

Child Care Services Daily Update - April 29, 2020

The Tennessee Department of Human Services (TDHS) will continue to provide you with the most current information pertaining to Child Care programs. We will continue to remain diligent in keeping this site current.

Updated Information: Enrollment in the Certificate Program

The Department of Human Services is recruiting child care providers to participate in the Child Care Certificate Program also know as the Child Care Payment Assistance Program. This is such a critical time to meet the child care needs of families and children within your community. There are countless benefits for participation; child care providers are reimbursed by enrollment, not attendance; child care reimbursement rates have increased for all participating child care providers; bonus rates are awarded for offering care during non-traditional hours and serving areas identified as child care deserts or distressed counties. Enrollment also will meet the needs of serving families identified as Essential Employees under the Child Care Payment Assistance designed specifically to serve families who are on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic each day.

We will be happy to assist you with enrollment. Please submit your agency contact information including name of agency, name of person to contact, and telephone number in the request for enrollment to ChildCare.Certificate.DHS@tn.gov. You will then be contacted by a Child Care Services staff member to discuss participation and complete the contract for enrollment. This one-on-one contact will allow the opportunity to discuss the procedures and answer any questions you may have about the program and the benefit for families, the community and you.

Building Strong Brains Learning Conference Lunch and Learn Opportunities



Building Strong Brains Learning Conference Lunch & Learn Series

Since its inception, Building Strong Brains Tennessee (BSB TN) has connected brain science and communications science to change the culture in Tennessee to be informed by Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), Trauma and Resilience (ATR). This culture change in addition to appropriations in the TN state budget for BSB ACEs Innovation Grants have prompted many professionals, communities, and philanthropists to use the latest brain science to better prevent and mitigate ACEs, trauma and toxic stress. Four years of comprehensive, coordinated and collective work from both the private and public sector have positioned TN as a national leader in ACEs response.

In an effort to continue to propel and expand this cutting-edge work, BSB TN was planning to conduct a two-day learning conference to support professionals and community members to learn from innovative efforts happening at the national and local level. The goal of this conference is to advance trauma-informed philosophy, policies and funding, programs and professional practice in a variety of professional sectors and communities across the state. However, the coronavirus pandemic has required that we rethink our plans and not hold the conference at this time, in light of the necessary precautions to which all of us want to adhere. As a result, the conference content committee has moved forward with crafting a learning conference “lunch and learn” series throughout the spring and summer. An excellent line-up of nationally recognized and visionary speakers have agreed to this online format.

A key theme of the conference is the impact of equity on health, learning, access and well-being. Below are a list of the lunch and learn events. **You must register for each lunch and learn separately.** For those who attend the live session, you will receive CEU’s courtesy of the TN Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Tickets are first come first serve. For those on the waiting list, we will email the recorded presentation. The webinars will be recorded and posted to TCCY’s YouTube Page. This event is sponsored by the Building Strong Brains Tennessee ACEs Innovation Grant. ***Be on the lookout for “part 2” of the series in the coming weeks!***

Speakers for BSB TN Learning Conference Lunch & Learn Series Part 1

Incubating Resilient Communities for Our Most Vulnerable Rural Children

Patricia Hyjer Dyk, Ph.D.

May 13, 2020 11:00a – 12:00p CST/12:00p – 1:00p EST



During the current pandemic we have become keenly aware of our need to be connected to and supported by family and friends. We have been

sensitized to the needs of our most vulnerable community members and the plight of families facing economic uncertainty, home schooling, and emotional tensions. Some communities entered this crisis with greater community capacity. They have been able to mobilize residents, non-profits, government institutions, and for-profits to secure and invest local and extra-local resources to address needs and create growth opportunities. These resilient communities have greater capacity to recover, integrate the crisis, and accommodate a “new normal.”

However, communities have varying levels of capacity. A disproportionate number of rural communities face geographic isolation, lack of economic diversification, sparse resources, inadequate or insufficient healthcare, and limited social services. Despite their vulnerability, many individuals and families living in rural areas demonstrate the capacity for resilience in the face of a variety of adverse events. This resilience appears to be driven by social capital. Their social cohesiveness is strengthened by networks, norms, and trust that facilitate coordination and cooperation.

Thus, it is critical to determine both the unique needs and resources within rural areas to foster community resilience. What can we “incubate”? How can we recognize and nurture environments in rural communities that foster growth and development for our most vulnerable children and families? In this presentation we will explore strategies to strengthen resilience to enhance protective factors and minimize risk through community-based prevention and intervention.

Building Healthy Brains for Tennessee Children: Mapping A Workforce Development Strategy

Judy Cameron, Ph.D.

May 26, 2020 11:00a – 12:00p CST/12:00p – 1:00p EST

REGISTER HERE



We have all learned that experiences (from the prenatal period to 25 years of age) build the architecture of the developing brain. We also know that early life adversity impacts the development of brain circuits. Now we need to map a path forward for the Tennessee workforce so that we can help children strengthen brain pathways to promote resilience to life stresses. The focus of this presentation will be on how we can take action to promote healthy brain development. Dr. Cameron will discuss (1) strategies for strengthening children’s brain development and enhancing resilience to life

stresses, (2) activities and games that strengthen brain development for speaking, thinking, emotional regulation and problem-solving and how these can be done at home and in school settings, (3) how communities can develop “charging stations” that support families in strengthening children’s brain development, and (4) the very important role that sleep plays in building strong brains.



The Role of Sleep Disturbance in Adverse Childhood Experiences and Opportunities for Intervention.

Rebecca Cox, Ph.D. Candidate

June 11, 2020 11:00a – 12:00p CST/12:00p – 1:00p EST



Sleep disturbance is increasingly recognized as a key contributor to poor physical and mental health and may have important implications for psychosocial outcomes following adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). This talk will integrate research on the relations between sleep disturbance, stress, and ACEs, as well as findings on the consequences of poor sleep on outcomes relevant to ACEs, including executive function, emotion regulation, and psychopathology. Intervention strategies for sleep problems in children and adolescents will be discussed.



We Are the Medicine: Building the EcoSystem to Take Child Flourishing to Scale

Christina D. Bethell, PhD, MBA, MPH

June 24, 2020 11:00a – 12:00p CST/12:00p – 1:00p EST

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Learning Objective #1: Identify opportunities to apply new research on possibilities for flourishing amid adversity by promoting child, family and community connections

Learning Objective #2: Consider strategies and skills needed to translate the science of child flourishing into services, policy and culture

Learning Objective #3: Identify opportunities to leverage existing programs and policies to create a sustainable ecosystem for healing, flourishing and the prevention of adverse childhood experience