

TCCY Commission Meeting November 2020

Location: WebEx
Date: Friday, 11/6/2020
Time: 8:30 A.M. CDT

Staff Present: Richard Kennedy, Exec. Dir., Craig Hargrow, Dep. Exec. Dir., Cory Bradfield, Lea Brandon, Kylie Burns, Dana Cobb, Lindsey Cody, Susan Cope, Sujit Das, Jennifer Drake-Croft, Laritha Fentress, Sumita Keller, Sherry Isom, Jennifer Jones, Bill Latimer, Rosalyn Leavell-Rice, Melissa McGee, Latasha Mitchell, Jerri Moore, Rose Naccarato, Jonquil Newland, Shaun Noblit, Kristi Paling, Gerald Papica, Steve Petty, Russette Sloan, Jill Stott, Vicki Taylor, Zanira Whitfield, Gwendolyn Wright

Staff Absent: N/A

Commission Members Present: Brenda Davis, Chair, Rob Mortensen, Vice Chair, Ashley Dunkin, Rob Philyaw, Allan Sterbinsky, Altha Stewart, Steven Neely, Amy Jones, Jennie Harlan, Wendy Shea, Ella Britt, Christy Sigler, Sharon Green, Petrina Jones-Jesz, Glenda Terry, Kelly Drummond

Commission Member Absent: Makenzie Johnston

Guests: Commissioner Marie Williams, Deputy Commissioner Matt Yancey, James Moore, Boys and Girls Club Hatchie River and Stacia Freeman, Epic Girl

Welcome

- Welcome and Introductions (Brenda Davis, Chair)
- Roll Call- (Jennifer Jones)
 - **Quorum was established**
- Call to Order- Brenda Davis, Chair

Approvals and Actions

Approval of August Full Commission Meeting Minutes

Davis asked for a motion for the approval of the August 2020 Commission Meeting minutes.

Britt moved and Philyaw seconded.

Unanimously approved by the commission.

Committee Report Outs

Budget and Data Overview (Allam Sterbinsky, Chair)

Sterbinsky provided the Commission with a brief budget overview. Sterbinsky updated the commission on the 12 percent budget reduction discussed in the August meeting. Per Sherry Isom, F&A (Finance and Administration) will be recommending the Governor cut the unobligated CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) dollars that were put up for consideration by TCCY. Also, an additional 2% reduction was requested from the annual budget that couldn't include anything considered in the 12 percent reduction plan. Kennedy, Isom, and Craig Hargrow feel operational cost reductions will cover the two percent.

Three improvement requests were added by TCCY to the annual budget:

1. Funds in order to join a consortium of other state agencies that are working to create an online grants management system (This was initially approved in the previous budget but removed due to COVID)
2. Contract manager position
3. Three additional positions: one full-time staff person in each of the state's grand regions to handle facilitating, developing and strategic planning in the community

Sterbinsky praised Isom for helping Hargrow and Kennedy with year-end closing, budget issues and contracts. Sterbinsky noted that the hearings with the Governor are currently in person and there will not be an in-person day on the hill this year.

Sterbinsky also reported that 90 percent of state appropriations were spent. The 10 percent left over (around \$310,00) will revert to the general fund except for the Annie E. Casey Foundation reserve funds (\$117,000). Unobligated CASA dollars (\$88,000) are also part of that reversion. As of Sept. 30, 2020, twenty-five percent of the budget is expected to be spent in the first quarter. There is \$122,000 in uncollected revenue from interdepartmental funds as well. The FFG (Federal Formula Grant) 2017 award ended Sept. 30, 2020. Thirty programs are being funded by CASA dollars in 55 counties. Eleven grantees have been sent the FFG contracts for this new year. All FFG contracts have been received back and executed copies have been distributed (except Williamson County which is still being looked over). The kidcentral contact is still pending approval from the

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Dept. of Education. The original 2- yr. contract was sent back and revised to a 1- yr. contract.

