training hours.

Parents will receive 6 hours of training credit for the first four modules. Module 5 is optional for parents.

Viewing Period

April 5 - June 30
2024

CLICK HERE

AGENCY REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Show Hope has provided a 50% discount for private providers using code DCSSAVE on either organization size registration. You can register here.
2. Depending on your registration type, providers will receive one link to share with 15 or 30 families/households.
3. Following the Conference, parents will complete and submit a short quiz to receive training credit.

SPECIAL OFFER: FREE Access (\$199 Value) for Foster Parents



We know about ACEs...

But what about PCE?
Positive Childhood Experiences in TN

[CLICK HERE](#)



You're Invited!
To a book discussion!
Join us to discuss,
"A Child of the Indian Race" A Story of Return
by Sandy White Hawk



WHEN: OCTOBER 18, 2023
FROM 10 - 11AM CT OR
11AM - 12PM ET



[CLICK HERE](#)

Family Resources



Foster Parent Focus Group!

November 9th, 5:30 pm CST - Virtual Meeting

November 14th, 5:30 pm CST - Jackson

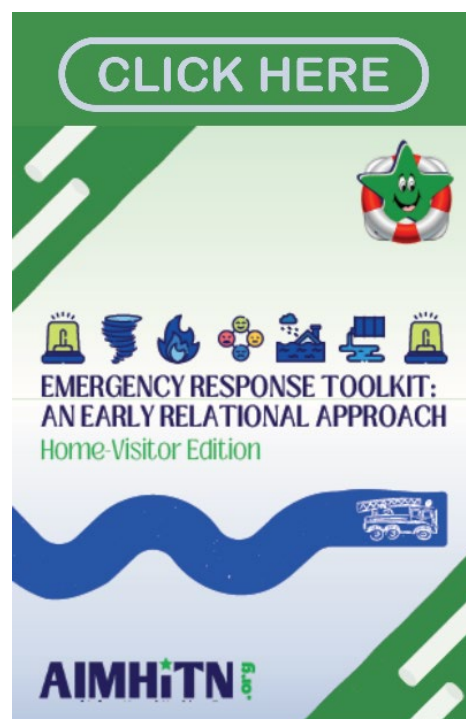
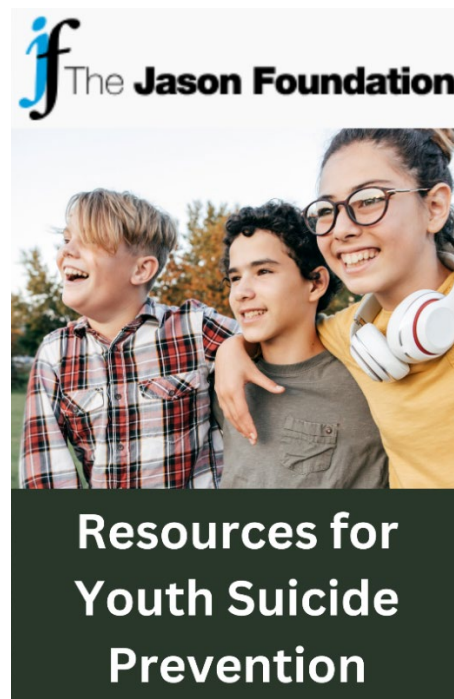
December 7th, 11:00 am EST - Knoxville

*Attendance qualifies for 2 hours of training credit





- 10/19/23 [Does My Child Need an IEP?](#)
- 10/21/23 [Trauma Informed Parenting Strategies \(TIPS\)](#)
- 10/24/23 [Core Teen: Understanding & Managing Challenging Behaviors](#)
- 10/25/23 [Internet Safety](#)
- 10/26/23 [Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths \(CANS\)](#)
- 10/30/23 [Parenting in the Age of Screens, Social Media, and Gaming](#)
- 11/2/23 [Termination of Parental Rights](#)
- 11/3/23 [Discussing Hard Topics w/ Families and Young Children](#)
- 11/6/23 [Coparenting after Divorce](#)
- 11/7/23 [Communicating for Conflict Resolution](#)
- 11/7/23 [Building Strong Brains](#)
- 11/9/23 [Understanding Concussion and Brain Injury](#)
- 11/9/23 [Communicating through Pop Culture to Connect w/ Your Child](#)
- 11/9/23 [Caring for Children with Special Health Care Needs](#)
- 11/13/23 [Creating Normalcy Through Prudent Parenting](#)
- 11/14/23 [Trauma's Impact on Development](#)
- 11/14/23 [Child Sexual Development \(w/ the Sexual Assault Center\)](#)
- 11/14/23 [Understanding the Basics of FASD for Parents](#)
- 11/16/23 [TBRI for Parents - Connecting: Engagement Strategies](#)
- 11/16/23 [Parenting Teens and Tweens](#)
- 11/17/23 [Learn More about the Indian Child Welfare Act](#)
- 11/28/23 [Trauma 101](#)
- 11/28/23 [Building Strong Brains](#)
- 11/30/23 [Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences \(HOPE\)](#)
- 11/30/23 [Your Money Your Goals](#)





