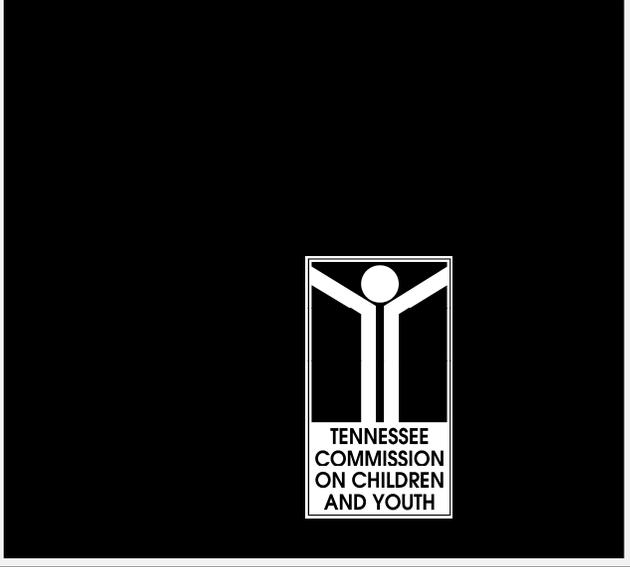


Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth



Annual Report



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth

Fiscal Year 2007-08

Annual Report

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Letter from the Chair

Dear Reader:

Every year I chair the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, I believe it is the best: the best Commission, the best staff and the most successful activities.

Fiscal year 2007-08 was the best year for TCCY.

The fiscal year began with successful KIDS COUNT releases and the continuation of our effective juvenile justice grant award process.

As the year continued, Children's Advocacy Days' usual blend of information and advocacy was raised to a high level of excitement with a "Children's Convention" theme.

Throughout the spring, TCCY was engaged in its legislative monitoring, helping the Legislature pass good laws for children and amend those that would have harmed Tennessee's youth.

In a time of cutting budgets, the Legislature approved two new programs for TCCY: the Council on Children's Mental Health and the Children's Budget resource mapping project. Progress is already being made on both projects.

An outpouring of support for the Children's Program Outcome Review Team Program averted proposed cuts and reinforced the need for external reviews of the state's care of children in its custody. Our reviewers and their collaborators continued their interviews and consultation to improve the child welfare and juvenile justice custodial systems in Tennessee.

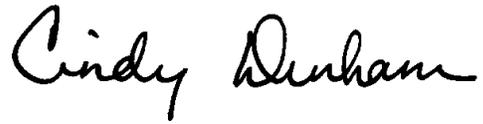
Our Ombudsman Program added recipients of Child Protective Services at DCS to its advocacy efforts, and our ombudsmen now work to resolve problems for children who have been reported as abused or neglected as well as those in care.

During the year our juvenile justice staff, local courts and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention grantees worked together to improve the lives of children and the safety of the state.

Our staff also continued throughout the year to provide information needed by advocates and grant writers through our website (www.tn.gov/tccy) and Listserv and through displays and presentations at conferences.

We now face another year, a year with challenges we have not faced in many years. I know the Commission members and staff will wring the best outcomes for children out of the challenging conditions and will be the best group yet. I hope you will join us in these endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cindy Durham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cindy Durham
Chair

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Reader:

Fiscal year 2007-08 was another good year for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. Members of the Commission continued to be selfless in their commitment of time and resources to support Commission staff and activities. TCCY staff engaged in a wide range of activities that kept us very busy pursuing opportunities to improve the quality of life for Tennessee children.

In keeping with the emphasis on elections in 2008, Children's Advocacy Days was an exciting event with the feel of an electoral convention. Participants were energized and encouraged to work with their elected officials to advocate for improvements in laws, policies and services for Tennessee's children.

The regional coordinators continued their excellent involvement in communities all across the state as they supported and encouraged advocates, service providers and citizens to be involved in networking, learning about and advocating for children's issues.

TCCY's juvenile justice staff worked with juvenile court judges and staff and community organizations across Tennessee to ensure the state maintained compliance with eligibility for federal juvenile justice funds and those funds were used for effective programs for youth.

Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) staff continued collaboration with staff of the Department of Children's Services in implementation of quality service reviews to guide improvements in services for individual children and systemic improvements for all children.

KIDS COUNT staff completed a new *State of the Child Report* focused on "Opportunity for All Children," as well as other publications. Staff was vigilant in monitoring and influencing legislation in the best interests of Tennessee children.

TCCY continued to work closely with the Tennessee General Assembly to encourage the passage of laws focused on the best interests of children in the state. Two new public chapters were enacted in 2008 assigning TCCY major new responsibilities.

P.C. 1062 established the Council on Children's Mental Health. Commissioner Virginia Trotter Betts, Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, and I co-chair this group of dedicated parents and professionals who are committed to planning for implementation of a system of care to improve children's mental health services in Tennessee.

Public Chapter 1197 requires the Commission to design and implement a process to map the federal and state funding streams for services for children in Tennessee. While this is a daunting task, it provides important prospects for identifying opportunities for better collaboration in the provision of services to Tennessee children.

Commission members and staff will continue their collaborative approach to identifying solutions to better meet the needs of Tennessee children and families. We encourage others to join us in our efforts through attending Children's Advocacy Days each year, becoming members of regional councils on Children and Youth and participating in advocacy efforts to provide Tennessee children with the resources and services they need to become successful citizens.

Sincerely,



Linda O'Neal
Executive Director



Administration

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) is an independent agency created by the Tennessee General Assembly. The primary mission of the Commission is advocacy for improvements in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families. Tennessee has had a Commission on Children and Youth or Children's Services Commission continuously since the 1950s. The current statutory framework for the Commission on Children and Youth was enacted in 1988, with minor revisions in 1999. The agency was authorized to 2011.

Appointed by the governor for up to three overlapping three-year terms, the 21 Commission members serve as the policy board for the agency. At least one Commission member represents each development district, and the commissioners of state departments serving children, or their designees, are ex officio members. The Commission also has youth advisory members as necessary to meet the requirements for serving as the state advisory group under the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act.

Committees

Seven standing committees oversaw the operations of the agency during fiscal year 2007-08. The Commission officers and committee chairs served as the *Executive Committee*. The chair is appointed by the governor to a three-year term. Other officers, the vice-chair and the secretary, are elected

by the Commission. Committee chairs and members are appointed by the Commission chair.

The *Audit* and *Personnel* committees were administrative committees to assure effective operation of administrative processes.

The *Budget and Data Committee* was responsible for fiscal matters, such as Commission budget requests, budget analyses and budget recommendations, and for agency efforts to collect and disseminate information, including *The Advocate*, *KIDS COUNT* and other publications.

The *Children's Services Committee* provided oversight for Commission activities in the evaluation by the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT). It also reviewed implementation of the TCCY Ombudsman Program's coordination with child welfare services, juvenile justice services and mental health services to children in custody and kinship care and families involved with Child Protective Services.

The *Councils Committee* reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth, the Commission's annual Children's Advocacy Days and interdepartmental activities.

The *Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues Committee* supervised the implementation of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in Tennessee, the administration of state funds for juvenile justice and other juvenile justice activities. This committee also ensured adequate consideration of the needs of minority children in all TCCY efforts, with particular attention given to disproportionate minority contact/confinement (DMC) in the juvenile justice system, including recommendations from a statewide task force on how to reduce DMC. The committee was also responsible for the development of the agency plan to address issues related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Commission Meetings

During fiscal year 2007-08 the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth met four times to carry out its responsibilities. In addition to Children's Advocacy Days in March, meetings included reports from commissioners of other state departments who serve as ex officio members of the Commission, or their designees; other related agencies; and regional coordinators about activities across the state. Topics for meetings included a report from the Department of Children's Services on its response to changes in Medicaid regulations, a report from the Tennessee Department of Human Resources on the Governor's Workplace Harassment Policy, consideration of legislative issues and approval of grant awards.

*Commission Membership**

Cindy Durham, Chair*
Gallatin

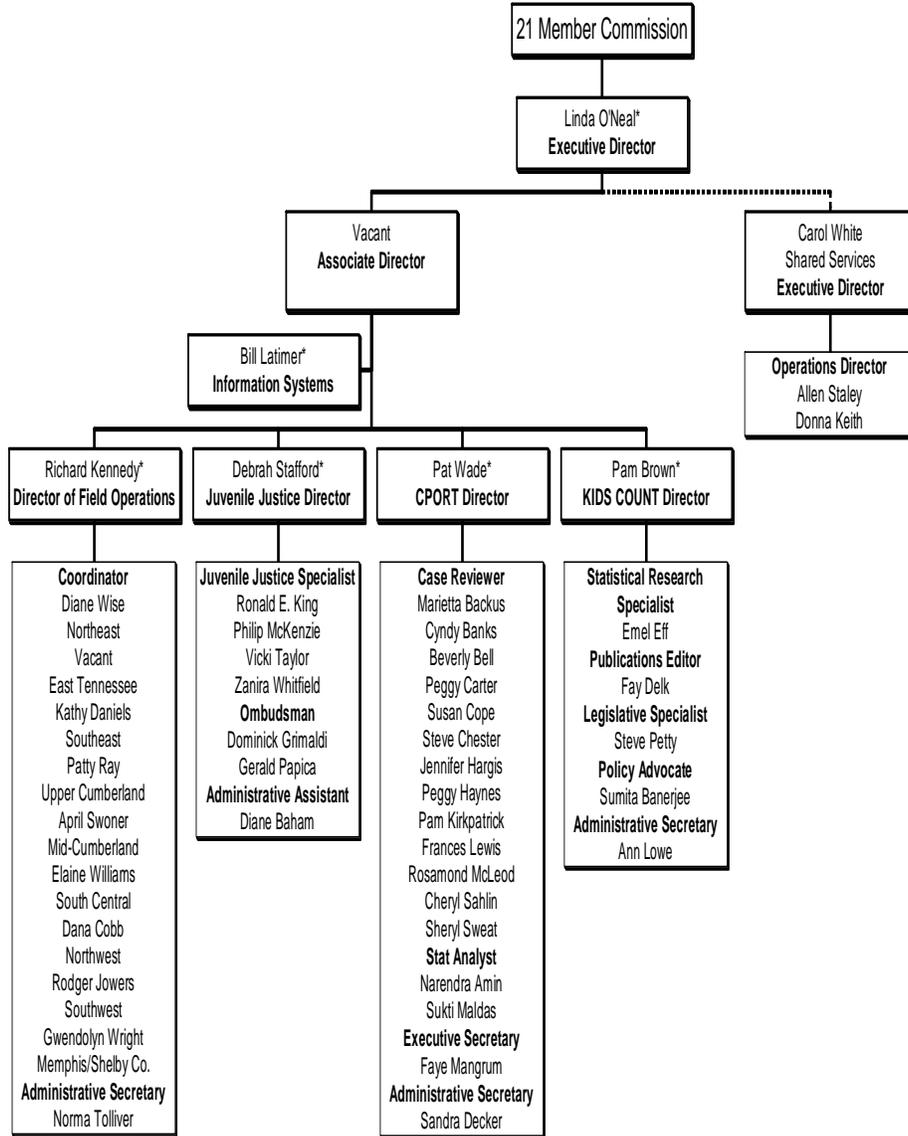
Natasha Blackshear Nashville	Sidney Bynum Nashville	Leon D. Caldwell Collierville
Joshua Connor Nashville	Beverly Cosley Chattanooga	Adam Grant Dickson Jonesborough
James B. Ford Franklin	Joe Fowlkes Pulaski	Emmanuel Frederick Knoxville
Tim Goldsmith Memphis	Marti Herndon Martin	Denise Hobbs-Coker Shelbyville
Trudy Hughes Maryville	Susan Lawless-Glassman Germantown	Carlton Lewis Nashville
Diane Neighbors Nashville	Timothy A. Perry Kingsport	Sue Pilson Cookeville
Mary Anne Poe Jackson	James Roland Reid Brownsville	Colonel J.A. Robbins Murfreesboro
Dwight Stokes Sevierville	Nancy Williams Memphis	Joetta Yarbro Dyersburg