Sterbinsky noted that Naccarato and her team are working on an electronic TN companion book related to COVID (to be released in December) to go along with the National Kids Count book. New county profiles will be part of the COVID report in the companion book. They will also be releasing a policy and issue guide next summer as part of this fiscal year's budget. Kylie Burns redesigned the front page and updated the color scheme to match the new TCCY logo.

Also, Naccarato will create a separate survey questionnaire with data pertaining to the last quarter of the last fiscal year on how children's programs were affected.

Google ads resumed Sept. 23rd after being down for 4 months. Unique visitors increased in September after dipping in July and August. Physical Development for Ages 6-7 continues to be a top performing article. Social media numbers are steadily increasing, mostly due to COVID information. There are 15,008 email subscribers and averaging 65 new subscribers a month.

Page views have decreased since June. Kids Count got the most page views in July and August. COVID-19 got the most page views in September. The Advocate started going out via Mail Chimp in September. There are currently 901 subscribers. Juvenile Justice received the majority of clicks (34%).

Lastly, Sterbinsky informed the committee that four media articles were done from July-September, 133 tweets were sent out on Twitter and 19 followers were gained. There are 407 followers on Instagram-27 were gained. The top tweet and Instagram post was about resilience. Twelve new videos were uploaded to YouTube, and 703 views were gained. The most viewed video was of the new logo debut. The most-watched training video was Pastor Palmer. Total Facebook post reach was 27,575. Reach, engagement, and likes have increased in the past 28 days. BSBTN (Building Strong Brains) Campaign posts can't be tracked but an image search will show how many times they've been shared.

Councils (Allan Sterbinsky, Acting Chair)

Dunkin provided the Commission with a brief Councils overview;

Lindsey Cody with the East (ETCCY) region sponsored and collaborated with the TSPN to present "Zoom in, Zoom Out" on September 24, 2020 with 258 online participants. This was the Council's annual Suicide Prevention event and featured the film "CJ's Ashes."

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ETCCY also collaborated with the Statewide Councils to present Building Strong Brains on June 16, 2020 and July 16, 2020, Implicit Bias 8/18/20, and Cultural Engagement 9/3/20. ETCCY will conduct their annual Legislative Event on Friday, December 11th, 2020 at the Jubilee Banquet Center and will include a limited audience of attendees and will practice social distancing guidelines. The guest speakers include Jane Jolley from the Knox County Mayor's office, Richard Kennedy, Executive Director of the TCCY, and Juvenile Judge Tim Irwin.

Jill Stott with the North East (NE) region collaborated with Northeast Regional TSPN to obtain proclamations from county and city entities to recognize September as Suicide Prevention Awareness month. Also, Stott was invited to serve on the Strong BRAIN (Building Resilience through ACEs-Informed Networking) Institute Advisory Council. She also continues to collaborate with statewide councils that are providing virtual trainings by moderating and merging reports for follow-up communication. Stott is still attending various regional meetings virtually such as, Foster Care Review Boards, Community Advisory Boards, Anti-Drug Coalitions, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network, Bristol's Promise, 423 Unsilenced, Children and Youth Vision Council, Dawn of Hope and Families Free.

Kristi Paling with the Upper Cumberland (UC) region continues to actively improve and support the transition to a virtual platform in coordinating and hosting virtual events. Additional offerings include: Building Strong Brains 6/16 and 7/16/20; Implicit Bias 8/18/20; Cultural Engagement 9/3/20; Trauma Informed Approach for Law Enforcement 10/9/2; Trauma Informed Approach for Community Members 10/20/20. Paling, along with the UCCCY Legislative Committee, is planning a virtual Legislative Event for 12/4/20.

Susan Cope with the Mid Cumberland (MC) region served as the lead coordinator for the two events held in October. These were the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services' (SAMSHA) Trauma-Informed Policing, (202 attendees) and the Trauma-Informed Approach, (673 attendees) trainings with National Speaker and Consultant Becky Haas. Trauma-Informed Policing is the SAMSHA training modified for law enforcement personnel and anyone who works closely with law enforcement staff. MCCY's Board has accepted the recommendations from the nominating subcommittee for the slate of officers for FY 2021/2022.

