



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH**

February 11, 2021  
1 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST/ 2 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EDT  
WebEx Virtual Meeting

**Minutes**

**Attendees**

Jen Aitken	Laritha Fentress	Morgan Morris
Guadalupe Armengol	Sabrina Brooke Fillers	Kayla Mumphrey
Shavon Armstrong	Jeff Fladen	Jill Murphy
Julia Barlar	Kelsay Franklin	Yolanda Neal
Bonnie Beneke	Brad Franks	Tristine Nguyen
Melissa Binkley	Kimberly Fyke-Vance	Frank Ogilvie
Amy Blackwell	Morgan Goodson	Amy Olson
Marie Bly	Debra Granger	Hope Payne
Hope Bond	Tamara Hall	Steve Petty
Grace Boucher	Willie Halliburton	Linda Powell
Mary Nell Bryan	Benita Hayes	Athena Randolph
Drew Burkley	Eric Herring	JW Randolph
Kylie Burns	Christy Holleman	Kathy Rogers
Anne Carpenter	Samina Humphreys	W. Sharon Ross
Kelli Celsor	Jasmine Jackson	Delora Ruffin
Dana Cobb	Ashley Jasinski	Elizabeth Setty Reeve
Amy Conard	Monique Jenkins	Wendy Shuran
Caleb Corwin	Mark Just	Steven Sluder
Rob Cotterman	Richard Kennedy	Roger Stewart
Ashley Crabtree	Sumita Keller	Jill Stott
Emily Crenshaw	Deanna King	Kaitlyn Swinney
Kaela Cuzzone	Ronald W King	Vicki Taylor
Caty Davis	Toni Lawal	Jennifer Trail
Kendyl Davis	Laurie Lebo	Morgan Tubbs
Kris Dean	Terrence Love	Keri Virgo
Brenda Donaldson	Patrick Luther	Don Walker
Laura Durham	Russette Marcum-Embry	Megan Wilkinson
Anjanette Eash	Melissa McGee	Marie Williams
Allison Elam	Teryn McNeal	Shirley Williams
Caitlin Ensley	Kendra Mitchell	Tammy Wilson
Carey Farley	Teri Montgomery	Matt Yancey
Connie Farmer	Jerri Moore	Charissa Yusi

## **Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

Richard Kennedy, Executive Director, TCCY

Marie Williams, Commissioner, TDMHSAS

Matt Yancey, Deputy Commissioner, TDMHSAS

## **System of Care Across Tennessee Network (SOCAT-N) Update**

Keri Virgo, Director of the Office of Children, Young Adults, and Families, TDMHSAS

Virgo thanked TCCY and all of the Tennessee child serving departments for the opportunity to present today. Virgo happily introduced the new Systems of Care Across Tennessee Director Patrick Luther. As time passes everyone will get the opportunity to work with and learn more about Patrick. Virgo shared the importance to we check in on our families and friends because we may be the beginning or the start for help. System of Care can be equated to the “village mentality” in that we are all building villages. Virgo is urging all of us to think about how our services help families identify their natural support. We don’t have to have a high intensity direct service to make an impact. Keep this in mind when going about your work and your day, you are impactful, and you are helping families and friends during this time. Virgo then shared information on moving forward with our SAMHSA grant, there will be nine teams specifically funded by the grant. A new service in the SOCAT Network grant is the implementation of community engagement specialists across the state. The community engagement specialist will be one of the main focuses during this time and will increase community partnerships emphasize local involvement as much as possible. Youth engagement remains another area of focus, with establishment of additional Youth MOVE chapters throughout the state. Additionally, CCMH will continue to transition into the governance structure. Virgo stated that she is going to be leaning on everyone on the call to assist with the restructure of the SOCAT governance body.

## **NAMI Tennessee – Ending the Silence**

Jeff Fladen, Executive Director, NAMI Tennessee

NAMI envisions a world where all people affected by mental illness live healthy, fulfilling lives supported by a community that cares. NAMI provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives. NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness. At NAMI, we believe a diverse, inclusive and equitable organization (or Alliance) is one where all employees, volunteers and members — regardless of gender, race, gender identity, ethnicity, national origin, age, sexual orientation, education, disability, veteran status or other dimension of diversity — feel valued and respected. NAMI educates, advocates, listens and leads. NAMI Ending the Silence is an engaging presentation that helps audience members learn about the warning signs of mental health conditions and what steps to take if you or a loved one are showing symptoms of a mental health condition. NAMI Ending the Silence presentations include two leaders: one who shares an informative presentation and a young adult with a mental health condition who shares their journey of recovery. Audience members can ask questions and gain understanding of an often-misunderstood topic. Through dialogue, we can help grow the movement to end stigma.

## **Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth – County Profiles**

Kylie Burns, Communications and Policy Specialist, TCCY

The County Profiles for the state of Tennessee were released January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 by TCCY. The data provided a snapshot from 2018, or 2018-19 for school and fiscal year data. The counties were provided a ranking per domain and then a ranking for each indicator. The four domains that were tracked during the report consist of:

1. Education 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade reading and math proficiency/High School graduation rates.
2. Health- to include children without health insurance child and teen death rate, babies born at low birth weight.
3. Economic well-being fair market rent, children living in poverty/ median household income and lastly
4. Family and community to include teen pregnancy teen pregnancy, school suspension and substantiated cases of abuse or neglect.

