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Advocate

March 2016

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Adverse Childhood Experiences the focus of 2016 Children's Advocacy Days

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Join Us at Children's Advocacy Days, March 8-9

Each year TCCY welcomes child advocates and others to Children's Advocacy Days. The event is a combination training event, networking opportunity, celebration and a day when those serving children can meet the people with the power to make the laws affecting the well-being of children in Tennessee.

This year's theme is "Under Construction: Building the Next Generation." Its focus is on Adverse Childhood Experiences: Prevention, Mitigation and Recovery. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) research may be unfamiliar to many, but its underlying concept is not: Stress and trauma in childhood erode the foundations required for a person to have the best life he or she could have. Young people with Southern Word will again electrify participants with spoken word performances expressing their experiences.

The 2016 Children's Advocacy Days is special because the 2016 Governor's Awards for Excellence in Early Foundations will be presented for the first time by Governor and First Lady Haslam. TCCY will award the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award, Senator Douglas Henry Public Official, the Youth Excellence Award and the John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media awards.

Children's Advocacy Days presenters include:

- Deputy Governor Jim Henry;
- Loraine Lucinski, deputy director of child health, Department of Health;
- Dr. Megan Smith, assistant professor of psychiatry and child study, Yale School of Medicine.

Panels of commissioners of child serving departments, juvenile court judges, representatives of programs addressing ACEs in Tennessee and a focus on changing the future through ACEs prevention, mitigation and recovery complete the program.

Children's Advocacy Days registration and information: <http://www.cad2016.eventbrite.com>.

Children's Advocacy Days agenda: <http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/tccy/attachments/cad-ag.pdf>.

2016 Governor's Award for Excellence in Early Foundations Winners:
<http://1.usa.gov/1Olnlqb>

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TCCY Staff Wades Through Adversity

Children's Advocacy Days Will Succeed As Planned

Over the President's Day weekend, a plumbing malfunction on the 9th Floor of the Andrew Jackson State Office Building resulted in flooding the TCCY offices. Everything in all offices was packed and moved. As usual, TCCY staff stepped up and has done what had to be done. Meetings have been covered and staff worked remotely one week or in a conference room on the Ground Floor of Andrew Jackson. TCCY has been located in temporary space on the 16th Floor of Parkway Towers, 404 James Robertson Parkway, in Nashville, until after Children's Advocacy Days.



Staff phones and email are operational. The agency is functioning as well as possible in this emergency situation that makes timely responses more challenging. Initially, there was limited access to printing or copying capabilities, and limited access to files continues. Moving back into our offices and sorting through boxes that of necessity were hastily packed will take some time. Prior to Children's Advocacy Days, we will focus on making it the best experience possible for participants.

Thanks for being understanding during this challenging time. We hope you will register and attend Children's Advocacy Days March 8-9. It will be an excellent event where you will learn a lot and have the opportunity to network with awesome people.

TCCY Direct Phone Numbers and Email Addresses: <http://www.tn.gov/tccy/article/tccy-au-staff-photos>

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Legislative Session Continues

The Legislative session is in full swing, and its members are working to complete its business in order to return home soon. Children's Advocacy Days participants will be able to see their officials at work. Each will receive information on bills being considered and a [legislative calendar](#) identifying major legislation impacting children will be available on March 4.

TCCY Legislative Information: <http://www.tn.gov/tccy/article/tccy-legislat>.

Legislative Report: <http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/tccy/attachments/legislat.pdf>.

Weekly Calendar: <http://www.tn.gov/assets/entities/tccy/attachments/leg-wkcal.pdf>.

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Mark Your Calendar

March 4, 10-12 a.m., Tennessee Early Learning and Wellness Professional Development Collaborative, **Talking About Compassion Fatigue**, Conference Room, Maury County Health Department, 1909 Hampshire Pike, Columbia, TN.