***At press time. Michelle Crowley, Barbara Holden, Chey Dana L. Lesley, Eric Lulow, Christy Little, Jerry Maness and Jo Anne Yates served as members of the Commission during fiscal year 2007-08.**

Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 49 full-time positions and two part-time secretarial positions. Nine full-time workers and the part-time staff members provide support to the regional councils on children and youth and carry out other regional and local Commission responsibilities. The other personnel are located in the Nashville central office. The organizational chart for the Commission indicates staff members at press time. ♦

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Organization Chart



*Management Team

Budget

**Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
Financial Report
For the Period July 1, 2007 Through June 30, 2008**

	State	Inter- Departmental	Juvenile Justice	Kids Count	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits					
Salaries / Longevity	\$ 947,308.63	\$ 731,449.41	\$ 226,476.49	\$ 93,652.00	\$ 1,998,886.53
Benefits	368,521.88	299,926.25	89,392.11	37,683.59	795,523.83
Total Personal Services and Benefits	\$ 1,315,830.51	\$ 1,031,375.66	\$ 315,868.60	\$ 131,335.59	\$ 2,794,410.36
Other Expenditures					
Travel	\$ 71,510.18	\$ 102,276.29	\$ 70,594.06	\$ 11,262.66	\$ 255,643.19
Printing, Duplicating, Binding	10,949.18	6,104.19	60,677.95	17,331.99	95,063.31
Communications and Shipping Costs	10,381.15	1,228.73	993.63	1,928.00	14,531.51
Maintenance, Repairs and Services	31.37	-	-	-	31.37
Professional and Administrative Services - Third Party	11,348.75	88,233.77	3,569.54	1,064.54	104,216.60
Supplies and Materials	38,340.26	23,888.01	8,744.12	1,935.95	72,908.34
Rentals and Insurance	172,559.73	77,419.32	22,518.19	4,554.10	277,051.34
Awards and Indemnities	802.53	473.93	312.51	27.88	1,616.85
Grants and Subsidies	153,789.23	1,339,852.23	1,948,697.97	39.62	3,442,379.05
Prof. Svcs. From Another State Agency	125,539.63	78,042.77	18,075.08	5,055.94	226,713.42
Total Other Expenditures	\$ 595,252.01	\$ 1,717,519.24	\$ 2,134,183.05	\$ 43,200.68	\$ 4,490,154.98
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,911,082.52	\$ 2,748,894.90	\$ 2,450,051.65	\$ 174,536.27	\$ 7,284,565.34
Funding Sources					
State Appropriation	\$ 1,900,057.52	\$ -	\$ 81,006.21	\$ 99,536.27	\$ 2,080,600.00
Federal Revenue	-	-	2,300,370.15	-	2,300,370.15
Interest Revenue	-	-	68,675.29	-	68,675.29
Interdepartmental Revenue	-	2,748,894.90	-	-	2,748,894.90
Non-Governmental Revenue	11,025.00	-	-	75,000.00	86,025.00
Total Funding Sources	\$ 1,911,082.52	\$ 2,748,894.90	\$ 2,450,051.65	\$ 174,536.27	\$ 7,284,565.34





Advocacy

A number of Commission activities combine advocacy and coordination of services. Many of these activities also comply with specific statutory mandates governing the advocacy and coordination responsibilities. These responsibilities are to:

- ✦ Make recommendations concerning establishment of priorities and needed improvements with respect to programs and services for children and youth;
- ✦ Advocate and coordinate the efficient and effective development and enhancement of state, local and regional programs and services for children and youth.

Children's Advocacy Days - 2008

More than 500 advocates attended the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's two-day 19th annual Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) held on March 13-14, 2008, in the War Memorial Auditorium. This year's event had the trappings of a political convention, but was a Convention for Child Advocates. The celebration included performances by the John Overton (Davidson County) High School band and cheerleaders and the Woodland (Williamson County) Middle School Choir.

Advocates came together at Children's Advocacy Days to:

- ✦ Meet with legislators to discuss relevant children and youth issues;
- ✦ Observe legislative sessions;

- ✦ Receive legislative updates;
- ✦ Network with advocates from other parts of the state;
- ✦ Hear updates on issues affecting children;
- ✦ Present the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award;
- ✦ Present the Making KIDS COUNT Media Award.

Commission Chair Cindy Durham welcomed participants. Bill Purcell, former mayor of Nashville, gave the charge to advocates. Former Commission member Phil Acord welcomed the delegates. Viola Miller, commissioner of the Department of Children’s Services; Barbara Wall, Department of Human Services; Dr. Veronica Gunn, Department of Health; Dr. Freida Outlaw, Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities; Acting Commissioner Tim Webb, Department of Education; Bobbi Lussier, Department of Education; Deputy Commissioner Tom Catron, Governor’s Office of Children’s Care Coordination; Sterling Van Der Spuy, Department of Labor and Workforce Development; William Edington, Tennessee Developmental Disabilities Council; Cindy Perry, Select Committee on Children and Youth; and Dr. Gary Nixon, State Board of Education, reported on what their agencies were doing. Kim McMillian, a former legislator, represented the governor’s office. Each CAD participant received an information packet. Eric Lulow of the Tennessee Youth Advocacy Council made a presentation about the experiences of young people, like himself, and the foster care system.

Lissa McLeod, Tennessee operations director for the Children’s Defense Fund, presented information about America’s Cradle to Prison Pipeline outreach program, and Mary Louise Hemmeter, Ph.D., of the Vanderbilt University Center for Social Emotional Foundations of Early Learning presented research findings.

The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award was presented to Betty Rasberry, former director of the University of Tennessee-Martin Social work program. The Youth Excellence Award was awarded this year to John Little, III, a former gang member who is now a lead mentor with the governor’s mentoring program. The Making KIDS COUNT small market print award was given to Kara Covington and Larry Aldridge of *The Daily Times* of Maryville. The print media-large market award was given to *The (Memphis) Commercial Appeal*, and editor Chris Peck, for its multi-year focus on infant mortality. Jeremy Finley and Aaron Solomon of WSMV in Nashville and Channel 24-WPTY in Memphis won the broadcast awards.

Committees, Task Forces, and Boards

A major strategy for advocacy and coordination is participation of Commission staff on national, state, regional and local committees, task forces and boards. This involvement provides an opportunity for critical information sharing, networking, advocacy and coordination. TCCY staff served in a total of 236 different roles with governmental and nonprofit agencies serving children and their communities. Ninety-nine of these positions were with local organizations.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

TCCY staff members served on eight national committees, task forces or boards. These groups focused on issues of juvenile justice, early childhood education, health and human services, and family-centered medical services. National and Southeastern regional committees, task forces and boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- ✦ Annie E. Casey Foundation KIDS COUNT Network and Working Groups;
- ✦ Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C.;
- ✦ Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Southeastern/Northeastern Conference Planning Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- ✦ United States Ombudsman Association Board of Directors
- ✦ United States Ombudsman Association Conference Planning Committee (Chair).

State Organizations

Staff members participated on 80 statewide committees, task forces and boards addressing a broad range of issues, including health, teen pregnancy, child welfare, mental health, child care, family assistance, juvenile justice and broad-based children's needs. The statewide committees, task forces or boards with Commission representatives included the following:

- ✦ Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Improvement Plan Work Group;
- ✦ Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Improvement Plan Action Committee;
- ✦ Administrative Office of the Courts, Court Improvement Plan Law Committee;
- ✦ Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Project Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Children of Incarcerated Parents Committee;
- ✦ Children's Justice Task Force;
- ✦ Children's Justice Task Force Court Improvement Subcommittee;
- ✦ Children's Mental Health Work Group;
- ✦ Children's Trust Advisory Committee Ex-Officio Member;
- ✦ Disabilities Coalition For Education;
- ✦ First Focus Children's Health Advocacy Coalition;
- ✦ Governor's Children's Cabinet;
- ✦ Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination;
- ✦ Governor's Office of Children's Care Coordination Steering Panel;
- ✦ Joint Task Force on Children's Justice/Child Sexual Abuse;
- ✦ Juvenile Justice Mental Health Work Group;
- ✦ Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee Board of Directors;
- ✦ Regional Convenings on Children Transitioning from Foster Care;
- ✦ Senate Joint Resolution 799 Steering Panel*;
- ✦ Shared Services Solutions;
- ✦ State ISM Directors meetings;
- ✦ State System of Care Council;
- ✦ State TIG (Technology Implementation Group);
- ✦ Statewide Drug Court Advisory Committee;

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (DOH, then Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Bureau/Division of Alcohol and Drug Services)*;

- ✦ TennCare Partners Roundtable;
- ✦ Tennessee Afterschool Partnership;
- ✦ Tennessee Alliance for Drug Endangered Children;
- ✦ Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services;
- ✦ Tennessee Court Appointed Special Advocate Expansion Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare;
- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Board;
- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Conference*;
- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Public Policy Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Strategic Planning Committee*;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services Licensing Standards Revision Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services QSR Design Team, Core Group;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services Standards Revision Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services Strategic Planning Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Children’s Services Level of Care Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Health Early Childhood Comprehensive System Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Health Maternal and Child Health Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Health Child Fatality Review/Prevention Team;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Human Services Advocates Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care Board of Review;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Mental Health Planning Council;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Criminal Justice/Mental Health Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Juvenile Justice/Mental Health Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities System of Care Council (chair);
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities System of Care Council Legislative Committee (chair);
- ✦ Tennessee Developmental Disabilities Council;
- ✦ Tennessee Home Visitation Forum;
- ✦ Tennessee Lives Count Suicide Prevention Advisory Committee;
- ✦ Tennessee State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW);
- ✦ Tennessee Voices for Children;
- ✦ Tennessee Supreme Court Rule 31 Listed Mediator;
- ✦ Transitioning Youth Workgroup;
- ✦ University of Tennessee Extension Service Children, Youth and Families at Risk Grant Committee;
- ✦ Yes2Kids Conference Planning Committee;

- ✦ Youth Courts Advisory Board;
 - ✦ Youth Transitions Work Group.
- *TCCY Chaired Group

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 50 regional committees, task forces or boards. At the regional level, representatives of the Commission participated with a number of groups in almost every area of the state. Additionally, staff members also participated on many committees, task forces and boards unique to individual regions. These regional groups addressed a range of issues, including child abuse, child care, education, Head Start, health, mental health, family assistance, foster care, adoptions, juvenile justice, substance abuse and teen pregnancy. The committees, task forces or boards in each region with relatively consistent staff representation are:

- ✦ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Health Regional Health Council;
- ✦ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Regional Mental Health Planning Council.

