

March 2018



# TENNESSEE SYSTEM *of* CARE

## System of Care Across Tennessee

# System of Care Across Tennessee

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## Mission

To put in place policies, organizational structures, and funding mechanisms that support the implementation and expansion of a children's mental health system in Tennessee (TN) grounded on SOC values and principles.

## Core Values

Family Driven | Youth Guided Services

Community-Based

Culturally and Linguistically Competent



**TN**

Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**



# System of Care Across Tennessee Expands Services

The System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) team is excited to announce our expansion into seven new counties!

The latest counties to receive resources through the expansion are: Clay, Cocke, Decatur, DeKalb, Johnson, Meigs, and Tipton counties. The new SOCAT sites will receive funding to hire a Care Coordinator and Family Support Specialist (FSS) to work with families who have young children, youth, or young adults with mental health concerns.

“We’re already seeing the difference that SOCAT is making in our current counties, and this expansion is just going to spread this tried and true service delivery model even farther,” said SOCAT Project Director Keri Virgo. “We’re excited to expand this program to new counties where coordination of resources can often be complicated by factors that are unique to rural communities.”

SOCAT utilizes System of Care values and principles while empowering Tennessee families to work together with child-serving agencies as a partner to guide their care. The goals of SOCAT include:

- Decreasing the utilization of inpatient care
- Reducing the number of out-of-home placements
- Improving community function, including school attendance and performance
- Including and sustaining positive mental health, including increases in behavioral and emotional strengths in children, youth and young adults

The SOCAT initiative serves youth age 21 or younger who are experiencing emotional or behavioral concerns that affect their daily life (i.e. having trouble in school, with their family, with peers or adults, with law enforcement, or children's services). Additionally, SOCAT focuses on young people who are having difficulty or are at-risk of being kicked out of school or have been or are currently at-risk of psychiatric hospitalization, residential placement, or placement in DCS custody.

The awardees for the seven expansion counties are:

- Frontier Health (Johnson county).
- Mental Health Cooperative, Inc. (DeKalb county)
- Professional Care Services of West TN, Inc. (Tipton county)
- Tennessee Voices for Children (Decatur, Clay, and Cocke counties)
- Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System (Meigs county)

Current SOCAT locations are in Coffee, Madison, Putnam, and Sevier counties. [To learn more, visit this link](#) or contact Keri Virgo at [\(615\) 770-0462](tel:6157700462) or [keri.virgo@tn.gov](mailto:keri.virgo@tn.gov).

## Contents

03

### SOC Happenings

Upcoming events scheduled in your community

09

### Our Team

Introducing new SOCAT team members/Employment Opportunities

10

### Trainings/Resources

National webinars and local training resources

13

### Our Vision

Follow us on social media





# System of Care Happenings

## Eligibility Information

The young child/child/youth/young adult:

- Is between the ages of 0-21;
- Is experiencing emotional or behavioral concerns that effect their daily life (i.e., having trouble in school, with their family, with peers or adults, with law enforcement, or children's services);
- Is having difficult or is at-risk of being kicked out of pre-school, child care, school, home, etc;
- Has been, is currently, or is at-risk of psychiatric hospitalization, residential placement, or DCS custody;
- Is willing and interested in participating (if under 16, includes family).

Anyone can make a referral for Wraparound services! For more information or to access the referral form, visit [www.SOCacrossTN.org](http://www.SOCacrossTN.org)

## TCCY Children's Advocacy Days 2018

**Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 10:00 AM - Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 12:00 PM (CDT)**



"Systems are like orchestras with many specialized players. To be in harmony, all the players must be in tune and highly skilled." Child Advocates are the voice for children who cannot be their own voice. That voice is most effective when it is amplified with many individual voices in chorus. That is why the **30<sup>th</sup> annual Children's Advocacy Days 2018** theme is "Children's Advocacy in Concert."

To make beautiful music, a group of skilled performers must be in harmony and in tune. To sing and play the song of Tennessee's children, advocates share a score, arranged to showcase the talents of each.

To assure the future well-being of Tennessee children, skilled advocates – educators, counselors, social workers, administrators, policymakers and planners – speak on their behalf from a shared commitment and message.

While we celebrate the many ways advocates serve children – as educators, therapists, policymakers and planners – we all share the same melody that children should be safe, healthy, nurtured and supported, and engaged in activities that help them succeed in school and in life.

Each year children's advocates gather in harmony to network, share information and updates on children's issues, share what they know about the needs of Tennessee children with policymakers, and enjoy Nashville. To register, click [here](#).

# System of Care Happenings

## Join us for National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day!

Join us on **Thursday, May 10, for Awareness Day 2018!** Each year National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day seeks to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and show that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development.