Shaun Noblit with the South Central (SC) regional continues to work with the other regional coordinators on developing and implementing future statewide trainings. Noblit has been working with the Maury County Anti-Drug Coalition to move from reactive to prevention. Noblit and the coalition have discussed and started to implement procedures focusing on ACEs and why addiction happens. The group feels that more success will

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come from prevention than many of the current scare tactics. Noblit has continued in virtual meetings. Noblit has also increased the number of community group meetings. Noblit reported he has started compliance monitoring and is working with South Central DCS and partners to provide Christmas for their foster children.

Rosalyn Leavell- Rice with the South East (SE) regional introduced former commission member Destiny Sweeney to the Foster Care Review Board with DCS in the Southeast Region. The Southeast Council recorded a video for an upcoming event called Dance Across TN in collaboration with the Department of Health. This event correlates with Child Month in October. The date of the event is October 30, 2020 at 12:00 noon Eastern time and again at 12:00 noon in Central time. The goal is to get families, children, and others up and moving on this date. The video had about 20 participants from child serving agencies such as Hamilton County Juvenile Court, Erlanger Children's Hospital and Healthy Children and Teens, Inc from Memphis, Tennessee. Leavell-Rice thanked everyone for sharing the Department of Health approved video link.

Dana Cobb with the North West (NW) region co-sponsored and helped plan the NW TN Suicide Prevention Network virtual conference, "Building a Stronger Tomorrow: Addressing Farmers and First Responders' Mental Health & Suicide Prevention," Thursday, September 17, 2020. Training topics included: The Status of Suicide in TN, Suicide Prevention Awareness, Stress and First Responders, Farmers and Suicide Prevention Panel and Coping with Secondary Trauma. There were approximately 200 attendees. Cobb continues to participate in weekly virtual meetings with the Rural Health Association of Tennessee. Cobb currently serves as the Vice President and serves on the Executive, Finance and Conference Planning Committees. Cobb continues to work with the staff and the conference committee to plan the annual November state conference. The conference will be virtual, due to COVID.

Gwen Wright with the Memphis Shelby region took the lead in three virtual learning opportunities that were open to all members and friends of the nine regional councils on children and youth:

- Implicit Bias: August 27, 2020 with 823 participants
- Cultural Engagement: September 3, 2020 with 657 participants
- Let's Talk about Cultural and Linguistic Competency: scheduled for September 16, 2020 but cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances on September 15th. There were 721 registrants.

Wright thanked all TCCY staff who have been instrumental in helping make all the webinars so successful. The tech support and uploading training recordings to the TCCY

website and navigating WebEx logistics were mentioned. Wright has made contact with her jails, prison, court holdings and detention facilities to obtain electronic population records for the October 2019 – September 2020 monitoring period and to schedule in-person site visits.

Jerri Moore with the South West (SW) region is assisting the South West Executive Board, which finished revising the Southwest By-Laws and designed a new Southwest Council membership announcement flyer during this quarter. Also, the Southwest Council sponsored the first Southwest Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (virtual) Conference, a fall festival in Tipton County and helped promote the Grow Well Video Series with Le Bonheur. Moore partnered with Amy Bechtol (West TN Faith-based Coordinator with Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services) to join in on a series with the local public radio station, WTJS, titled The Front Porch Radio Show, throughout August and September 2020. Moore discussed how children can be affected by COVID and how state and local agencies and faith-based organizations can work together to help children and families.

All of the Regional Administrators and Coordinators co-hosted, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN) regional conferences. All also participated in two virtual “Implicit Bias and Racial Equity” trainings, “Trauma Informed Policing” and “Trauma Informed Approach” trainings. Commission Member, Ella Britt, asked the Middle and East TN coordinators to collaborate with her to spread awareness about the Safety Net grant, that would provide funding for free mental health services.