Each county is ranked 1-95, the key data points for this time period shows that Tennessee has an average of one in five children living in poverty. The lowest percentage is in Williamson County (3.6%) and the highest percentage is in Lake County (41.2%). 9.3% of babies in Tennessee were born at a low birthweight and across Tennessee 5.1% of children were uninsured. Also, Tennessee reported 4.7% substantiated cases of abuse or neglect per 1,000 children. Cocke county had the highest rate at 12.1 and Williamson county had the lowest at 0.9.

### **State of the Child**

The State of the Child report was released December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. U.S. Census Bureau Pulse Data collected most weeks beginning April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020- March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The data in this report focuses on mid-October. The key indicators for this report are below:

- Over half of Tennessee households with children have experienced a loss in income since March.
- One in four Tennessee households with children reported little confidence in making their next rent or mortgage payment.
- Tennessee workers who are black or young were more likely to report COVID-19 loss of work.
- In 20 Tennessee Counties, the industry's most at risk from COVID-19 employ at least 20% of the workforce, to include bars and restaurants.
- 11% of families did not have enough to eat in the past week. 20% of black or African American families did not have enough to eat. 40% had trouble paying for normal household items.
- At the end of the summer, over half of Tennessee young adults reported feeling anxious, on edge or nervous.
- One in five Tennessee adults with children in the household reported feeling down, depressed, or helpless. It was also noted that there was a decrease in ER hospital visits in young adults in 2020.
- Moving forward the goal is to keep children at the forefront of the pandemic by supporting families to access to services that are available to them.

- The data and reports can be found at the web addresses below.
  - [tn.gov/tccy/countyprofiles](http://tn.gov/tccy/countyprofiles)
  - [Tn.gov/tccy/state-of-the-child](http://Tn.gov/tccy/state-of-the-child)

### **Centerstone Research Institute – SOCAT Evaluation**

Kaela Cuzzone, Evaluation Associate, CRI; Christy Holleman, Evaluation Associate, CRI; Wendy Shuran, Evaluation Associate, CRI

Over the past 4 years, the Centerstone Research Institute have been collecting data which has solidified the sample demographics for the SOCAT evaluation process. 64.7% of the participants are male, 55.8% are between the ages of 12-17 and 79.0% of the race that we serve is white. 61% of participants entered the program with ADHD and/or mood/bipolar/depression diagnoses. The average length of stay by age group is as follows: the average length of stay is 8 months across ag groups. Participants enrolled at age 5 or younger had the longest average LOS (13 months) and youth between ages 12 and 14 had the second highest average LOS (10 months). Participants or enrollees with an average income between \$15K-24999K yearly doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic. We also learned that a lot of the financial strain that participants experienced pre COVID-19 was less of a concern for enrollees during the pandemic. The final report of the data will be rolling out around the end of March at the latest, beginning of April.

### **Tennessee Department of Health**

Jen Trail, Community Collaborative Strategist, Office of Strategic Initiatives, TDOH  
 JW Randolph, Associate Director, Office of Strategic Initiatives, TDOH

How is Tennessee doing with COVID-19?

The week of February 4- February 10<sup>th</sup> saw: 698 new deaths; 17,193 new cases; 20,360 new recoveries and 513 new hospitalizations. Compared the prior week's (Jan 28-Feb 3) totals of 717; 17,410;25,686 and 539. There are currently 25,611 active COVID-19 cases and 1,232 hospitalized as of Feb 1, 2021. For everyone's safety, we must ensure that those most at risk of COVID-19 are protected as we reopen, including: People aged 60 and up, people in institutional settings, from long term care facilities to correctional facilities and people with particular risk factors or pre existing conditions. As we begin to reopen, we must continue to work together to slow the spread of the virus. Vital actions include washing your hands often, avoiding close contact with others, staying home if you are sick, covering coughs and sneezes, wearing a facemask and cleaning and disinfecting regularly. If you are interested in a vaccine, all information can be found at this address. <https://www.tn.gov/health/cedep/ncov>

Also, for COVID-19 updates by county you can check out the following site:

[www.covid19.tn.gov](http://www.covid19.tn.gov). An estimated timeline and phases are preliminary and subject to change <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25917/framework-for-equitable-allocation-of-covid-19-vaccine>

The TDH strategic plan prioritized the mutually supportive development of county health councils and completion of a county health assessment and action planning process. County health councils were established in the 1990's, exist in all 956 TN counties, representative of multiple sectors within a community and are a top resource for improving population health at the local level. CHA action plans: common themes include, to increasing partnerships with TSPN, law enforcement, schools and providers. Provide community resource guides, community

education and awareness, drug take backs, community plans and programming in jails (workforce development, NAS, HepA).

### **Council on Children's Mental Health Update**

Melissa McGee, Children's Mental Health Advocacy Director, TCCY

### **Closing**

#### **Council on Children's Mental Health Purpose Statement**

*Design a comprehensive plan for a statewide System of Care for children and families that is family-driven, youth-guided, community-based, and culturally and linguistically competent.*

#### **CCMH Meetings 2021**

April 22, 2021

June 17, 2021

August 26, 2021

October 21, 2021