March 11, 3-5 p.m., Tennessee Early Learning and Wellness Professional Development Collaborative, **Talking About Compassion Fatigue**, Midtown Police Precinct, Community Room, 1443 12th Ave. S, Nashville.

June 4-7, National Court Appointed Special Advocate Association, **National CASA/GAL Conference**, Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland. Register at <http://bit.ly/1oFcJZi>.

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In the News

Miller, Claire Henley, Chattanooga.com, "**Judge Rob Philyaw Opens Up About Juvenile Court, Court Appointed Special Advocates, Adverse Childhood Experiences**," <http://to.pbs.org/1S0wvea>.

Camera, Lauren, *Education Week*, "**A Tennessee District Perseveres in Wake of Online-Testing Woes**," (registration/log in required): <http://bit.ly/1QnvQC3>.

Shevrin, Alex, Edutopia, **Helping Students Who Have Experienced Trauma**, <http://edut.to/1QJbcrJ>.

Urevich, Robin, *WQED News*, Schools Should Recognize Trauma as a Disability, Compton Lawsuit Says, <http://bit.ly/1oMDB9W>

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Research Information

Jimenez, M.E., et al, *Pediatrics*, "**Adverse Experiences in Early Childhood and Kindergarten Outcomes**," <http://bit.ly/1VN64Y0>.

Center for American Progress, **Removing Barriers to Opportunity for Parents With Criminal Records and Their Children: A Two-Generation Approach**: <http://ampr.gs/1Qo1Nqr>.

Speak Now for Kids, **March is Nutrition Month: "Savor the Flavor of Eating Right,"** <http://bit.ly/1TORHVh>.

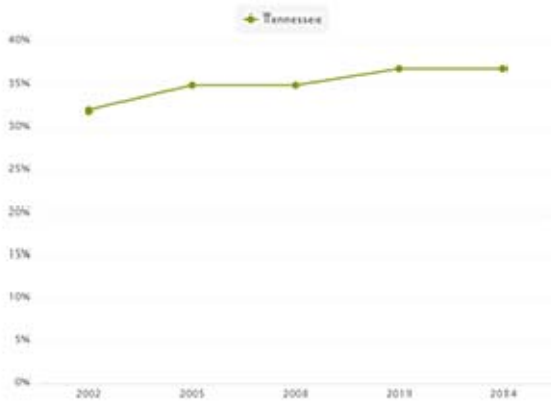
TCCY Advocacy Resources (Includes ACEs Resources): <http://www.tn.gov/tccy/article/tccy-ac-advocacy>.

Centers for Disease Control, Child Maltreatment, **Introduction to Adverse Childhood Experiences**: <http://1.usa.gov/1CHuDeB>.

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Tennessee KIDS COUNT Facts

Children in Single Parent Families

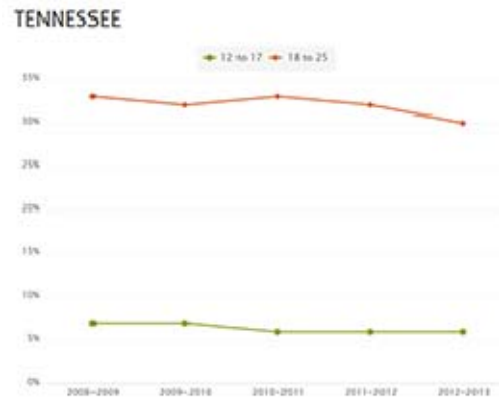


Note: Non-consecutive years appear adjacent in the trend line because one or more years have been deselected.

CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

Recorded Divorces Number



BINGE ALCOHOL DRINKING AMONG YOUTHS BY AGE GROUP: ALL (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT
KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org
A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

More data on Tennessee child well-being are available at <http://bit.ly/15alkVu>.

No person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability or ability to pay, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity operated, funded or overseen by the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY). It is the intent of TCCY to bind all agencies, organizations or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

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