Presentations and Displays

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth staff members made presentations and prepared displays on a variety of topics to a range of different groups and organizations. These presentations focused on Commission activities, advocacy, Commission priorities and substantive issues. During fiscal year 2007-08, TCCY staff members made 66 presentations – three national, 27 statewide, 17 regional and 19 local – to nearly 1,451 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented 64 displays to about 11,000 individuals at one national, 11 statewide, 31 regional and 21 local conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy

Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(b)(2) mandates the following activities for TCCY: Prepare and distribute impact statements analyzing the potential effect of proposals under consideration by the general assembly which relate to the health, well being and development of children and youth.

During the 2008 legislative session of the 105th Tennessee General Assembly, the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth produced 20 *Legislative Reports* tracking 654 bills, 20 *Legislative Updates* tracking 173 bills, and five *Legislative Summaries* tracking 162 Public Acts. Of the 37 TCCY supported, 15 passed while only one bill

TCCY opposed was enacted and then only after being amended to address concerns TCCY identified.

TCCY legislative staff provided regional council members and child advocates with weekly updates beginning March 10 and continuing throughout the legislative session. The updates and other information were made available statewide electronically, both through e-mail and posting to the TCCY web page.

TCCY also provided Internet links to contact information on the Tennessee General Assembly website, including e-mail links, office addresses and phone numbers; links to portable document files (pdf) of specific legislation or amendments under consideration; and links to other relevant advocacy groups, state agencies or reports related to legislative policy issues. ♦



Juvenile Justice

Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103(a)(1)(C) establishes the following Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) responsibilities in the juvenile justice arena:

To implement the provisions of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974; and distribute, consistent with the purpose of the commission as set forth by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-3-102(a), such funds as the general assembly shall direct.

In Tennessee, TCCY serves as the state advisory group responsible for the administration of funds received through the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act. Each state participating in the ACT, reauthorized in 2002, is required to have a state advisory group. It is also important for TCCY to exercise the powers and duties designated in the Tennessee Code Annotated Section 37-3-103, which includes advocating for efficient, effective and relevant programs and services for children and youth. TCCY also identifies problems and gaps in programs and services for children and families.

In addition to meeting the requirement to have a state advisory group, a state must maintain compliance with the Act's four core requirements for continued participation. Compliance with these requirements enables Tennessee to receive Federal Formula Grant funds to address delinquency prevention and intervention issues. The core requirements are to:

- ✦ Deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO);
- ✦ Remove children from adult jails;
- ✦ Separate children from adult offenders;

- ✦
- ✦ Address disproportionate minority contact of children in the juvenile justice system.

Another requirement for participation in the Act is the annual submission of a three-year plan or plan update to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Each year the Commission submits a plan that includes juvenile crime analysis of court referrals, adjudications, offenses and transfers to adult court categorized by race and gender. With the use of JJDP Act funds, the three-year plan includes program areas Tennessee will focus on to reduce juvenile delinquency. Funds provided to projects across the state will focus on evidence-based programs that have proven results to work well with at-risk and delinquent youth. Programs are required to submit performance measures to indicate results of services provided. The program areas for this period included: Delinquency Prevention, Minority Over-Representation, Youth Advocacy and Alternatives to Detention.

Monitoring

Program Monitoring

In February 2004, TCCY staff began monitoring programs funded by the agency as required by Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration Policy 22. Previously, the Department of Finance and Administration had monitored programs that received state and federal funds.

Department of Finance and Administration Policy 22 requires that all sub-recipients receiving state or federal funds from state departments, agencies and commissions in Tennessee be monitored on a regular basis following monitoring guidelines it established, in consultation with the Comptroller of the Treasury. Core monitoring areas to be covered include activities, allowed or unallowable; civil rights assurances; allowable costs/cost principles; eligibility; matching; level of effort, earmarking; program income; cash management; Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage compliance; equipment and real property management; period of availability of funds; procurement, suspension and debarment from federal grant programs; real property acquisition and relocation assistance; reporting; and special tests and provisions.

During the period January 1, 2007, to December 31, 2007, TCCY program and fiscal monitors completed 110 monitoring reviews of grants totaling \$1,986,853. Tennessee Policy 22 guidelines require that each state grantor monitor at least one-third of its contracts totaling at least two-thirds of grant funds each year.

Compliance Monitoring Report

Each year TCCY submits to OJJDP a monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates. The 2007-08 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of about

115 deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed is 409. The decrease from 119 the previous year was due to the ongoing education of detention facility staff and juvenile court staff on dealing with status offenders and finding alternatives to detention. We continue to do personal contacts with the new and seasoned youth service officers. TCCY continues to provide the updated, necessary materials and clearer understanding of the JJCPA and the use of Valid Court Orders.

The violation process continued to involve an ongoing training program. Monitoring juvenile detention facilities, temporary holding resources, jails and lockups on a monthly rather than a quarterly basis by Juvenile Justice specialists and TCCY regional coordinators' intervention stopped problems before they got started. The monitoring also provided an opportunity for technical assistance and advice on alternatives to secure placements. Commission members continued reduction efforts by talking to judges and facility directors in their areas regarding the alternatives to secure placements. Only three counties were out of compliance for DSO violations in the state. One county in particular that had not had a violation in the past four or five years had 11 DSO violations along with 26 separation violations (allowing juveniles within "sight and sound" of adult offenders) and 26 jail removal violations (placement of juveniles in facilities also used for the incarceration of adult criminals). This was due to a "Straight Talk" or "Scared Straight" program. The sheriff who had originally begun the program without permission or informing the Juvenile Court was notified to end the program immediately. The program was stopped after only two sessions.

In regards to the jail removal and separation core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, Tennessee has remained in compliance since 1986. The Act has had a strong impact on Tennessee's juvenile justice system regarding children held in adult jails. The number of violations for children held in adult jails has been reduced from approximately 10,000 in 1980 to five for the 2005-06 year and only one jail removal and one separation violation for 2006-07. For the 2007-08 year Tennessee had 28 separation violations and 29 jail removal violations. We will continue to work with the local sheriffs, jail administrators, and correction facilities to prevent incidents like these from happening.

DSO Violations Present and Past			
1989-90	118	1999-00	364
1990-91	100	2000-01	290
1991-92	182	2001-02	184
1992-93	242	2002-03	166
1993-94	318	2003-04	147
1994-95	391	2004-05	249
1995-96	346	2005-06	137
1996-97	351	2006-07	119
1997-98	484	2007-08	115
1998-99	783		

TCCY continues to strive to make Tennessee violation free. Training is planned for new juvenile court judges and their staffs, new sheriffs, jail administrators and their staffs. TCCY has notified youth service officers and the Administrative Office of the Courts' staff that it is willing to provide any and all information required to those who are having trouble understanding or those who are unaware of the DSO, Jail Removal and Separation rules and guidelines of the JJDP Act.

TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 2007-08			
Number	Type of Program	Monitoring/On-Site Frequency	Total Number of TCCY Monitoring Activities
16	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA)	Annually	16
95	State Supplement Accounts*	Annually	95
36	Reimbursement Accounts**		36
19	Federal Formula Grant Programs	Annually	19
1	Title V Grant Program	Annually	1
7	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program	Annually	7
8	Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Grant Program	Annually	8
110	Jails and/or Lockups***	Annually/Quarterly	150
9	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	108
18	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	216
5	Youth Development Centers	Annually/Quarterly	10
2	Youth Development Program	Monthly	8
326	Total		674

* Each year monitors do desk reviews for 100 percent of the State Supplement Grants.

** For Reimbursement Accounts a desk review is completed. A desk review allows counties to send in requested information. This allows the monitor to review the cases without having to disrupt the daily schedule of others. If there are questions/violations, each county is allowed time to come up with an action plan that will provide TCCY with a solution along with an ongoing preventive plan.

*** Jails and Lockups are generally monitored annually unless the volume of inmates is so large that the monitor will visit quarterly to save time. Temporary Holding Facilities are monitored monthly as well as Juvenile Detention Centers, both public and private. Youth Development Centers are monitored annually unless the monitor feels it is necessary to monitor quarterly due to the volume of juveniles.

Minority Over-Representation

One of the four core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974 was to address minority over-representation (MOR) in secure confinement. The act, reauthorized in 2002 (currently up for reauthorization again), included disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system as a core requirement to replace disproportionate minority confinement. Minority over-representation occurs when the “rate of contact with the juvenile justice system of a specific minority group is significantly greater than the rate of contact for Whites (non-Hispanics) or for other minority groups.”

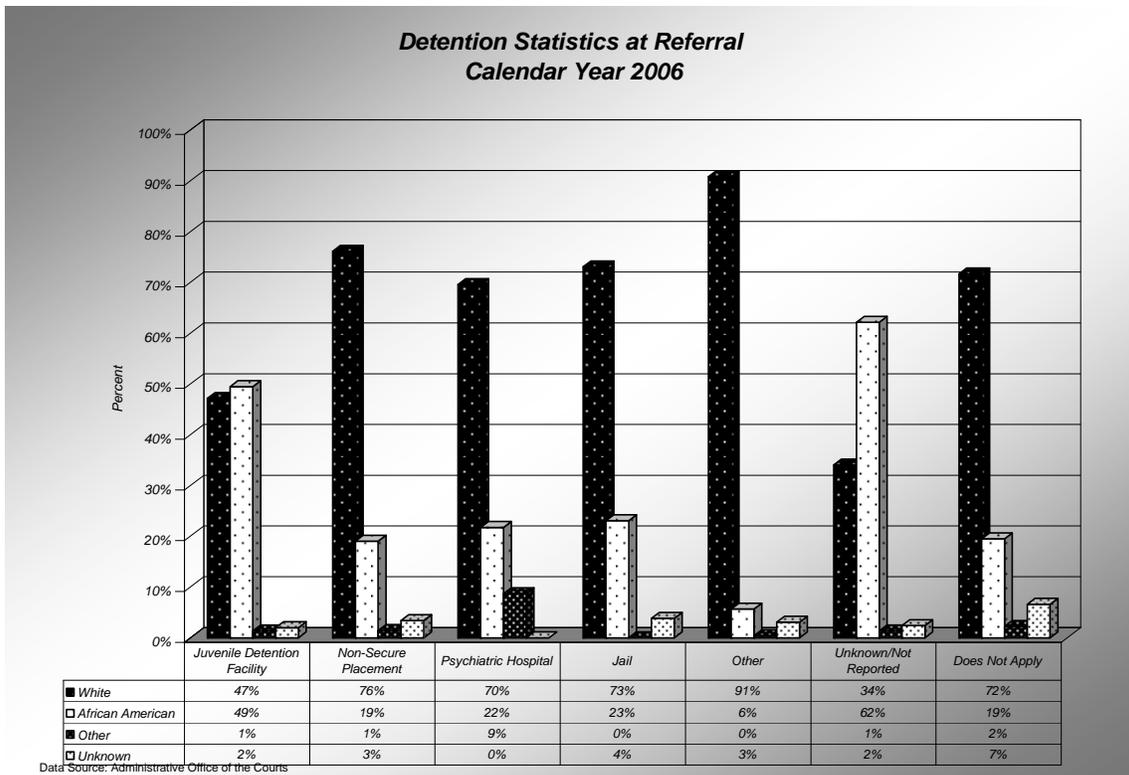
The State of Tennessee remains in compliance with the minority over-representation (MOR) core requirement of the JJDP Act by:

