December 2017

Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

TENNESSEE SYSTEM of CARE

SOCAT Staff Highlight

Keri Virgo, SOCAT Project Director

As SOCAT project director, Keri provides leadership, vision, administration and oversight of all program operations for System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT). She leads and coordinates all SOCAT activities which will ensure Tennessee children, youth and families receive appropriate family-driven, youth guided, and culturally and linguistically competent services.

SOCAT JOB OPENING: TA Coordinator

We are pleased to announce that the SOCAT Technical Assistance Coordinator position is now open! Potential candidates may click here to apply.

If you have questions about the position, please contact:

Jessica Mullins
Office: (615) 253-4545
Jessica.Mullins@tn.gov

System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT)

SOCAT builds upon seventeen years of System of Care experience and focuses on young children, youth, young adults, and their families. SOCAT utilizes the System of Care values and principles while empowering Tennessee families to work together with child-serving agencies as partners to guide their care. In partnership with the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY), SOCAT will:

⇒ Institute policy and environmental change strategies;
⇒ Create statewide local interagency planning teams; and
⇒ Ensure implementation and sustainability of a comprehensive children's mental health system that accounts for the needs and wants of Tennessee families.

The System of Care model is an organizational philosophy and framework that involves collaboration across agencies, families, and youth for the purpose of improving services and access to care. System of Care initiatives are focused on expanding the array of coordinated community-based, culturally and linguistically competent services and supports for children and youth with a serious emotional disturbance and their families.

The System of Care philosophy is built upon these core values and guiding principles:

- To be ***family-driven and youth-guided*** with the strengths and needs of the child/youth/young adult and family while determining the types of services and supports provided;
- To be ***community-based*** with the primary services as well as the system management resting within a supportive, adaptive infrastructure of structures, processes, and relationships at the community level; and
- To be ***culturally and linguistically competent*** with agencies, programs, and services that reflect the cultural, racial, ethnic, and linguistic differences of the populations they serve in order to help people access and use the correct services and supports and to remove inequalities in care.

*To find out the latest news about the **System of Care Across Tennessee** in your community contact:*

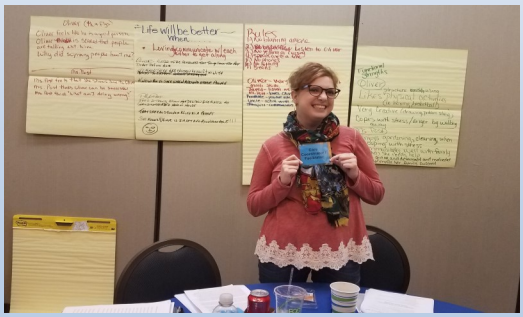
Keri Virgo, SOCAT Project Director
Keri.Virgo@tn.gov
(615) 770-0462

SAMHSA

kidcentral tn

System of Care Across Tennessee kicked off the High Fidelity Wraparound (HFW) training in October with a group of individuals representing all parts of our great state. Everyone in attendance actively participated in training geared around the four established key elements of HFW:

- **Grounded in a Strengths Perspective**
- **Driven by Underlying Needs**
- **Supported by an Effective Team Process; and**
- **Determined by Families**



Make A Referral

System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) currently offers care coordination using a wraparound approach for young children, children, youth, and young adults and their families. SOCAT serves those with the highest needs through a high fidelity wraparound process. Wraparound is a planning process that follows a series of steps to help children and their families realize their hopes and dreams. The wraparound process also helps make sure children and youth grow up in their homes and communities. It is a planning process that brings people together from different parts of the whole family's life. With help from one or more facilitators, people form the family's life work together, coordinate activities, and blend their perspective of the family's situation. The wraparound process is individualized to the strengths and needs of the children and their family and allows for children and family voice and choice in the process. Wraparound is culturally and linguistically competent and is community-based.

To find out more about SOCAT wraparound services in your area, please contact the site nearest you!