Children’s Services (Amy Jones, Chair)

Jones provided the Commission with a brief update. Jones reported that the Ombudsman Program has received 30 new referrals from July to September. For the same reporting period, 37 new case were logged in 2019 and 27 new cases were logged in 2018. Training was provided this year for 20 individuals from various offices indicating interest. The distribution of the 30 referrals include 25 active cases (83%), 3 information-only cases (10%) and 2 foster home-related cases (7%). Papica participated in two FCRBs on 07/27/20 and 09/28/20. Papica reported that on 09/02/20, a BOR settlement hearing took place by phone.

Drake- Croft reported that due to challenges with COVID-19 the Building Strong Brains Conference Content Committee decided to move forward with an online Lunch and Learn Series throughout the summer. At the end of September, TCCY and the BSB TN Lunch & Learn Content Committee wrapped up the series. An online series made the series available to those who would not normally be able to attend in person. In addition to

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around 100 views in real time, more were able to view the series on TCCY's YouTube channel. Keller, Drake-Croft, and Newland have been partnering with DCS to develop a BSB TN website. The website is nearing completion and should be live by the end of October or, more likely, November. Since the departure of Mary Rolando from the Department of Children's Services, TCCY staff have taken over the coordination of both the weekly Coordinating Team meetings and the quarterly Public & Private Sector Meetings.

The Youth Transitions Advisory Council (YTAC) met October 1, 2020 via WebEx. Over 40 people participated online. They heard information from Tennessee Housing and Development Agency on availability of housing grants for youth aging out of foster care. The Office of Independent Living at the Department of Children's Services provided additional housing information. Data from the office reveals that while the overall number of young people receiving Extension of Foster Care Services in FY 2020 increased, that number fell significantly between April and August. While it increased slightly in September, there are still 36 fewer young adults participating. This was likely due to the pandemic.

CCMH met on August 20th with a focus on engaging children and families during the pandemic. Presenters, including the Young Adult Leadership Council, shared information on building rapport using telehealth, engaging youth, young adults and families, as well as a grant-end evaluation update for System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT). CCMG met again on October 15th after the planning committee identified a theme focused on suicide prevention and awareness.

McGee acknowledged Laritha Fentress's final committee meeting, then reported that System of Care Across Tennessee federal funding ended on September 29, 2020. TDMHSAS was awarded a new Substance of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Administration (SAMHSA) funded award, referred to as System of Care Across Tennessee Network, extending four additional years at a total of \$12 million, representing roughly 28 SOCAT teams. Also, Laritha Fentress will remain with TCCY in the interim and will be transitioned to TDMHSAS as the SOCAT Network Community Engagement Coordinator. Laritha has been an incredible asset to TCCY and will be missed but know she will continue to do excellent work in the new grant. The SOCAT Network will allow for expansion of new geographic areas across Tennessee to serve more children, youth and families. TDMHSAS also received Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding from the Department of Human Services (DHS) to continue providing services in existing sites. Funding was granted at current SOCAT level for three years pending legislative approval. Lastly, the CCMH Director position will be partially funded with each funding stream, the percentage increasing when SOCAT Network dollars are approved and

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distributed. McGee and Fentress continue to conduct trainings and Fentress continues work on a training for employees of Family Support Specialists. Fentress is sad to leave TCCY but excited to continue her work with TDMHSAS.

The September HVLA Meeting was cancelled due to multiple date multiple conflicts with the federal MIECHV site visit with the Department of Health. The next HVLA meeting is scheduled for November 17th and will be the last meeting for 2020 and will be held virtually. Keller learned from our partners at the Department of Health that the expansion of home visiting to all 95 counties supported by the Department of Human Services' TANF funds is confirmed, complete with legislative signatures/approval. This funding is a significant investment in EBHV and will make the services available across the entire state. This will more than offset a previous decrease in funding for EBHV. Much credit for the TANF funds goes to Carla Snodgrass from the Dept of Health.