- ✦ Ongoing data collection, which verified a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement in rural and metropolitan areas of the state;
- ✦ Continued education of local Tennessee communities regarding disproportionate minority contact/confinement (DMC);
- ✦ Completion of DMC Assessment Study on minority over-representation in secure confinement in the Tennessee Juvenile Justice System;
- ✦ Continued use of Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) consultants to provide technical assistance on the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) to re-educate professionals (i.e., juvenile court staffs, law enforcement agencies and other juvenile justice professionals) on better ways to determine what youth are incarcerated;
- ✦ Attending and making presentations on Tennessee achievements to national conferences on DMC and keeping updated on the latest information on minority over-representation;
- ✦ Increasing the number of local task forces by adding the Montgomery County DMC Task Force in the city of Clarksville;
- ✦ Continuing Technical Assistance (TA) from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and Design Systems Group (DSG) on strategies to address and reduce the large numbers of children of color at all levels of the juvenile justice system;
- ✦ Completing and presenting a draft template of a Detention Assessment Tool to juvenile court judges and the legislature’s Select Committee on Children and Youth;
- ✦ Requesting and receiving approval to use some Federal Formula Grant funds for programs that develop alternatives to detention.
- ✦

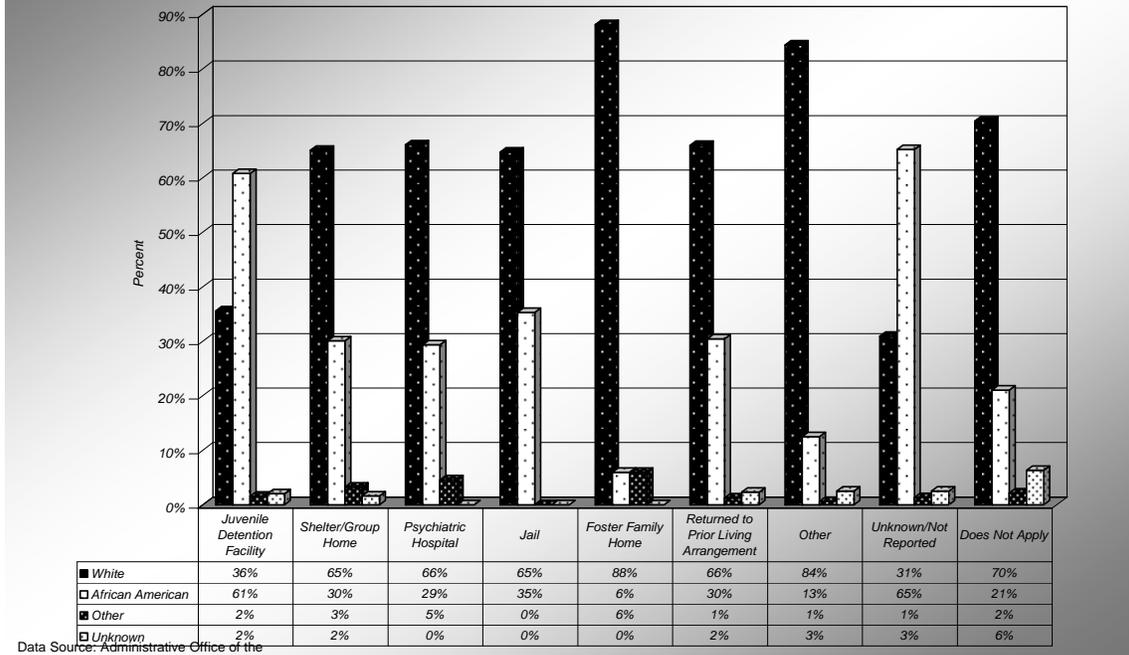
The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 works to address minority over-representation issues at the state and local levels. The task force (see current membership list in this section) met four times during fiscal year 2007-08 to develop strategies to reduce DMC in problem areas. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) and the DMC Task Force have found that the latest research and best practice programs show the Annie E. Casey Foundation’s Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative

(JDAI) has proven to be the best nationwide effort to reduce the number of children of color found in secure confinement, as well as the number of majority American children who find themselves confined in secure confinement.

For Tennessee as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 were children of color. Overall referrals of minority youth to juvenile court were at a significantly higher rate than White youth. This significantly higher referral rate translates into significantly higher incarceration rates in state secure facilities. The *2006 Annual Juvenile Court Statistical Report* indicates that equivalent proportions of White and African American juveniles are detained in juvenile detention facilities (47 percent compared to 49 percent). However, Whites are almost four times as likely as African-Americans to be held in non-secure placements such as Temporary Holding Resources (THRs), emergency foster homes and shelters. Data regarding placements after secure detention hearings indicate African-American juveniles detained are more likely to receive more restrictive placements than White juveniles. For example, African Americans are almost twice as likely as Whites to be placed in a juvenile detention facility (61 percent compared to 36 percent) following a detention hearing. The reverse tends to be true for White juveniles and jail.



**Placements After Secure Detention Hearings
Calendar Year 2006**



TCCY is serious and proactive in trying to reduce the number of children of color in secure confinement. Several initiatives have been completed that will actively assist TCCY in its overall goal: 1) Completion of the statewide DMC Assessment Study on Disproportionate Minority Confinement in Tennessee; 2) Establishment of and continuation of five local DMC Task Forces in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, Montgomery and Shelby counties; 3) The hiring of four Americorp* Vista Volunteers to coordinate the DMC Task Force activities in the five aforementioned counties; 4) Passage of HR 890, calling for legislative study and report on DMC, to the legislature; 5) Funding of several youth programs regarding delinquency prevention and minority over-representation; 6) Technical assistance by the Annie E. Casey Foundation staff with presentations concerning the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) to a legislative subcommittee of the legislative Select Committee on Children and Youth (SCCY), the juvenile court judges and juvenile court staff at the Tennessee Juvenile Court Judges Conference, and TCCY's Children's Advocacy Days and Children's Caucus; 7) TCCY leadership in developing, with the assistance of other state and local professionals, a draft of a Detention Assessment Tool (RAI) authorized by a Tennessee legislative mandate; 8) Using some Federal Formula Grant funds for alternatives to detention programs.

Another worthwhile new initiative that has been approved is a special pilot DMC project recommended by the Juvenile Justice and Minority Issues Committee. Also, the local Memphis Shelby County DMC Task Force hosted a DMC conference that resulted in a meeting between juvenile court officials, TCCY staff, Annie E. Casey representative(s), and the local Memphis Shelby County DMC Task Force Chair at juvenile court.

Disproportionate Minority Contact/Confinement (DMC) Task Force Members*

West

Lorenzo Caldwell	Clergy	Shelby County
John Hall, Vice Chair	Service Provider	Shelby County
Susan Adams	Service Provider	Shelby County
Wanda Halbert	Memphis School Board	Shelby County
Kimberly Morris	M.T.S.U.	Madison County

Middle

Gwen Harris	Department of Children’s Services	Mid-Cumberland
Jill Kelly, Esq.	Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services	Mid-Cumberland
Jaunita Veasy	Black Children’s Institute	Mid-Cumberland
Denise Nickleberry	Therapeutic Interventions	Mid-Cumberland
Trish Hayes	Public Defender’s Office	Mid-Cumberland
Merriel Neal, Esq.	Attorney	Mid-Cumberland
Patricia Slade	Department of Children’s Services	Mid-Cumberland
Yolanda Hockett	Metro Juvenile Detention	Mid-Cumberland

East

Dennie Littlejohn, Chair	Community Activist	East
Beverly Cosley	TCCY Commission Member	Southeast
Dwight Stokes, Esq.	Juvenile Judge	Northeast
William Murrah	L.A.E.T.	East
Bo Walker	Administrator	East
Wanda Donnelly, Esq.	L.A.E.T.	East

Federal Formula Grants

In addition to monitoring for compliance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 2002, TCCY annually awards grants from funds provided through the Act. Federal Formula grants are awarded for one year and are renewable for up to two additional years. Renewal is not automatic, and grantees must submit an application each year. If a project is approved for funding after the first year, the funding levels for the second and third years will be 75 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the first year’s budget.

Federal regulations require funds be allocated for programs as a part of a comprehensive and coordinated community system of services, including collaborative efforts such as the Community Prevention Initiative. It is important that funded programs ensure services for the prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency are consistent with policies focusing on preserving families and providing appropriate services in the least restrictive environments. TCCY gives preference to programs that provide direct services to youth and that are evidenced-based. Also, these projects should focus on early intervention efforts for children at risk of developing emotional or behavioral problems because of physical or mental stress and abuse. In addition, TCCY encourages private and public partnerships in the delivery of services for the prevention and intervention of juvenile delinquency.

Tennessee received approximately \$1 million in Federal Formula Grant funds in fiscal year 2007-08. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention projects to ensure youth at risk of committing offenses received appropriate services. During this reporting period, grantees served more than 1,400 children.

TCCY staff provided grant-writing training and technical assistance to potential applicants for all federal grants it administers. In addition, an orientation session was conducted for grantees approved for funding. TCCY staff also provided technical assistance to agencies and organizations to assure successful implementation of programs.

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY
Grant Period: October 10, 2006-September 30, 2007
By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Alternatives to Detention		
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Memphis	Memphis	\$ 45,000
Youth Emergency Shelter	Morristown	\$ 45,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Catholic Charities of TN, Inc.	Nashville	30,000
Oasis Center, Inc	Nashville	43,500
Shelby County Division of Corrections	Memphis	30,000
Delinquency Prevention		
Coalition for Kids, Inc	Johnson City	37,409
Family Guidance Training Institute	Clarksville	37,500
Little Children of the World Inc	Etowah	68,235
Madison County Juvenile Court	Jackson	4,691
New Visions, Inc	Nashville	59,984
Tennessee Legal Community Foundation	*Nashville	60,000
Gender Specific		
Kingsport Housing and Authority	Nashville	33,941
Martha O'Bryan Center	Nashville	28,240
Webb Alumni Association	McKenzie	45,000
Youth Advocacy		
Administrative Office of the Court	*Nashville	60,000
		\$ 628,500

* Grantee is located in Nashville, but scope is statewide.

Title V Delinquency Prevention Grants

The 2002 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. A community-based planning process focused on reducing risks and enhancing protective factors to prevent youth from entering the juvenile justice system is required. Local communities completed risk and resource assessments to determine effective strategies and specific programs for target populations.

Unlike Federal Formula grants, which may be awarded to individuals or single agencies, Title V funds must be given to local units of government. To be considered for funding a community must demonstrate collaboration by the establishment of a multidisciplinary prevention policy board (PPB) and the development of a three-year plan for delinquency prevention. In addition, the local unit of government must provide a 50 percent cash or in-kind match. Also, to be eligible, the county must be in compliance with the mandates of the JJDP Act.

In fiscal year 2007-08, TCCY continued its participation with the Tennessee departments of Health, Children’s Services and Education and the United Way in the Community Prevention Initiative for children. Title V programs and those funded by the Department of Health through the Community Prevention Initiative share similar philosophies and goals. To receive these funds, community collaboration must be demonstrated in the development of strategies to prevent negative behaviors and outcomes for children. During this reporting period, Title V grantees served more than 297 children.

Listed next are the local units of government awarded the Title V funds.

