



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

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**COUNCILS COMMITTEE**

Andrew Jackson Building  
TCCY Conference Room  
Thursday, October 31, 2019  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Members Present**

Ashley Dunkin, Chair  
Steven Neely  
Glenda Terry

**Members Absent**

Hailey Brooks  
Kelly Drummond  
Petrina Jones-Jesz  
Wendy Shea  
Allan Sterbinsky

**Staff Absent**

Susan Cope  
Jill Stott

**Staff Present**

Dana Cobb  
Lindsey Cody  
Roselyn Leavell-Rice  
Jerri Moore  
Shaun Noblit  
Kristi Paling  
John Rust  
Gwendolyn Wright

I. Welcome and Introductions – John Rust, Director of Field Operations

Rust called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m. and welcomed all members and staff.

II. Approval of Minutes - A copy of the minutes were not available for approval at this time. They will be approved at the November 7, 2019 Commission meeting.

III. Children's Advocacy Days 2020 – John Rust

A brief overview of the progress on Children's Advocacy Days 2020 was provided.

IV. Review of Regional Coordinators' Activities

Information was presented and reports provided about individual council and coordinator activities by: Dana Cobb, West Regional Program Administrator; Lindsey Cody, East Regional Program Administrator; Susan Cope, Mid-Cumberland Regional Coordinator; Jerri Moore, Southwest Regional Coordinator; Shaun Noblit, South Central Regional Coordinator; Kristi Paling, Upper Cumberland Regional Coordinator and Jill Stott,

Northeast Regional Coordinator. Each report included council activities that have occurred since the last Commission meeting as well as information about special projects and upcoming council meetings and events.

Leavell-Rice reported the following information from the Southeast Council on Children and Youth. The Annual Fall Conference with Mardi Gras theme featuring multiple conference speakers and breakout sessions was held October 15, 2019. A December 7, 2019 Legislative Event is planned with Representative Mike Carter and Jerry Redman from Street Grace as confirmed attendees. DCS Commissioner Jennifer Nichols is invited and unconfirmed. The MLK Children's Rights Event is to be held on January 16, 2020.

Leavell-Rice held a Knowledge Mobilization event with Chattanooga City Police Chief David Roddy training Marion County Sheriff's Department and school district personnel. Marion County law enforcement agencies and Board of Education are interested in implementing Handle with Care.

Noblit reported 78 attendees at the recent Racial & Ethnic Disparities Community Event which was co-sponsored by Centerstone. The event included resources and children's games. An additional event will follow in spring 2020. South Central Children and Youth's annual Legislative Event is scheduled for November 22, 2019 at Crye-Leike Event Center featuring Commission member Rob Mortensen providing training on legislative advocacy and TCCY's Steve Petty providing a legislative update.

Noblit has a November 20, 2019 meeting scheduled to speak with Maury County school system personnel regarding initiating Handle with Care. The effort has support from multiple sectors of the community. The South-Central Council on Children and Youth will sponsor the annual Christmas Gift delivery to children involved with DCS.

Cobb shared a summary of the October 4, 2019 Cause and Effect: ACEs & Human Trafficking learning opportunity featuring Natalie Ivey, J.D. of Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking. An upcoming event is the Stress & Humor Conference featuring comedian and actor DJ Pryor. Mr. Pryor is the father featured in recent viral Facebook posts performing a perfect "Serve and Return" interaction with his young son. He is recently become interested in ACEs and Infant Mental Health and is the new spokesperson for AIMHiTN.

Rust reported on Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth's council activities. Stott coordinated two SAMHSA Trauma Informed Approach Training to introduce the training topic and followed up with a Train the Trainer. The Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth's Legislative Breakfast is to be held on November 15, 2019. Stott helped coordinate several Northeast region ACEs Awareness Month Proclamations.

Stott has spearheaded a Trauma Informed approach for children and youth participating in Foster Care Review Boards. The Field Staff division is helping make kits for her to utilize in her region.

Wright summarized the August 28<sup>th</sup> learning opportunity entitled *Historical and Community Adverse Experiences and Trauma* with Dr. Gregory Washington. Dr. Washington discussed systemic racism as a generational trauma. Memphis/Shelby County Council on Children and Youth co-sponsored the 109<sup>th</sup> Annual International Association for Dropout Prevention Conference that featured Commission Member Dr. Altha Stewart and Cyntoia Brown-Long among other speakers.

Wright indicates the council's legislative breakfast is scheduled for December 12, 2019. The council is sponsoring children from the DCS Angel Tree for Christmas gifts.

Rust reported for Cope about the upcoming Legislative Breakfast to be held in partnership with Montgomery County Department of Health on November 4, 2019 and include members of the General Assembly's House of Representatives Children and Families Subcommittee of the Judiciary Committee.

Commission Member Neely shared information about the upcoming *How to Maintain, Sustain and Regain Yourselves and Your Employees* 12/9/19 learning opportunity. He is helping to promote this event among his peers and partners.

Both Montgomery and Wilson County Health Departments are partners in their counties Knowledge Mobilization meetings.

Cody shared information from East TN Council on Children and Youth's event; *Tennessee Hope* (Annual Suicide Prevention event) hosted by award winning newscaster Brittany Tarwater (WVLT-TV) and featured seven presenters in a TED Talk-type format. The event included groups working together to design suicide prevention efforts to be used throughout the East Region.

ETCCY also provided a learning opportunity on October 4<sup>th</sup>; *The Role of Genetics, Trauma and Social Opportunity in Opioid Addiction* featuring guest speaker Dr. Steven Loyd. The event was co-sponsored by Journey Pure.

ETCCY will hold their Legislative Breakfast on 11/22/19 and feature Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Judge Tim Irwin and TCCY's Richard Kennedy. Thirteen members of the general assembly are scheduled to attend.

Cody's 10/9/19 Knowledge Mobilization meeting with Hamblen County sparked interest for knowledge mobilization meetings in both Putnam and Coffee Counties through their exposure on Facebook. ETCCY is coordinating five upcoming Knowledge Mobilization meetings.

Moore provided her first ever Southwest Council on Children and Youth report to the committee. She participated in the recent Connecting for Children's Justice Conference.

Moore shared information from the 9/26 – 9/27/19 *Think Trauma* Workshop featuring

TCCY Commission Member Amy Jones delivering trauma informed care training for juvenile justice personnel.

Rural West TN is busy participating in Knowledge Mobilization meetings throughout their regions and will have special summits for Lake and McNairy Counties in 2020.

Paling shared information about recent UCCCY learning opportunities. Heather Herrmann, Statewide Fatality Review Coordinator of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville-Davidson County, Office of Family Safety provided two learning opportunities in September; Trauma and the Brain and Domestic Violence: Effects on Relationships. Justin Sweatman-Weaver of GLSEN provided training at the LGBTQ Inclusion for Youth-Serving Professionals learning opportunity on 10/17/19. A similar opportunity will be available 11/18/19 with Pam Shepherd providing training.

Paling has been busy with KMT work with ATC Automation, Falling Water River Regional Library, Family and Community Education Club and other county-specific groups.

Detailed information regarding activities in each region was included in materials distributed.

V. Other Business

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:44 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by:

Minutes Approved by:

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John Rust  
Director of Field Operations

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Ashley Dunkin  
Committee Chair