Awareness Day 2018: Partnering for Health and Hope Following Trauma will focus on the importance of an integrated approach to caring for the mental health needs of children, youth, and young adults who have experienced trauma, as well as their families. More than 1,100 communities and 160 national collaborating organizations and federal programs will organize local Awareness Day activities and events around the country.

To learn how you and your community can get involved, contact SOCAT Social Marketing Manager, Taylor Phipps at [tphipp@tnvoices.org](mailto:tphipp@tnvoices.org) or (865) 202-4468!



## Tennessee Justice Center hosts “Insure Our Kids!” Kick-Off

**Come to TJC's office on Wednesday, March 7 from 4-5 pm to help us kick off the Insure Our Kids campaign!**

Insure Our Kids is a statewide campaign to enroll every uninsured child who is eligible for health insurance. Together we can raise public awareness of TennCare and CoverKids and connect families to enrollment assistance.

**Parents, bring your children! All ages are welcome!** There will be arts & crafts and treats for the kids. We will share information about the campaign and how we can all work together to make sure that all kids have the health coverage they need.

More details will be provided via email once you RSVP [here](#).



# System of Care Happenings

## Healthy Tennessee East TN Symposium

Discussion of Shared Goals on Community Health Across Tennessee

Healthy Tennessee is excited to announce the upcoming East TN symposium in conjunction with the University of Tennessee College of Nursing and the Haslam College of Business.

March 10th, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Millennium Centre.  
2001 Millennium Place  
Johnson City, 37604



Speakers include health professionals; former Lt. gov. Ron Ramsey; and gubernatorial candidates Randy Boyd, Karl Dean and Bill Lee. RSVP to [thomas@myhealthytennessee.com](mailto:thomas@myhealthytennessee.com). For a full agenda and more details, click [here](#).

Click the link image below to register.

## Behavioral Health Day on Capitol Hill

Behavioral Health Day on the Hill that is hosted by the Tennessee Coalition for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. The program begins at 9:30 a.m., and the event concludes at 12:45 p.m. CST. Schedule your legislative visits in advance, or connect with [NAMI](#), [TAADAS](#), [TMHCA](#), or another Coalition body to visit legislators together. We will provide the information you need for a successful visit, and we need your personal stories for a successful visit.



# System of Care Happenings

## ACEs: Building Strong Brains and Resilience

The Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth presents "ACEs: Building Strong Brains and Resilience."

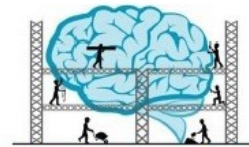
March 10, 2018  
9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Regional Health Building  
1100 England Dr.  
Cookeville, TN

Learn about adverse childhood experiences and their impact; resiliency, trust-based relational interventions and other therapies. No charge for current UCCCY members. Nonmembers fee of \$20 includes UCCCY membership. Register at <http://bit.ly/2F1tcCY>.



The Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth  
presents:

## ACEs: Building Strong Brains and Resilience



**Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM**  
Regional Health Building, 1100 England Drive Cookeville, TN

### Come join us to learn about:

Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact;  
Resiliency (documentary and discussion);  
Trust-Based Relational Interventions;  
Benefits of physical therapy/myofascial release; and yoga!  
Every child deserves a strong foundation, healthy  
relationships, and a bright future!

**Members: No Charge for current UCCCY Members**  
**Non-Members: \$20 (includes yearly UCCCY membership)**  
This event has been approved for DHS Childcare Licensing credit.

To register for this event go to:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aces-building-strong-brains-and-resilience-tickets-43078004471>

UCCCY: Kristi Paling, Regional Coordinator, 931-646-0955 or [kristi.paling@tn.gov](mailto:kristi.paling@tn.gov)



## Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare

United through Service and Social Justice

March 26th-28th, 2018

TCSW's annual state conference is a career-nourishing professional development event. Planned specifically for social services and other helping professionals, the conference includes breakout workshops, plenary sessions, an awards luncheon, and nonprofit, for-profit, government, and private business sponsors and exhibitors. Human services workers, supervisors, and managers state-wide look forward to attending the conference each year. To see the full agenda and registration details, click [here](#).