Title V Grantee	FY 2007-08 Award Amount
Bedford County Department of Education	\$53,000

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) Program

In fiscal year 1998, Congress authorized the attorney general to provide grants under the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) program for use by states and units of local government to promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system. The Department of Children’s Services (DCS) initially administered the JAIBG program for Tennessee. In October 2001, JAIBG program administration was transferred to the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. For federal fiscal year 2001, Tennessee received \$4,302,300 in federal JAIBG dollars to be used for projects that reinforced accountability through a graduated sanctions system for crimes committed by juveniles. Grantees must submit an application to TCCY every year because renewal is not automatic. In October 2002, when the program was reauthorized the name was changed to the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) program.

If it does not request a waiver, each state must distribute not less than 75 percent of the state’s allocation among units of local government in the state. In making this distribution, the state allocates to each unit of local government an amount by a federal formula based on a combination of law enforcement expenditures for each unit of local government and the average annual number of violent crimes reported by each unit of local government for the three most recent calendar years for which data are available.

There are two types of distribution for the JABG funds. They include local Pass-Through funds and State-Allocated funds. According to the federal formula calculations, all local jurisdictions eligible to receive at least \$10,000 can receive these funds if they request them. The amount for each unit of local government is determined by the state’s percentage for Pass-Through funds. TCCY did not apply for a waiver; therefore, 75 percent of the JABG funds were passed to the units of local government. The remaining 25 percent were used by the state to benefit those areas not eligible to receive at least \$10,000. Grants were distributed through a request for proposals focused on accountability and enhancing services for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Funds are available for the following 17 program purpose areas (a 10 percent cash match is required when applying for these funds, except for Purpose Area 1):

- Purpose Area 1. Developing, implementing and administering graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders.
- Purpose Area 2. Building, expanding, renovating or operating temporary or permanent juvenile corrections, detention or community corrections facilities.
- Purpose Area 3. Hiring additional juvenile court judges, probation officers, and court-appointed defenders and funding pre-trial services for juveniles, to promote the effective and expeditious administration of the juvenile justice system.
- Purpose Area 4. Hiring additional prosecutors, so more cases involving violent juvenile offenders can be prosecuted and case backlogs reduced.
- Purpose Area 5. Providing funding to enable prosecutors to address drug, gang and youth violence problems more effectively and for technology, equipment and training to assist prosecutors in identifying and expediting the prosecution of violent juvenile offenders.
- Purpose Area 6. Establishing and maintaining training programs for law enforcement and other court personnel with respect to preventing and controlling juvenile crime.
- Purpose Area 7. Establishing juvenile gun courts for the prosecution and adjudication of juvenile firearms offenders.
- Purpose Area 8. Establishing drug courts for juvenile offenders that provide continuing judicial supervision over juvenile offenders with substance abuse problems and to provide the integrated administration of other sanctions and services.
- Purpose Area 9. Establishing and maintaining a system of juvenile records designed to promote public safety.
- Purpose Area 10. Establishing and maintaining interagency information-sharing programs that enable the juvenile and criminal justice system, schools and social service agencies to make more informed decisions regarding the early identification, control, supervision and treatment of juveniles who repeatedly commit serious delinquent or criminal acts.
- Purpose Area 11. Establishing and maintaining accountability-based programs designed to reduce recidivism among juveniles who are referred by law enforcement personnel or agencies.
- Purpose Area 12. Establishing and maintaining programs to conduct risk and needs assessments of juvenile offenders that facilitate the effective early intervention and the provision of comprehensive services, including mental health screening and treatment and substance abuse testing and treatment to such offenders.

- Purpose Area 13. Establishing and maintaining accountability-based programs that are designed to enhance school safety.
- Purpose Area 14. Establishing and maintaining restorative justice programs.
- Purpose Area 15. Establishing and maintaining programs to enable juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers to be more effective and efficient in holding juvenile offenders accountable and reducing juvenile recidivism.
- Purpose Area 16. Hiring detention and corrections personnel and establishing and maintaining training programs for such personnel to improve facility practices and programming.
- Purpose Area 17. Establishing, improving and coordinating Pre-Release and Post-Release systems and programs to facilitate the successful reentry of juvenile offenders from state or local custody in the community.

The JABG benefits to Tennessee have been numerous, including the following list.

- ✦ Tennessee has received a total of \$27,966,900 from 1998 through 2006 for accountability-based juvenile justice system programs.
- ✦ Rural counties across the state have received funds to help with juvenile court services and the backlog of juvenile cases.
- ✦ Programs funded have included 1) intensive probation services; 2) residential observation and assessment services; 3) intensive after care services; 4) alternative school and summer adventure-based programs; 5) additional referees to handle cases; 6) improved data systems for tracking juveniles; 7) new youth and drug courts for diversion from the regular juvenile justice system; etc.
- ✦ Juvenile courts in rural areas, which normally have minimal resources, now have a greater variety of services to meet more individualized needs.
- ✦ In Tennessee, the number of juvenile offenders for crimes such as homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, rape, larceny and burglary has been reduced by 30 percent from 1997 to 2006.
- ✦

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Funded Programs

State Allocated Funds	
Bradley County (X-CEL Academy)	\$98,400
Frontier Health	\$150,000
Madison County Government	\$202,000
Upper Cumberland Community Services Agency	\$80,100
Upper Cumberland Human Resources Agency	\$65,200
Total	\$595,700
Pass Through Funds	
Metro Nashville-Davidson	\$117,610
Hamilton County	\$34,691
Knox County	\$38,499
City of Knoxville	\$10,157
Shelby County	\$204,581
Total Pass Thru	\$405,538

Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) Program

Adolescence marks the age in which experimentation with mood-altering substances is most active. More youth in the United States drink alcohol than smoke tobacco or marijuana, making it the drug most used by American young people. Binge drinking among girls is equal to that of boys. Long-term studies now show a direct link between alcohol advertising and youth drinking. Young people who see and hear more alcohol advertisements are more likely to drink than their peers.

According to the Tennessee Department of Education, in the 2007 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), information regarding Tennessee showed that:

- ✦ 22 percent of high school students had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row within a couple of hours on at least one day during the 30 days before the YRBS;
- ✦ 70 percent of ninth through 12th graders had at least one drink of alcohol on one or more occasions, a 2 percent decrease from the 2005 YRBS;
- ✦ 37 percent of students in high schools of Nashville and Davidson County had at least one drink of alcohol one or more days in the past 30 days, a 6 percent decrease from the 2005 YRBS.

In order to combat underage drinking, in 1999 Congress appropriated \$360,000 to each state to address and reduce the use and sale of alcohol to minors. The Department of Children's Services (DCS) administered the Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) program in Tennessee from its inception until February 2002, giving the money to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) of Tennessee for its Youth In Action Program. Since that time the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) assumed the

administrative responsibilities. The total funds per state have been changed to \$350,000 per year.

A request for proposals was developed, and training on the program was given to agencies and organizations interested in reducing the sale and use of alcohol. Activities funded currently are as follows:

- ✦ Statewide task forces of state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies that target establishments suspected of a pattern of violations of state laws governing the sale and consumption of alcohol by minors;
- ✦ Innovative programs to prevent and combat underage drinking;
- ✦ Public advertising campaigns to educate establishments about statutory prohibitions and sanctions.

Programs funded include Bradley County Government, Memphis City Schools, Johnson City Schools, Center for Youth Issues (STARS), Fayette County Schools, STAND, Polk County Family Resource Center, and Knoxville Metro Drug Commission (MDC).

Memphis City Schools EUDL staff and youth presented at the 9th Annual Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida, in August 2007. Information was provided to participants on the Class Action Curriculum (SAMHSA: Model Program) that is used with the Memphis City Schools EUDL Initiative. They also gave examples about training students to be peer leaders, forming Youth Task Forces and enhancing media coverage.

Juvenile Justice Reimbursement Account

The Commission administers a combination of state (\$18,000) and federal (\$117,000) JJDP Act funds to provide financial assistance to counties for alternatives to placing children in adult jails. These funds can be used to provide services to children who meet the criteria of Tennessee Code Annotated 37-1-114(c), which describes appropriate placement of children in secure facilities. Allowable services include, but are not limited to, the following programs: attendant care services, emergency transportation, emergency shelter care and foster care, temporary holding and secure detention. In fiscal year 2006-07 TCCY contracted with 36 counties for the use of Reimbursement Account funds.

Each county accepting these funds must develop and submit local rules and procedures for each service provided. Account funds can only be used to provide services to children who are taken into custody in a county that did not operate a secure detention facility in 1983. Counties that established secure detention centers since the passage of legislation in 1983, which prohibited the placement of children in adult jails, are eligible for reimbursement for non-secure placements only. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the grants.

Juvenile Justice State Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services as provided by Tennessee Code Annotated 37-1-162. In fiscal year 2007-08, each county received \$9,000 (initially this amount had been \$10,000). This reduction has led to fewer services being provided for juveniles, less training for youth services officers, cuts in travel expenses and less overtime pay for youth services officers.

In counties with more than one juvenile court, each court is entitled to an equitable share of the county's allocation. To receive the funds, the juvenile court must have at least one full- or part-time youth services officer (YSO) who is appointed and supervised by the juvenile court judge. The youth services officer must meet identified educational requirements (60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of undergraduate credit from an accredited college or university in a social service-related field) and receive training annually (40 hours during the first year of employment and 20 hours of training during each subsequent year).

State supplement funds can be used to improve county juvenile court services such as: salaries for youth services officers, training for court staff, equipment for courts and/or travel for court staff to meetings or training sessions. Use of these funds can vary as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds. These funds cannot be used to pay salaries or expenses of juvenile court judges or for construction or remodeling of adult facilities. In fiscal year 2007-08, all 95 counties used approximately 90 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or other staff to enhance the services of the court.

Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Programs

TCCY also administers state funds for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs in Tennessee. The purpose of the CASA programs is to recruit, train and supervise court-approved volunteers. These volunteers advocate for the best interests of abused, neglected or dependent children and other children who are placed out of their homes by the court. CASA volunteers assist the court by collecting background information, preparing reports for the court and participating in case reviews. The CASA volunteer works with the court and other agencies to ensure that a permanent placement is found as quickly as possible and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to meet the needs of these children.

In fiscal year 2007-08, state CASA funds provided services for more than 4,411 children in Anderson, Bedford, Blount, Campbell, Coffee, Davidson, Greene, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hawkins, Henderson, Knox, Madison, Maury, Meigs, McMinn, Monroe, Morgan, Overton, Putnam, Rhea, Roane, Robertson, Rutherford, Scott, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, Wilson and Unicoi counties. Each county received \$15,000.

For the first time since 1996, funding for Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs increased in 200. Also, funding was awarded for additional CASA programs to start up in FY 2007-08.

Transfer Hearings

Tennessee Code Annotated 33-3-401 establishes procedures for the involuntary transfer of youth between the departments of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (DMHDD) and Children's Services (DCS). A transfer hearing is scheduled before a five-person review panel composed of two representatives each from MHDD and DCS and one representative from the Commission.

