



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY DAYS 2026
Boone Business Building, Trevecca University
AGENDA

Tuesday, March 10, 2026

- 8:00 a.m. Doors Open
- 8:15 a.m. Registration and Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. **Welcome to Children's Advocacy Days**
Welcome and Purpose
Richard Kennedy, TCCY Executive Director
- 9:10 a.m. **Opening Remarks**
The Honorable Judge Rob Philyaw, TCCY Chair
- 9:15 a.m. **Hidden in Plain Site: The New Threat Landscaping Tennessee's Children**
Dr. Lucas Trautman, Medical Director at Oxford Treatment Center, Lakeside Behavioral Health, and Professional Care Services in West Tennessee
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- 10:15 a.m. **Southern Word**
- 10:30 a.m. **NETWORKING BREAK**
- 10:50 a.m. **2026 Federal Policy Landscape: A Focus on Children, Youth & Families**
Marquita Little Numan, Partnership for America's Children
- 11:05 a.m. **Building Bridges & Shaping Futures: Lessons in Advancing Children's Advocacy, Moderated by Marquita Little Numan**
Keesa Smith-Brantley – Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families
Paige Parks – Rhode Island KIDS COUNT
John Wilson – Kansas Action for Children
Rachael Deane – Voices for Virginia's Children
- 12:00 p.m. **AWARDS Luncheon**
2026 Youth Excellence Award
2026 Jim Pryor Award
2026 Phil Acord Friend of Children Award

2026 Senator Douglas Henry Public Official Award
2026 Linda O’Neal Lifetime Achievement Award

- 1:00 p.m. **Southern Word**
Zoe Ward, Poet Laureate, Nashville TN
- 1:15 p.m. **The Core of Child Welfare Innovation, Co-Designing the Future Together**
Sixto Cancel, Think of Us
- 2:15 p.m. **Southern Word**
- 2:30 p.m. **SHORT BREAK**
- 2:40 p.m. **2025 State of the Child in Tennessee**
Kylie Graves, TCCY Director of Data, Policy and Communications
- 3:00 p.m. **Bridging Systems; Updates from Tennessee’s Child Serving Departments,
Moderated by TCCY Chair Judge Rob Philyaw**
Commissioner Margie Quin, Tennessee Department of Children’s Services
Dr. Emily Hawkinson, Tennessee Department of Health
Commissioner Marie Williams, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance
Abuse Services
- 4:00 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
Craig Hargrow, TCCY Deputy Executive Director
- 4:15 p.m. **Adjourn**