# System of Care Happenings



## MHTA and the Regional First Responder Mental Health First Aid

The Mental Health Transformation Alliance (MHTA) is a family run non-profit in Northeast Tennessee serving children, youth, young adults, and their families who are effected by mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders. Three years ago, the MHTA was awarded a Statewide Family Network (SFN) grant. Their proposal included the development of a Mental Health First Aid program for First Responders in the region. MHTA partnered with the Northeast Tennessee Disaster Mental Health Coalition whose mission is to: “facilitate coordinated culturally competent state, regional, and local mental health planning, intervention, and response efforts relative to disasters of any type in order to maintain quality care, safety, and security for survivors, their families, disaster responders, and volunteers.” The coalition was successful in securing funds to bring in a team of MHFA Instructors to train 35 first responders. Two members of MHTA are now Instructors for the world renown Mental Health First Aid training, with a focus on first responders and their families. This Fire-medec and Family Support specialist team are certified and ready to help the areas in TN to gain a better understanding of mental health and how to recognize and help others in a crisis. Through the collaboration with Northeast Tennessee Disaster Mental Health Coalition, it is projected that 5000 first responders will be trained within five years.

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## SAMHSA Expert Panel

One of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) key initiatives is the “Interdepartmental Serious Mental Illness Coordinating Committee” (ISMICC). The “21st Century Cures Act” provided the authority to establish the ISMICC to address the needs of people with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) and their families. Conni Wells, MHTA in NE TN, has been named to represent families and children on the ISMICC.

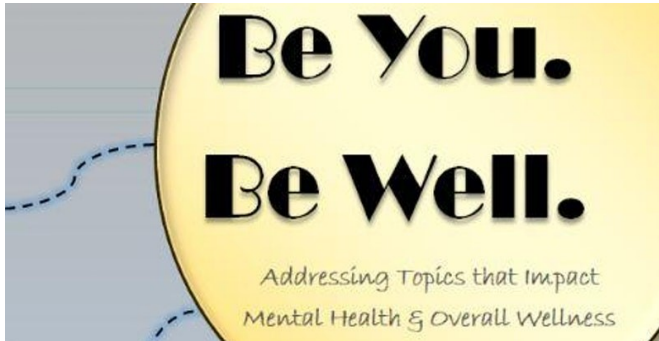
ISMICC is responsible for the following to Congress and to other relevant federal departments and agencies:

- A summary of advances in serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance (SED) research pertaining to prevention, diagnosis, intervention, treatment, and recovery. This includes advances in access to services and supports for adults with SMI and children with SED.
- An evaluation of the effect federal programs related to SMI have on public health, including public health outcomes such as:
  - ⇒ Rates of suicide, suicide attempts, incidence and prevalence of SMIs, SEDs, and substance use disorders, overdose, overdose deaths, emergency hospitalizations, emergency room boarding, preventable emergency room visits, interaction with the criminal justice system, homelessness, and unemployment;
  - ⇒ Increased rates of employment and enrollment in educational and vocational programs;
  - ⇒ Quality of treatment services for mental and substance use disorders;
  - ⇒ Any other criteria as may be determined by the Secretary;
- Specific recommendations for actions that agencies can take to better coordinate the administration of mental health services for adults with SMI and children with SED.

To assist in meeting those requirements, SAMHSA will convene an expert panel on **March 12, 2018**, to raise awareness among leading chairs of psychiatry in medical schools regarding SMI, SED and management of the Opiate crisis. With this meeting, SAMHSA desires to further an understanding of how psychiatry departments in their role as educators, providers and thought leaders can positively impact individuals suffering from SMI/SED and addictions. Conni Wells has been invited to serve on this expert panel as the family/child/youth representative. It is their intent that the guidance document developed with expert input will provide the groundwork for science-based, culturally competent, and client-centered behavioral health service delivery to the SMI/SED population. For more information, contact Conni Wells at [cjwells@axisgroup.net](mailto:cjwells@axisgroup.net).



# System of Care Happenings



## Be You. Be Well. Addressing Topics that Impact Mental Health & Wellness

April 26, 2018 | 8:30 AM–4:30 PM EST

Alcoa High School | 1205 Lodge Street | Alcoa, TN 37701

**Be You. Be Well.** is a one-day conference featuring local, regional, and statewide experts sharing current strategies to address the prevailing substance abuse and mental health trends in Blount County and Tennessee.

The day's events will include presentations and interactive content on topics relating to mental/behavioral health and overall health/wellness:

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (or ACEs);
- Question, Persuade, Refer (or QPR) Suicide Prevention Training;
- Community Panel Discussion on Opiates and our Community's Response;
- Suicide in Special Populations--Veterans, the Elderly and Youth;
- Children and Trauma: What can the community do?;
- Our Individual and Community Charge: Making a Difference in Overall Health and Wellness.

The event is free-of-charge; however, lunch will be available for \$10 (exact change, please) at the door, and will include an assortment of wraps, fresh fruit, freshly prepared sides and desserts. Vegetarian options will be available.

To register, click [HERE](#).

## EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

### UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, BALTIMORE TRAINING INSTITUTES

*LEADING CHANGE — Integrating Systems and Improving Outcomes  
in Behavioral Health for Children, Youth, Young Adults, and Their Families*

**JULY 25-28, 2018 | WASHINGTON, D.C.**

MARRIOTT MARQUIS

**#LEADINGCHANGE**

# Our Team

## Welcome, Jules Wilson!

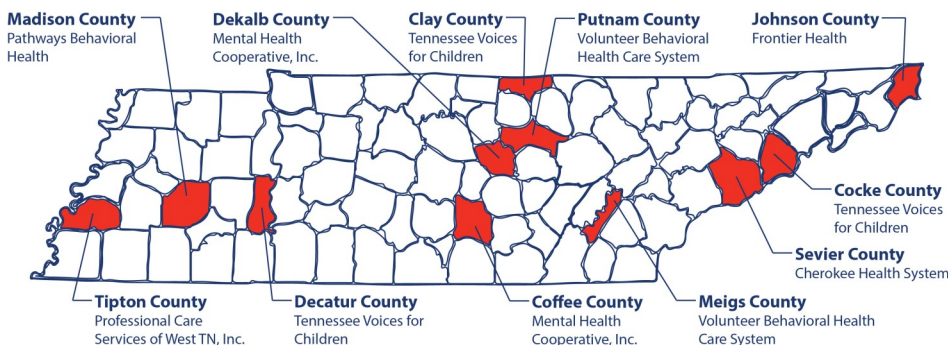
We are excited to introduce you to a new SOCAT team member in the Office of Children and Youth Mental Health! Jules Wilson has joined Central Office as our Youth & Young Adult Coordinator. In this new role, Jules is working to ensure the youth and young adult voice is represented on multiple system levels – providing leadership, education, and guidance to providers and partners including to the local [System of Care Across Tennessee](#) teams focused on making mental healthcare better for children and youth statewide.

Jules previously served as a Peer Intensive Care Specialist for the [TN Mental Health Consumers' Association](#) where she provided peer support at Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute, empowering patients to take charge of their own recovery and to utilize available resources. Jules has also served as an active member of the TDMHSAS Statewide Young Adult Leadership Council since its inception where she has contributed invaluable insight and bolstered efforts to increase public awareness of youth and young adult mental health challenges.

Welcome Jules! We look forward to working with you!



## System of Care Across Tennessee Sites



## SOCAT Job Openings:

**Tennessee Voices for Children** is currently hiring a Care Coordinator position and a Family Support Specialist position. Click [HERE](#) to apply.

**Frontier Health** is currently hiring a Family Support Specialist position. Click [HERE](#) to apply.

The **Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services** is currently hiring a SOCAT Technical Assistance Coordinator position. Click [HERE](#) to learn more, or contact Jessica Mullins at [Jessica.Mullins@tn.gov](mailto:Jessica.Mullins@tn.gov).

# Trainings and Resources

## Early Childhood Systems of Care Learning Community: Prevention to Intervention in Early Childhood Systems of Care

**Monday, March 19th**

**2:30 PM—4:00 PM EST**

The TA Network is pleased to announce the March 2018 call for the Early Childhood SOC Learning Community. for those interested in early childhood systems of care. This month's topic will be on challenges, lessons learned, and systems implications for designing a strong, comprehensive early childhood system of care that include a range of prevention and intervention services. The strategies and lessons learned by the DC Social, Emotional and Early Development (DC SEED) Project will be highlighted. DC's system of care includes a comprehensive approach including prevention and treatment strategies. This will be followed by open discussion and peer learning opportunities. Please come ready to discuss and learn from your peers! The Learning Community is open to all who are interested in early childhood systems of care. Register [HERE](#).

## Using Social Marketing for Systems Change

**Wednesday, March 21st**

**2:30 PM—4:00 PM EST**

This session of the System of Care Leadership Learning Community will focus on how effective marketing and communications strategies can be used to create lasting transformation. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Caring for Every Child's Mental Health Campaign's Social Marketing TA Team will share how social marketing can help change the knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors of staff, families, youth, providers, child-serving leaders, and others who are essential to implementing, sustaining, and expanding systems of care through systems change. Presenters will describe the social marketing approach, including the importance of understanding target audiences and being audience-centered, as well as the social marketing planning process. Presenters will also provide specific examples of how social marketing has been used to help change child-serving systems. Register [HERE](#).