A transfer hearing is called when:

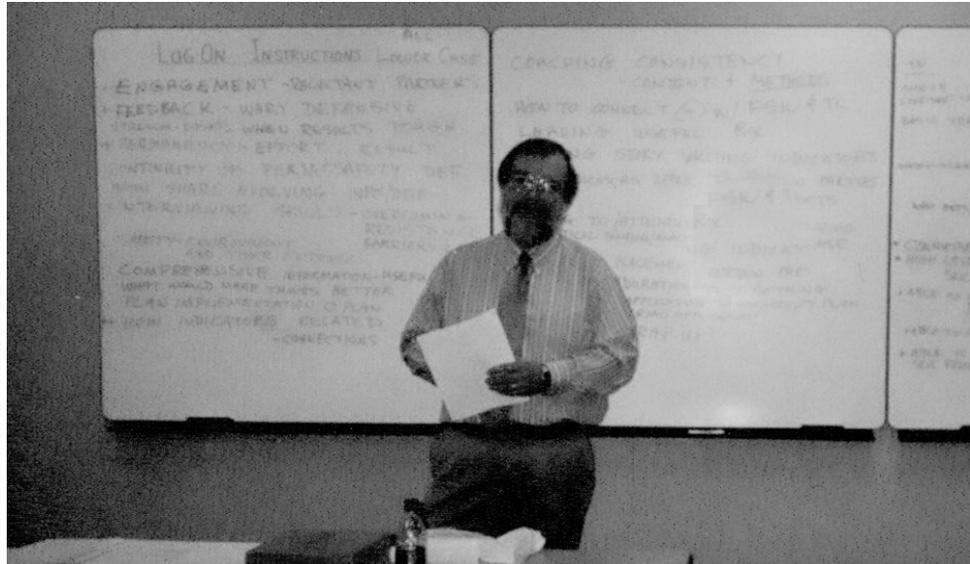
1. The transferee objects to a transfer;
2. An emergency transfer is needed; or,
3. A transferee is being returned.

During fiscal year 2007-08, two hearings were held. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility.

The hearings were held at Woodland Hills Youth Development Center and concerned one White female and one African-American male ages 16 and 17.

Reimbursement Account		
County	City	Amount
Anderson		\$ 6,000
Cannon		\$ 900
Carter		\$ 5,000
Cheatham		\$ 400
Cocke		\$ 2,500
Coffee		\$ 9,000
Crockett		\$ 1,500
Dickson		\$ 8,500
Fayette		\$ 2,000
Giles		\$ 1,800
Hamblen		\$ 12,000
Hardeman		\$ 2,500
Hawkins		\$ 8,100
Haywood		\$ 700
Henderson		\$ 700
Jefferson		\$ 5,000
Lauderdale		\$ 5,500
Loudon		\$ 2,000
Marion		\$ 4,000
Marshall		\$ 1,000
Maury		\$ 5,000
McMinn		\$ 2,500
McNairy		\$ 500
Montgomery		\$ 12,000
Robertson		\$ 4,500
Sequatchie		\$ 2,000
Smith		\$ 400
Stewart		\$ 500
Sullivan		\$ 12,000
Unicoi		\$ 1,500
Warren		\$ 300
Washington		\$ 12,000





CPORT

In its 15th year of evaluating children's services, the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT), under the direction of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, continues to provide an independent review of service delivery outcomes for children and families served by the Department of Children's Services (DCS).

Since September 2005, the CPORT division staff has worked collaboratively with staff from DCS to conduct a case-based quality services review (QSR) process. The integration of CPORT and DCS QSR produces quantitative and qualitative results that can be used for continuous system improvement and implementation and reinforcement of best practices to children and their families. Beginning July 2006, the implementation of the QSR process was moved to a fiscal year cycle, succeeding the pilot year 2005/2006.

The collaboration with DCS resulted in a newly designed QSR protocol and an expansion of the process to include case manager feedback at the frontline and supervisory level. New indicators were created for appraising system performance as well as child and family status with new definitions to better identify outcomes for children and families, while some indicators remain the same.

The CPORT staff provided on-going assistance in pre-training for regional and targeted reviews, protocol revisions, training assistance

and facilitation for the statewide reviews throughout the fiscal year as needed and/or requested by DCS.

In addition, CPORT staff worked collaboratively with Child Welfare Policy and Practice Group (CWPPG), a DCS contracted technical assistance service provider out of Alabama, and the Brian A. monitor's office. The TCCY also contracted with CWPPG to provide technical assistance and training for CPORT staff from January to December of 2008.

The process for the reviews included face-to-face interviews (except when circumstances prevented) with the following: child (if age appropriate), parents, custodial department caseworkers, caregivers (foster parent or direct care staff in a group facility), court representatives, teachers and other relevant service providers. The case records were reviewed, and pertinent documents or reports were copied and compiled for the reviews. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

Thirteen full-time CPORT case reviewers, along with DCS, CWPPG and the Brian A. monitor's staff, worked in pairs to examine and determine the status of children and families and the adequacy of performance of key system practices and services for the children reviewed.

The quantitative data were a result of an examination of 11 status indicators for the child and family and 11 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time.

During fiscal year 2007-08, quality service reviews were conducted in each of the 12 DCS regions and involved 21 to 30 random cases stratified over age, race, gender, adjudication, and DCS case manager/team leader, and reflective of the population of children in custody of DCS. By May 2008, 273 cases were reviewed.

The statewide sample consisted of 163 child-custody cases designed to be statistically significant at the 99 percent level of confidence with +/-10 percent accuracy. Additionally, regional samples were designed to be statistically significant at the 85 percent level of confidence with +/-15 percent accuracy.

The following 11 status indicators were examined for the child and family:

1. Safety;
2. Stability;
3. Appropriate Placement;
4. Health/Physical Well-Being;
5. Emotional/Behavioral Well-Being;
6. Learning and Development (3 different life stages);
7. Caregiver Functioning;
8. Permanence;
9. Family Functioning and Resourcefulness;
10. Family Connections; and
11. Satisfaction.

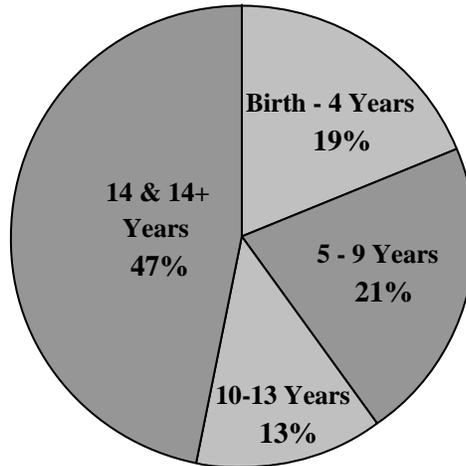
The reviewers evaluated the following 11 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time.

1. Engagement;
2. Teamwork and Coordination;
3. Ongoing Functional Assessment;
4. Long-Term View;
5. Child and Family Permanency Planning Process;
6. Permanency Plan/Service Implementation;
7. Tracking and Adjustment;
8. Resource Availability and Use;
9. Informal support and Community Involvement;
10. Placement Supports; and
11. Transitioning for Child.

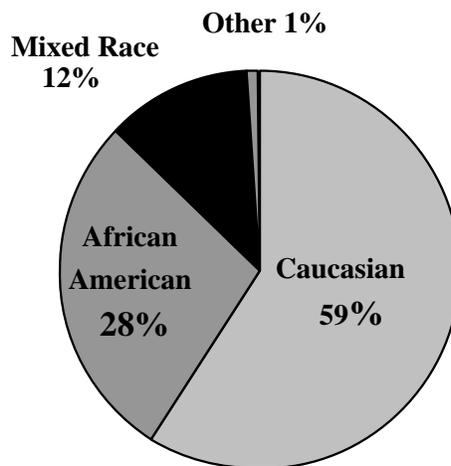
Toward the end of fiscal year 2007-08 and beginning 2008-09, in collaboration with DCS Juvenile Justice Division, CPORT conducted quality service reviews of children residing in five Youth Development Centers (YDC): Woodland Hills, June 4-6; New Visions, June 23-25; Mountain View, July 15-17; Taft, August 12-14; and Wilder, September 3-5. Children placed at the youth development centers are adjudicated delinquent and meet criteria as established by the Department of Children's Services for placement at these secure facilities. The sample consisted of 45 child-custody cases randomly pulled for qualitative research and was based on the number of children residing in the facilities at the time of the review.

Two full-time CPORT statistical analysts provided technical support producing QSR samples, data analyses, and reports.