The Tennessee Young Child Wellness Council last general meeting was held via WebEx on 09/02 and featured updates from the Tennessee Department of Human Services office of Child Care, the Early Childhood Initiatives section of the Tennessee Department of Health, and the Governor's COVID Child Well-Being Task Force. In addition, the council's assigned technical assistance provider from national nonprofit ZERO TO THREE (ZTT) introduced the Building Strong Foundations for Families project, of which the council is a part. The next meeting will be held in December, date TBD. The TNYCWC Newsletter continues to be issued monthly. The newsletter features upcoming webinars, job postings, issue spotlights, and profiles of participating agencies. The TNCYWC meets regularly with a consultant from ZTT to discuss technical assistance needs and met with team leads from other states on 10/16. The Director, along with the Steering Team, will participate in a virtual meeting with the other state teams on 10/23.

The Second Look Commission (SLC) met virtually on August 11, 2020. During the quarterly meeting, the SLC members checked-in with each other during the introductions to make sure the members were doing well during pandemic. Hargrow received questions from the Comptroller's office but has not started working on them at the time. During the August investigatory meeting, SLC members made the following preliminary findings and recommendations:

1. Overall, DCS continues to improve its documentation;
2. DCS representatives provided good case work and coordination with other agencies and entities;
3. DCS made excellent efforts to locate and locate and engage the parents; and
4. There continues to be an opportunity to share family planning information with parents involved with DCS.

The commission held another meeting on October 13th SLC. Hargrow submitted the SLC responses to the questions provided by the Comptroller's office. Hargrow anticipates submitting names open appointments on the commission during the sunset hearing which was rescheduled for December. Marcum-Embry continues to maintain contact with CASA program directors and provide technical assistance when necessary.

Juvenile Justice (Rob Mortensen, Chair)

Mortensen provided the Commission with a brief Juvenile Justice overview. Mortensen stated that despite uncertainty around budget reductions and other difficulties related to the pandemic, the FY 20-21 Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) contracts have been executed. Most FY 19-20 annual reports have been submitted by grantees as well. Fiscal year 19-20 Title VI surveys have been sent to grantees and are being returned now.

Taylor and Whitfield successfully navigated the federal formula grants application process during the pandemic. Taylor and Whitfield facilitated the grant review process and provided substantial support to the Grant Review Committee. Other Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth team members, including Isom, Jones, Mitchell and Marcum-Embry provided support as well. Lastly, the reimbursement grant contracts have been signed and returned to Whitfield and Taylor for filing.

The detention monitoring reports received to this point for FY 2020 are 29 DSO violations. TCCY Compliance Monitoring audit from OJJDP has been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. OJJDP has not told TCCY when it will be rescheduled.

Mitchell submitted the 2021 CPO Plan on October 1, and the plan was approved on October 2. The requirements for the 2021 CPO Plan mirrored those of the 2020 CPO Plan. Mitchell will update the Subrecipient Population and the Summary of Findings and Corrective Actions attachments and resubmit those documents to CPO once 2020 monitoring is complete.

The subrecipient monitoring for 2020 is still in progress due to delays related to the pandemic. Subrecipients have been submitting their Annual Reports this year, which is marked improvement. The process of submitting Annual Reports has been streamlined using standard templates. Details for 2021 monitoring, including monitoring schedules and timelines, will be established between December 2020 and May 2021.

Hargrow continues to work individually in Shelby, Madison and Davidson counties to address racial and ethnic disparities. Additional information is in the Director's Report.