Applying Infant Mental Health in Child Welfare Practice

- [November 3, 2023](#) Discussing Hard Topics with Families & Young Children
- [February 2, 2024](#) Maximizing Visitation and Family Time
- [March 8, 2024](#) Navigating Transitions and Permanency
- [April 5, 2024](#) Special Considerations: Substance Use
- [May 3, 2024](#) Special Considerations: Domestic Violence
- [June 7, 2024](#) Special Considerations: Neglect

[CLICK HERE](#)

How to Help ADHD Brains Follow Directions the First Time



DCS Child Welfare Legal Seminar with Susan Kovac

2023 Virtual Lunch and Learn Series

Join us during the DCS Child Welfare Legal Seminar in this virtual lunch and learn series with Susan Kovac, Regional General Counsel Emeritus at the TN Department of Children's Services for a series of virtual learning sessions about important legal matters for child welfare professionals and the community. Each month we will discuss key topics including, Legal Considerations about Paternity in Child Welfare, Severe Abuse Determinations, Terminations of Parental Rights and information about the Indian Child Welfare Act. Each session will go into more detail about each topic and offer tips, guidance and recommendations for understanding the court systems. Participants are encouraged to bring and ask questions!





Susan Kovac
Regional General Counsel Emeritus

Training Credit: 1.5 hour each:

Best Interest, Attachment and Trauma through a Legal Lens

- October 26, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)

Terminations of Parental Rights

- November 2, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)

Learn more about the Indian Child Welfare Act

- November 17, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)

5 Tips for Healthy Family Communication

[CLICK HERE](#)



Child Sex Abuse 101 with the Sexual Assault Center



October 10, 2023

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 PM CT or 6:30 to 8:00 ET

Child Sexual Abuse 101
(2 CEUs available)

In this training, participants will be equipped with introductory information about child sexual abuse (CSA), focused on statistics and prevalence; intersecting social contexts; insight on risk factors and signs; intro-level neurobiology; offender statistics and groomer dynamics; how to handle a disclosure of sexual abuse; how to legally fulfill reporting duties as a Tennessee mandatory reporter; community resourcing; and an introduction to trauma exposure response.



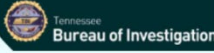
[CLICK HERE](#)

Learn More about Drug Endangered Children

October 17, 2023 from 1:00 to 2:30 PM CT or 2:00 to 3:30 PM ET

[Click here to register!](#)


Child Sexual Development: Behaviors, Identity, Trauma with the Sexual Assault Center

November 14, 2023

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 PM CT or 6:30 to 8:00 ET

Child Sexual Development (2 CEUs available)

This training explores the dynamics of childhood sexual development from ages 0 - 18. We will discuss how traumatic experiences can "flip the switch" and influence sexual development resulting in experiences and behaviors that are commonly misunderstood by professionals working with survivors of childhood sexual abuse.



[CLICK HERE](#)



NAMI Tennessee
National Alliance on Mental Illness

In Our Own Voice

Real first-hand accounts of what it's like living with a mental illness.

[CLICK HERE](#)

9 Constructive Fidgets That Promote Focus



[CLICK HERE](#)

Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE)

Join our community partners, the Regional Intervention Program for HOPE training! Positive experiences can ease toxic stress and help children and youth grow into more resilient, healthier adults. HOPE identifies ways that our communities and systems of care can better ensure that all children have more positive experiences and that all families have support to nurture and celebrate their strengths. Participants will be able to ask questions and receive resources!



November 30, 2023
5:30 to 7:00 PM
or 6:30 to 8:00 PM

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER



West, Middle, and East TN Support Groups, Affiliates, and Additional Resources

Support Groups & Affiliates

CLICK HERE



SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE



bluecare.bcbst.com/foster

QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BENEFITS?