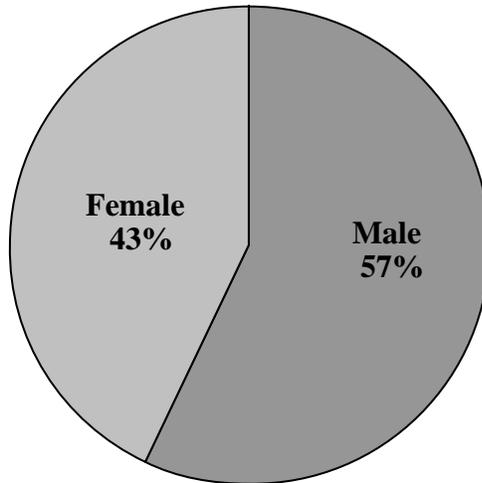
Age Group/Age of the Child



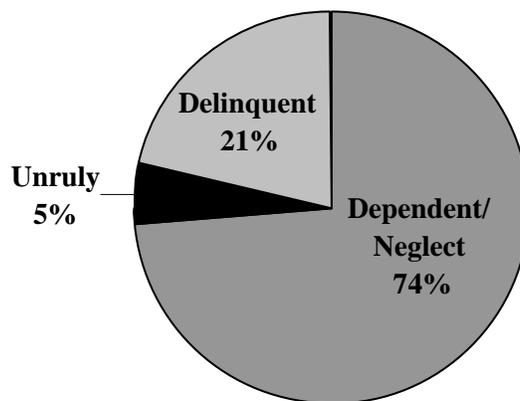
Race of the Child



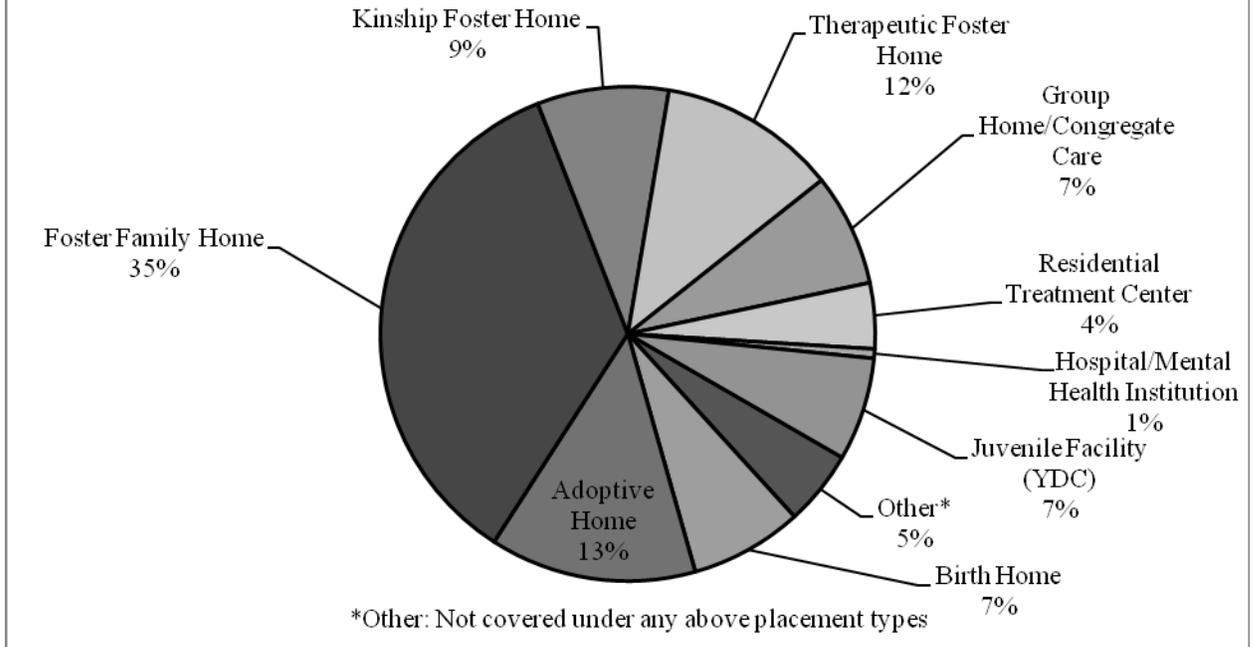
Gender of the Child



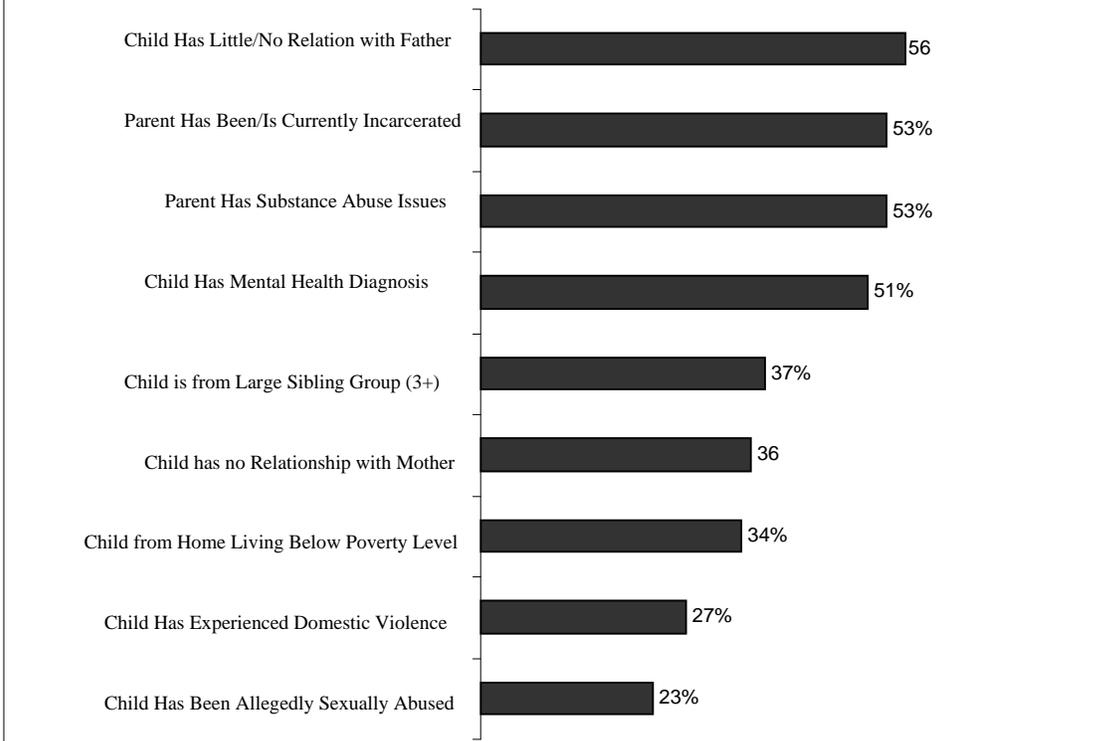
Adjudications



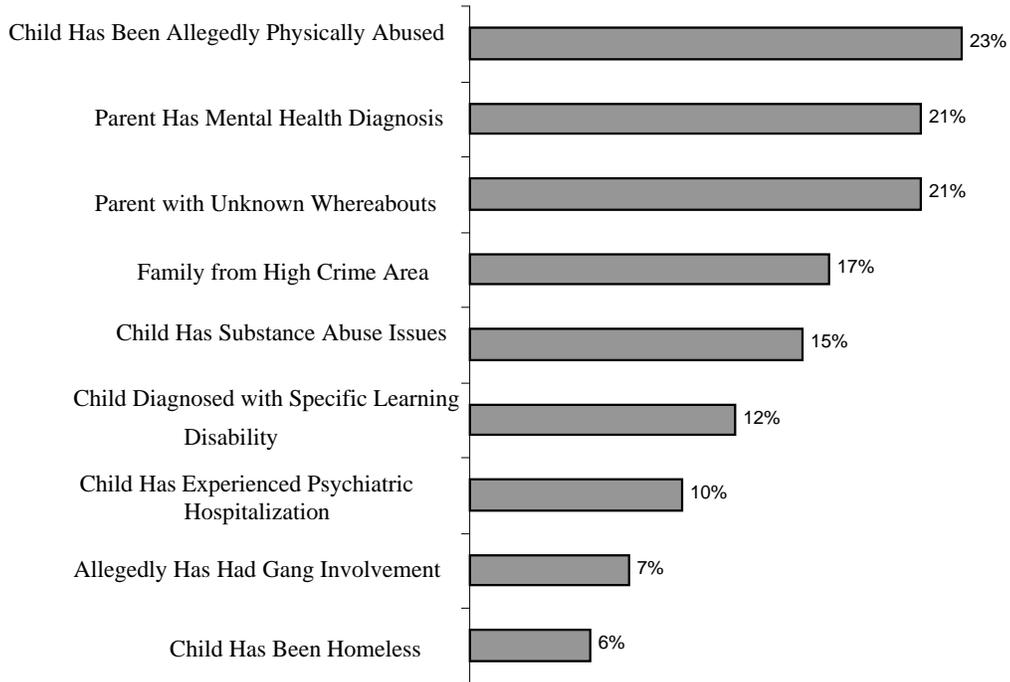
Child Current Placements



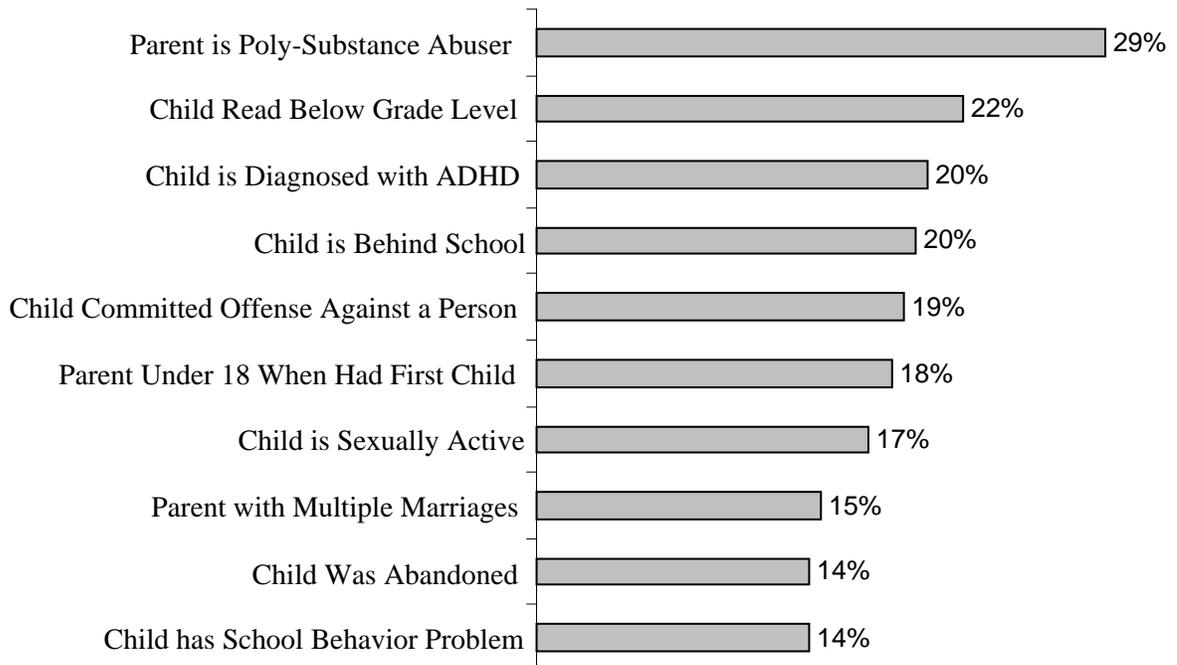
High-Risk Critical Issues



High-Risk Critical Issues

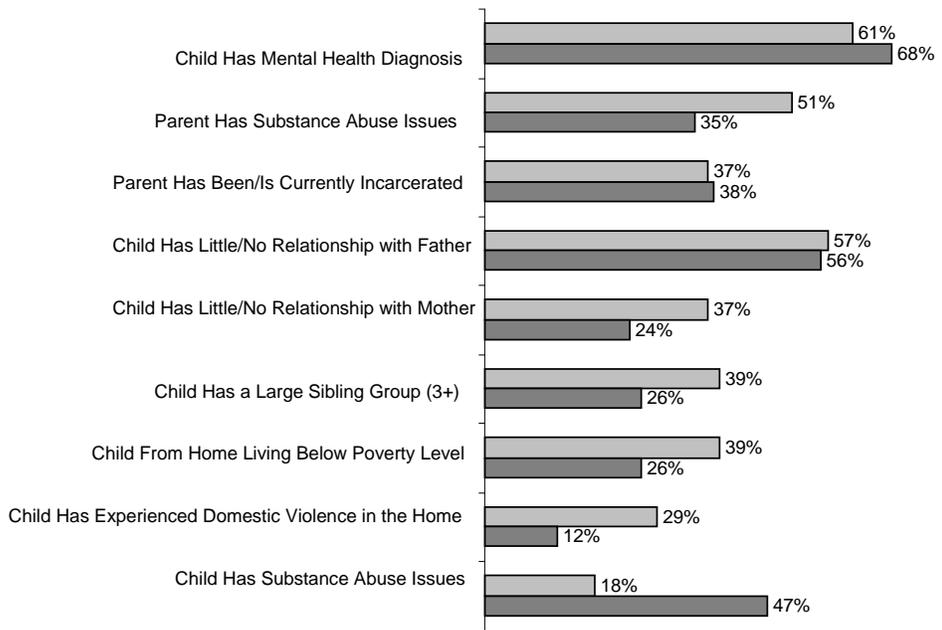