Steve Petty, Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

Youth Advisory Transitions Committee Report

Petty reported that the Tennessee Extension of Foster care Services program currently operates three of the five eligibility criteria outlined in the Fostering Connections guidelines and Tenn.Code Ann. 37-2-417 Tennessee's Transitioning Youth Empowerment Act of 2010:

1. They are completing secondary education or a program leading to an equivalent credential such as HiSet.
2. Enrolled in an institution that provides postsecondary or vocational education or
3. Incapable of working or enrolling in an approved academic program due to a medical condition, including a developmental or intellectual condition.
4. A total of 773 youth were served by Extension of Foster Care Services (ECFCS) in 2020

In FY 2020, 876 young people turned 18 years of age in state custody. It represented a 28% reduction since 2009 when 1209 young people turned 18 in custody of DCS, prior to implementation of EFCS. The average length of stay in EFCS was 311 days, up from 273 days in 2019.

Two main reasons for termination of services are:

1. Youth not maintaining academic eligibility
2. Youth requesting termination of services.

However, the number of youths leaving due to being a risk to self or other showed a notable increase.

1. Successful completion of educational program
2. Transition to adult services
3. Turned age 21; and
4. Unable to locate

Two EFCS Scholarships are available to DCS youth, the federally funded education and training voucher and the state funded Bright Futures Scholarships in FY 2020, 689 young people received these scholarships, a slight decrease from 2019.

The Tennessee Housing and Development Agency (THDA) strategic plan includes provisions to address the housing needs of youth aging out of foster care. Former foster youth make up a third to a half of the homeless population in the state and nation.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse services currently implements 3 programs addressing the needs of transition age youth:

1. Tennessee Healthy Transitions Initiative,
2. First Episode Psychosis Initiative
3. Tennessee Clinical High Risk for Psychosis Initiative.

Healthy Transitions assist young children from ages 16-25 with all mental health issues.

This report is available on the TCCY Website below.

<https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/tccy/documents/YTAC%202020%20Annual%20Report.pdf>

Child-Serving Department Reports

Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

Matt Yancey, Deputy Commissioner

Yancey thanked the commission and the staff for providing him time to present to everyone. Yancey also praised the new TCCY logo and mission/vision and rebranding. He stated that it looks great!

Yancey introduced the 2021 State of Mental Health of America Report, published by Mental Health of America provided data on array of mental health issues for young adults and adults. Key findings in this report show that mental health for the youth is not trending in the right direction. This downward trajectory was found before COVID. Specifically, the State of TN has moved up to a 28% ranking in the US, a 11-spot jump, that shows the State of TN has been improving in providing and making mental health services available to youth. This report can be found on MHAnational.org. TN is definitely leading the South East, and it shows great gains for our state. We have also expanded our in

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school behavioral health program. This program will now be available to all 95 TN counties. This investment by the state legislature is fortuitous. Kids now more than ever need help and we are excited that we are able to provide those services.

Keri Virgo, MH/IDD Program Director

Virgo thanked everyone for the opportunity to present today and is excited to share some new information to the commission. Virgo stated that the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services department has made a few organizational changes. They have divided their department into four offices, Infant and Early Childhood Initiatives led by Melissa Binkley, School Based Initiatives, led by Kayla Mumphrey, Youth and Young Adults Initiatives, led by Jessica Mullins and Systems of Care Initiatives, which is currently vacant.

Infant and Early Childhood Initiatives details below:

Regional intervention Program (RIP)

- Serves ages 2-6
- Legacy Program -51 years in operation
- Other than the Mental Health Institutes, only State- Run Program
- Only program with an Out of State revenue stream
 - a. Sites in Iowa and California

Early Intervention and Prevention Program (EIPP)

- Serves ages 0-11

Child Care Consultation (CCC)

- Serves ages 0-8

Contact: Melissa Binkley

School Based Initiatives details below:

Erase the Stigma (ETSY)

- All ages

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- Serves K-3rd grade

Planned Respite

- Serves ages 2-15

Respite Voucher

- Serves ages 0-18

School Based Behavioral Health Liaisons (SBBHL)

- Serves K-12th grade

Violence and Bullying Prevention (V&B)

- Serves 4th-8th grade

Contact: Kayla Mumphrey

Youth and Young Adult Initiatives

Clinical High Risk for Psychosis (CHR-P)