1-888-422-2963

TRS: Dial 711,

ask for 888-418-0008

SelectKids_GM@bcbst.com

DECEMBER 10, 2023
NEUROBIOLOGY: HOW COMPLEX TRAUMA IMPACTS THE BRAIN

JANUARY 12, 2024
COMPLEX TRAUMA IN EARLY CHILDHOOD

MARCH 8, 2024
COMPLEX TRAUMA AND SUBSTANCE USE

APRIL 12, 2024
SUPPORTING PARENTS WITH UNRESOLVED TRAUMA

JUNE 14, 2024
RESIDENTIAL CARE

JULY 12, 2024
SCHOOLS AND LEARNING

Quarterly Autism Webinar:

November 10, 2023

February 9, 2024

May 10, 2024

August 9, 2024

Statewide Complex Trauma and Child Welfare Learning Community

2023-2024

SERIES WEBINAR

CLICK HERE



THE SCIENCE OF HOPE AND THE CHILD WELFARE COMMUNITY



PRESENTER

Dr. Angela B. Pharris

DATE/TIME

January 11, 2024
1:00-2:30 pm CST or
2:00-3:30 pm CST

REGISTRATION

Click [HERE](#)
1.5 Hr. Training Credit



Helpful Links

- [Training Website](#)
- [Training Calendar](#)
- [Online Trainings](#)
- [Self-Care](#)
- [Podcast Episodes](#)
- [Helpful Resources](#)
- [Regional Training Contacts](#)
- [Birth Children Resources](#)
- [Unsung Hero of the Month](#)

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS TWO DAY SEMINAR

Join us for this two - day seminar with Barb Clark, Director of Training with Families Rising (formerly NACAC) to explore risk factors for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, look at the connection between brain impairment and behaviors, including impact of trauma & discuss reframing and other strategies for professionals and parents to better support children who were prenatally exposed to substances. This two day seminar will help parents, caregivers and professionals. It is recommended that participants join both days but it is not required.

January 24, 2024 - 9:00-11:00 am CST
January 25, 2024 - 9:00-11:00 am CST

[CLICK HERE](#)



Congratulations!

A Big DCS
shoutout to
Knox Co. foster
parents & regional
staff for being
number one in the
state for Foster
Parent Training
Compliance!

KNOX CO. STAFF
POST PIZZA
PARTY
CELEBRATING
THEIR SUCESS!



DCS would like to recognize the Northwest Region in their coming together as a child welfare family community, sharing resources, and developing a plan of action for making DCS and Provider Agencies great.



Our focus in our 9/22 get together in the NW was to share sustainable solutions and best strategies for the future of child welfare.



Be a Part of the Conversation Join our Behavioral Health Advisory Board

You're invited to join the BlueCare Tennessee Behavioral Health Advisory Board! The board is made up of members and representatives from BlueCare Tennessee and other groups. And it gives you the chance to talk to people who share your concerns.

TennCare members who come to a meeting will get \$50 or your cost of travel — whichever is more.

As a member of the board, you can:

- Learn more about what behavioral health services are available.
- Advocate for your and your family's needs.
- Find tools that can help you get better care.
- Get access to upcoming events near you.
- Talk to others about how BlueCare Tennessee can better meet your needs.

Click HERE for Full Details



Select Kids: We're Here for Foster Families

We work with the State of Tennessee and the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to help foster children across the state stay healthy, safe and on track.

Foster parents, we're here to support you and help you get the best health care possible for your foster child or teen. **Our member care team can help your family do all this and more:**

- › Get treatment for long-term conditions
- › Manage medication
- › Stay on track with doctor visits
- › Recognize depression and handle stress

One-on-One Help

We're here to help your foster child with healthy living and long- or short-term conditions. One-on-one help doesn't cost anything, and they can join or cancel anytime with just a call.

We offer your foster child or teen:

- › Their very own care team
- › Health coaching to reach their best health
- › A care team to work with their providers
- › Help learning how to make good decisions about their health

Transportation

Do you need help getting your child to health care appointments? Your DCS representative can help you get a ride to non-emergency TennCare visits. We can also set up some non-emergency rides in special situations.

ID Cards

If your child needs another ID card, your DCS representative can send you one. Or call us at 1-888-422-2963 and we'll mail you one. You can also log in to your online account at bluecare.bcbst.com to print a temporary ID card.

SCAN TO VISIT
OUR WEBSITE

bluecare.bcbst.com/foster

QUESTIONS ABOUT
YOUR BENEFITS?

1-888-422-2963
TRS: Dial 711,
ask for 888-418-0008

[SelectKids_GM@bcbst.com](mailto>SelectKids_GM@bcbst.com)



Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.



BlueCare Tennessee is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.