## Learning Community for Family Leaders—On the Front Lines: Families and Family-Run Organizations Responding to the Opioid Epidemic

**Thursday, March 22nd**

**3:00 PM—4:30 PM EST**

Opioid addiction among Americans under the age of 25 has skyrocketed nearly six fold between 2001 and 2014. The rate of prescription drug abuse among young adults aged 18 to 25 has increased to its highest rates of 10-15% in 2015. Yet only 1 in 4 youth and young adults with SUD receive recommended treatment medication despite having good health insurance. March's Learning Community for Family Leaders will highlight the work of two family-run organizations addressing the opioid crisis. The Maryland Coalition of Families utilized a family-driven process and developed a specialized parent peer support program for families whose youth and young adults experience substance use disorders. Trish Todd, the Program Manager, will share how this specialized approach to peer support is making a positive impact on access to treatment, reduction in stigma, and recovery for youth, young adults and families. Shannon Crossbear, co-chair of the National Family Dialogue for Youth with Substance Use Disorders, will share a peer support training model, CRAFT (Community Reinforcement and Family Training). The training model can complement other forms of parent peer support and provide additional opportunities for family-run organizations as they develop strategies to meet the growing epidemic of youth, young adults and families affected by substance use disorders. Register [HERE](#).



# Trainings and Resources

## Tribal SOC—Introduction to Opioid Impacts in Indian Country

**Friday, March 23rd**

**1:30 PM—2:30 PM EST**

This webinar will discuss the opioid epidemic and its impacts in Indian Country, especially for Native children and families, with up-to-date data presented. Cultural issues related to treatment and prevention of opioid use as well as medication assisted treatment and prevention will be discussed. Register [HERE](#).

## Cultural and Linguistic Competence Peer Learning Exchange—Cultural and Behavioral Health Equity Considerations for Wraparound Practice

**Thursday, April 12th**

**2:30 PM—3:30 PM EST**

Members of the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Team for the TA Network will lead a web based peer learning exchange focused on aligning Wraparound Values with the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Service (CLAS Standards). Participants will learn how to implement the CLAS Standards in Wraparound Practice and they will learn how to apply tools designed to help service providers integrate Wraparound into the individual or family's culture. Register [HERE](#).

## Children's Mental Health Initiative (CMHI) National Evaluation Web Event Training Series: Collecting and Using Data on Disparities in Systems of Care

**Thursday, March 15th**

**2:30 PM—4:00 PM EST**

Effective strategies to collect, analyze, and present data within systems of care (SOCs) to identify and address behavioral health disparities are available. This event will:

- 1) Identify key issues with behavioral health disparities and why they matter for service delivery and evaluation of SOC's,
- 2) Provide guidance on how to collect and use data to track and reduce disparities,
- 3) Offer concrete strategies that can be applied by states, communities, tribes, and territories, and
- 4) Highlight real world examples and practical approaches.

Presenters will:

- Review important concepts related to behavioral health disparities
- Describe ways to use readily available data to examine disparities and disproportionalities
- Describe processes for collecting analyzing, and disseminating data to monitor and identify disparities based on experience in Broward County, Florida
- Discuss how to develop a plan for tracking disparities by routinely disaggregating data and other "out of the box" efforts, based on work in Indiana

Register [HERE](#).

# Trainings and Resources

## **Additional Resources:**

### **Healing Word Center**

<http://www.memphishealingcenter.com/>

### **Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee**

[www.mhamt.org](http://www.mhamt.org)

### **Mental Health Transformation Alliance**

<http://www.mhtransformationalliance.org/>

### **NAMI- Tennessee**

[www.namitn.org](http://www.namitn.org)

### **National Council on Behavioral Health**

[www.thenationalcouncil.org](http://www.thenationalcouncil.org)

### **The National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health**

[www.nffcmh.org](http://www.nffcmh.org)

### **The National Wraparound Implementation Center**

[www.NWIC.org](http://www.NWIC.org)

### **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

### **Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and other Addiction Services (TAADAS)**

[www.taadas.org](http://www.taadas.org)

### **Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth**

[www.tn.gov/tccy](http://www.tn.gov/tccy)

### **Tennessee Voices for Children**

[www.tnvoices.org](http://www.tnvoices.org)



Department of  
**Mental Health &  
Substance Abuse Services**



## Our Vision

To ensure Tennessee families have access to community-based services for children, youth and young adults with mental, emotional, and behavioral health needs that is coordinated across systems, individualized to a family's unique needs, strengths, and culture, and where the families are the primary decision makers in the care of their children.

System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) builds on two decades of System of Care experience and focuses on young children, children, youth, and 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. To make a referral, click [HERE](#).



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To learn more about System of Care Across Tennessee and the work our team is doing in your community, visit our website at [SOCacrossTN.org](https://SOCacrossTN.org).