- Serves ages 12-25

First Episode Psychosis Initiative (FEPI)

- Serves K-3rd grade

Healthy Transitions 2 (HT2)

- Serves ages 16-25

Young Adult Leadership Council (YALC)

- Serves ages 18-30

Certified Young Adult Peer Support Specialist (CYAPSS)

- Serves ages 18-30

Contact: Jessica Mullins

System of care Initiatives

System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT)

- Serves ages 0-21
- Finishing No Cost Extension period (ends 3/31/21)

System of Care Across Tennessee Network (SOCAT-N)

- Serves 0-21

SOCAT-TANF

- Serves ages 0-18

Emotional Fitness Center (EFC)

- All ages

Family Support and Advocacy (FSA)

- Serves ages 0-18

Certified Family Support Specialist Program (CFSS)

- Serves ages 18+

Contact at the moment: Keri Virgo

Total youth served FY20: 94,961 FY19: 78,398 FY18: 53,691

New FY21 funding below:

- School Based Behavioral Health Liaisons
 - Addition of \$3M to expand from 36-95 counties
- New Federal System of Care Across Tennessee Network (SOCAT-N)
 - \$12M for 4 years
- Interagency Funding
 - System of Care Across Tennessee Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (SOCAT-TANF)
 - \$9M for 3 years

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Grantee Presentations

James Moore, Boys and Girls Club Hatchie River

Moore provided the commission with an overview of the program.

The Boys and Girls Club of Hatchie River TN provide a safe place for youth to learn and grow, where they have ongoing relationships with caring adult professionals, while participating in life enhancing programs, character development experiences and receiving encouragement to have hope and take advantage of every opportunity that life presents. Their mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need it most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. They provide a formula for impact that provide high yield activities, targeted programs, regular attendance that helps each child with academic success that will help them graduate from high school to become ready for college, trade school, military or employment. They also emphasize good character and citizenship that will help the youth be an engaged citizen, involved in the community while backing a healthy lifestyle. If you would like additional information about the BGCHRR, please click the link below.

<https://www.bgchrr.com/>

Stacia Freeman, Epic Girl

Freeman provided the commission with an overview of the program.

Epic Girl exists to empower girls to reach their full potential through educational programs, mentoring, counseling, and community activities. They focus on defining their past and recognizing how it can shape them but not allowing it to define their future. They have trained over 300 girls utilizing Epic Girl identity curriculum. Their goal is to help at risk girls recognize vulnerabilities in their history, educate them on potential negative consequences of those issues and give them opportunities to connect with resources. Epic Girl partners with the Oasis Center in Nashville, Yoda, Davidson and Williamson County Juvenile Court, the Department of Children's Services, TN Department of Human Services, TN Baptist Children's Home, Big Brother Big Sister, Sexual Assault Center and The Provision Lab. For further information and to get in contact with Stacia and team, the website is below.

<https://www.epicgirl.net/>

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Training and Reports
Rose Naccarato, Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

TCCY Dashboard Report

Naccarato informed the staff that she made a few changes to the TCCY dashboard to include updates to the color scheme, update the mission and reformat the document for a better esthetic appeal. Also, Google Ads is reauthorized, after months of calling the service department and it is now up and running again. The Dashboard can be viewed by requesting the document from Rose.Naccarato.tn.gov

Richard Kennedy, Executive Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

TCCY Service Awards presented to the following recipients:

1. Gwen Wright 20 yrs. of service
2. Russette Marcum- Embry 5 yrs. of service
3. Kristi Paling 20 yrs. of service
4. Craig Hargrow 15 yrs. of service
5. Latasha Mitchell 5 yrs. of service
6. Jennifer Drake-Croft 5 yrs. of service

Directors Report was sent to the commission for review.

Title VI Training Video was Presented by Jennifer Jones- Title VI Coordinator

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business, Davis motioned to adjourn the November 2020 Commission Meeting. Sterbinsky seconded,

Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. CST

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Prepared by Jennifer Jones