



# State Department Services and Resources: TN Department of Health

TN Council on Autism Spectrum Disorder  
April 24, 2018

# Strengths

- Promotion of Developmental Screening a priority for the Division of Family Health and Wellness and the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant

## Goals:

- Increase general awareness among parents and caregivers of the need for developmental screening.
- Encourage and support providers to integrate developmental screening as a part of routine care.
- Explore opportunities for incorporating developmental screening into settings outside of primary care.

# Strengths

- Developmental Screening Training for Home Visitors
  - Children’s Special Services (CSS), HUGS, and Evidence-Based Home Visitor staff have been trained to administer the Ages and Stages Questionnaire
- Developmental screening a part of well-child visits in the health dept. clinics
- Collaboration with TN Chapter of the AAP
- TN Young Child Wellness Council
- Welcome Baby

# Strengths

- TN Disability Pathfinder
- Family Voices
- Youth Advisory Council for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN)
  - opportunity for youth to meet others, to learn how to better advocate for their needs, and to become more familiar with the types of resources currently available to them
  - open to youth between the ages of 14 and 26 who have any type of special health need, whether it be physical, emotional, behavioral, developmental, or intellectual

# Strengths

- KidCentralTN

# Weaknesses

- Children with autism or developmental delay do not qualify for the Children's Special Services Program.

# Opportunities

- CHANT: Community Health Access and Navigation in TN

**Separate Programs**  
*(HUGS, TennCare Outreach)*



**Who:** # served, some demographics

**Where:** TDH Region

**What:** # visits

**CHANT**  
HUGS, TennCare Outreach, CSS Integrated Services



**Who:** # served, some demographics

**Where:** TDH Region

**What:** # visits

**What else:** measurable outcomes (i.e., How did CHANT participation benefit family?)

-  Tobacco Cessation Referrals
-  Coordination of insurance coverage, medical home, prenatal/postpartum care, dental home, EPSDT, immunizations
-  Social Services referrals: housing, transportation, employment, etc.
-  Schedule and attend appointments, IEP meetings
-  Behavioral Health Referrals
-  Child Health and Development education, Developmental Screenings
-  CYSHCN: payment for medical services

# Opportunities

- Collaboration with the TN Dept. of Human Services and Child Care Resource and Referral Network

# Threats

- Services for individuals with autism may not be available near their home or affordable.
- No lifelong service path for individuals with autism.
- Parents may still not know how to access information on or resources for autism.

# Questions?