Volunteer Behavioral Health Care Services
Putnam County
Georgianna Giampietro
ggiampietro@vbhcs.org
(931) 510-4362

Cherokee Health System
Sevier County
Julia Pearce
Julia.Pearce@cherokeehealth.com
(865) 201-8231

Pathways Behavioral Health
Madison County
Yolanda Neal
Yolanda.Neal@wth.org
(731) 541-7381

Mental Health Cooperative
Coffee County
Cheryl Johnson
cjohnson@mhc-tn.org
(615) 687-4703

Spotlight on SOCAT -System of Care Across Tennessee

Keri Virgo, SOCAT Project Director and Laritha Fentress, Middle TN SOCAT Divisional Coordinator were featured on WCTE's Get Ready To Learn radio show, hosted by Cindy Putman. Listen in as Keri Virgo and Laritha Fentress share about SOCAT- System of Care Across Tennessee.

http://www.wcte.org/blogs/education/spotlight-on-socat-system-of-care-across-tennessee/

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

28TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Orlando Florida

Congratulations to Willie (Will) Voss, *Program Manager at Tennessee Voices for Children and Healthy Transition Statewide Youth Coordinator upon the receipt of the "Dr. Gary Blau Professional of the Year" award.*

Tennesseans from across the state participated in the only national conference dedicated solely to issues that impact children, youth and young adults with behavioral health challenges and their families. The conference focus was inclusive of children and youth who experience complex diagnostic challenges.

What's Happening Across Tennessee

TAMHO 2017 Annual Conference
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
December 12th—13th

Registration and attendance is open to all behavioral health agencies, professionals, public policy makers, advocates, vendors, anyone interested in advancing behavioral healthcare in Tennessee.

Visit **http://www.tamho.org/tamho-annual-conference** to download a copy of the Preliminary Conference Program, access the link for online hotel reservations, access the sponsor, exhibitor, and advertiser details, and much

tamho
tennessee association of mental health organizations

Northeast Tennessee 's 1st Annual Children's Mental Health Conference
REGISTER HERE

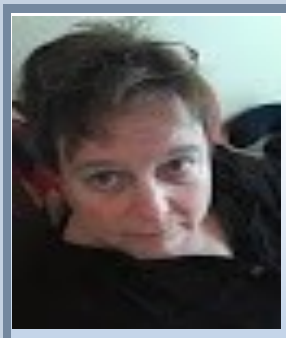
DATE/TIME:
Sat, December 9, 2017
8:30 AM – 4:00 PM EST

Learn with and from one another as a VIP (Very Important Person) in transforming the children and youth mental health system of care in NE TN.

LOCATION:
Doubletree by Hilton
211 Mockingbird Lane
Johnson City, TN 37604

Experts in mental health, family support, special education, the court system, foster care, bullying, stigma, developing community collaborative partnerships, and navigating the system of care from NC, FL, GA, and TN will lead sessions that will provide state of the art information with opportunities to share ideas, ask questions, and discuss issues that impact NE TN families and their children.

For more information:
Mental Health Transformation Alliance
423-747-1244 or go to www.mhtransformationalliance.org.



Congratulations Conni Wells for your selection to the Interdepartmental Coordinating Committee (ISMICC)

The ISMICC reports to Congress and federal agencies on issues related to serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance (SED). The ISMICC is composed of senior leaders from 10 federal agencies including HHS, the Departments of Justice, Labor, Veterans Affairs, Defense, Housing and Urban Development, Education, and the Social Security Administration along with 14 non-federal public members.

"Family Voice on the ISMICC"

Other Upcoming Webinars, Trainings, or Events

Resources

There's More to Young Adult Unemployment Then Mental Health: What Else to Look For is a new brief from Transitions RTC. Researchers found that social demographic factors influenced employment outcomes for young adults living with serious mental health conditions.

The Concerning Link Between Inadequate Sleep and Adolescent Substance Use is a blog by Nora Volkow, director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse. This resource reviews the link between adverse outcomes in adolescents and insufficient sleep.

Training Resources

Healing Word Center
http://www.memphishealingcenter.com/

Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee
www.mhamt.org

Mental Health Transformation Alliance
http://www.mhtransformationalliance.org/

NAMI– Tennessee
www.namitn.org

National Council on Behavioral Health
www.thenationalcouncil.org

The National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
www.nffcmh.org

The National Wraparound Implementation Center
www.NWIC.org

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
www.samhsa.gov

Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and other Addiction Services (TAADAS)
www.taadas.org

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
www.tn.gov/tccy

Tennessee Voices for Children
www.tnvoices.org