Other Critical Issues

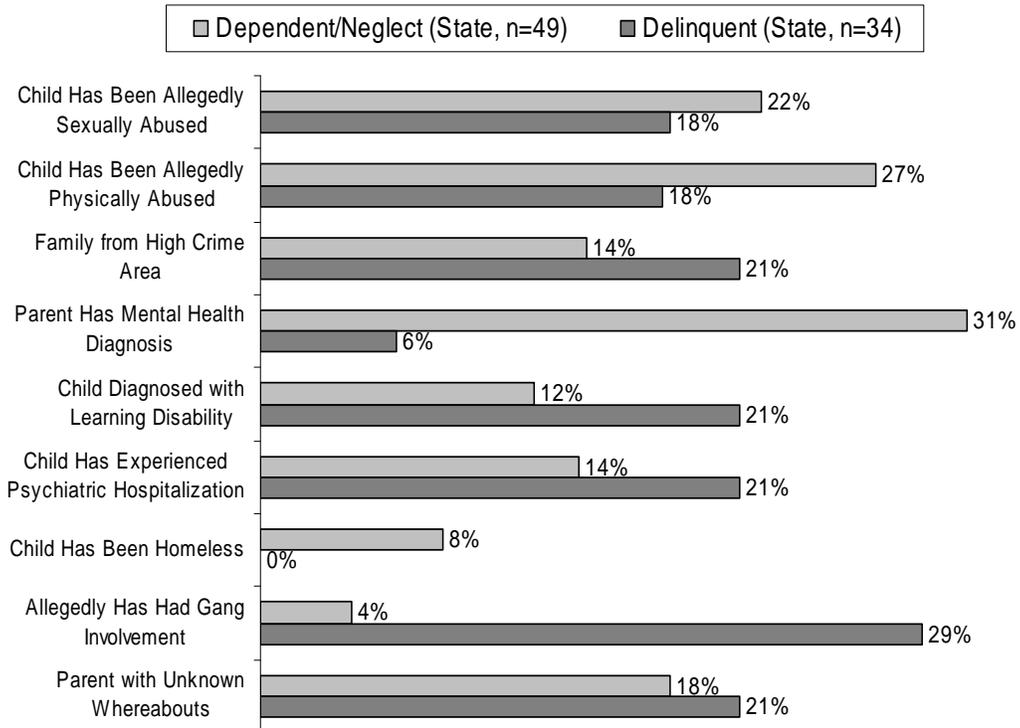


High Risk Critical Issues Age 13 and Older

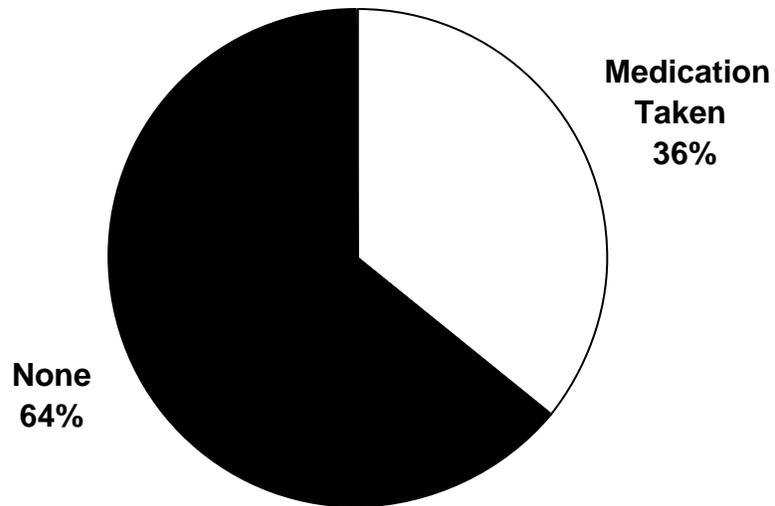
Dependent/Neglect (State, n=49)
 Delinquent (State, n=34)



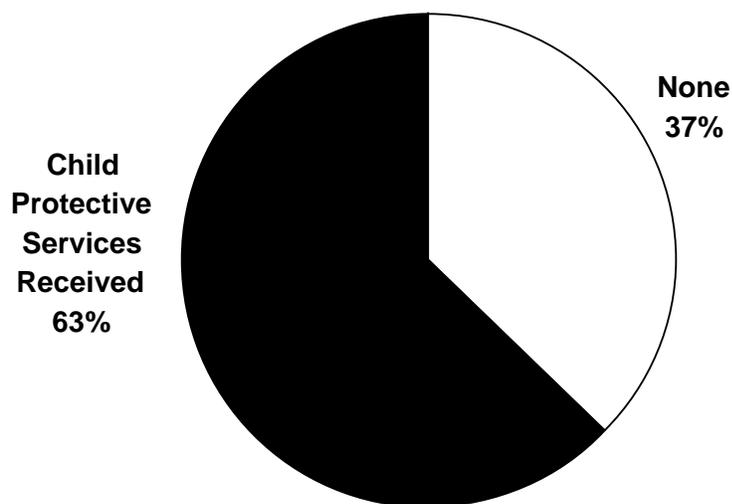
High Risk Critical Issues Age 13 and Older



**Psychotropic Medication Currently Taken
Percent of Children**

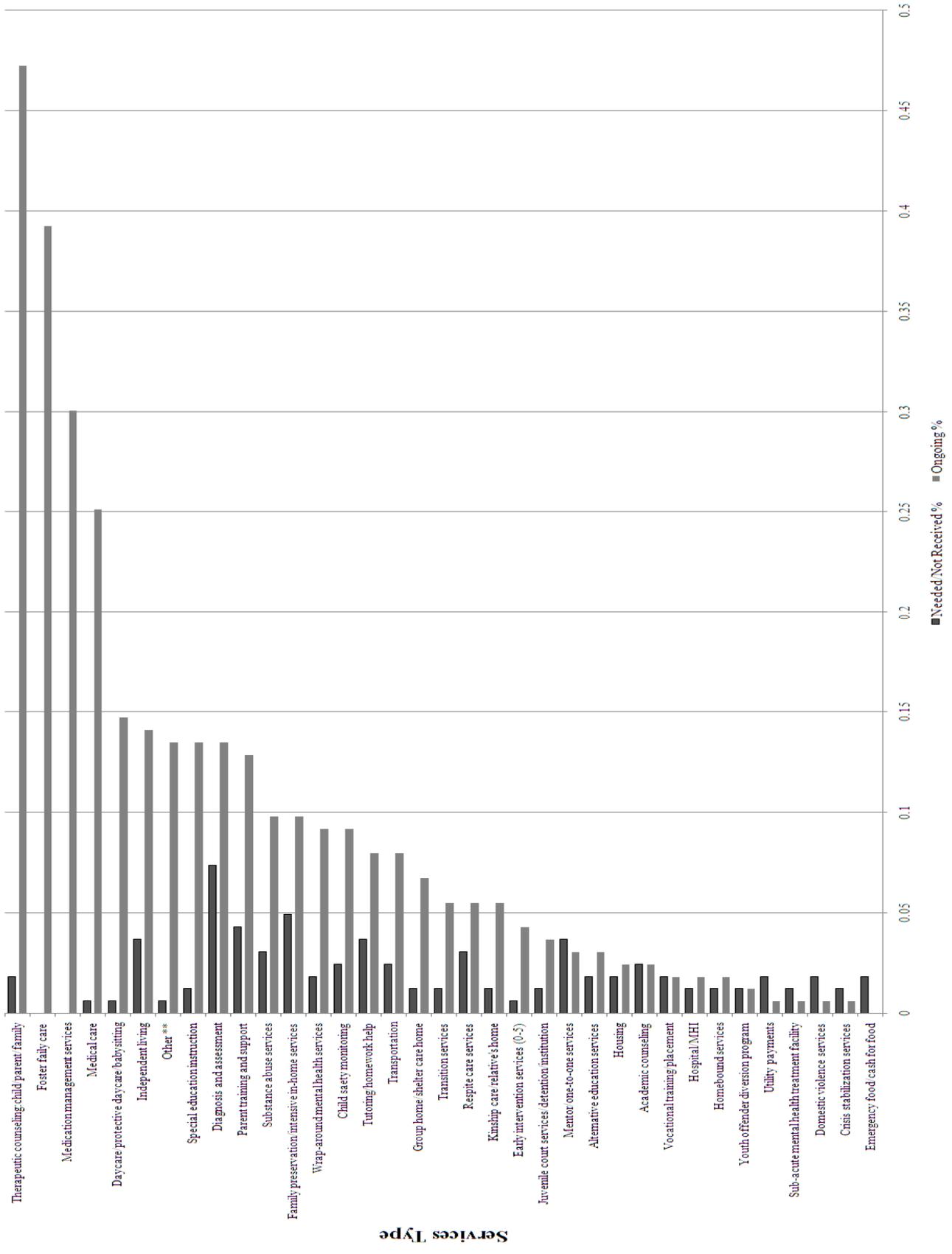


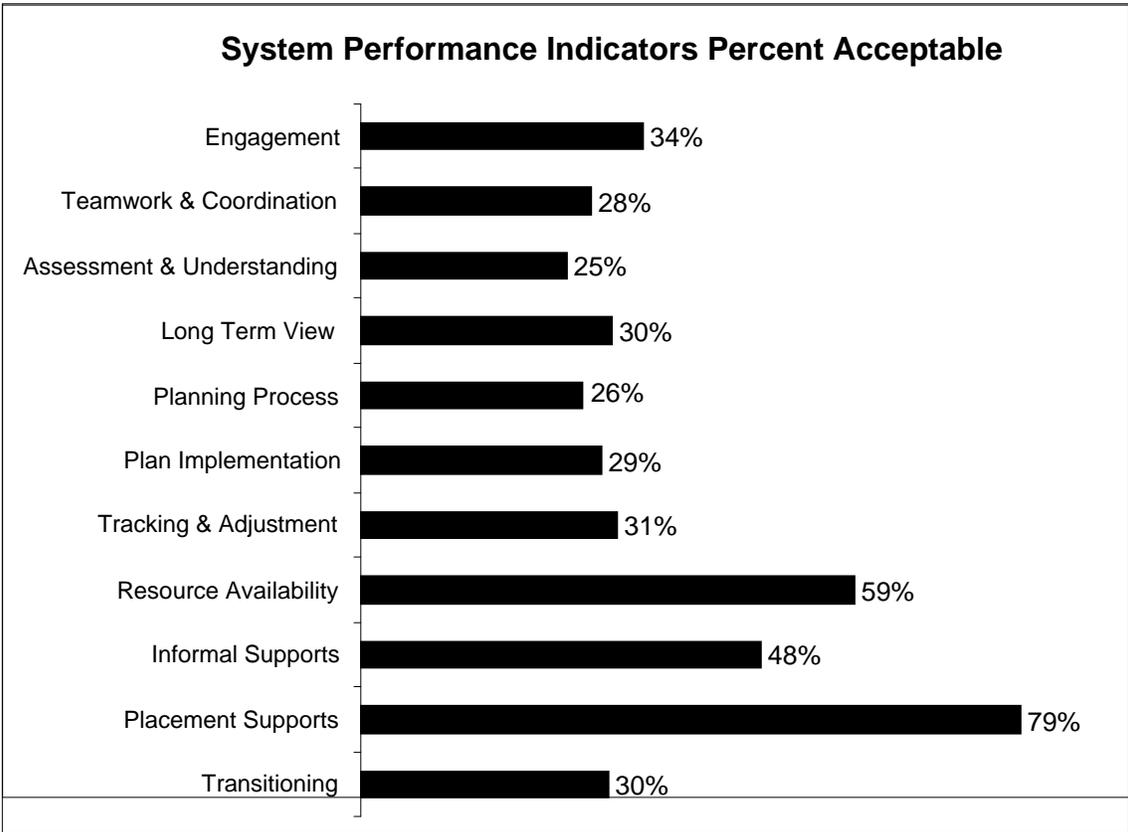
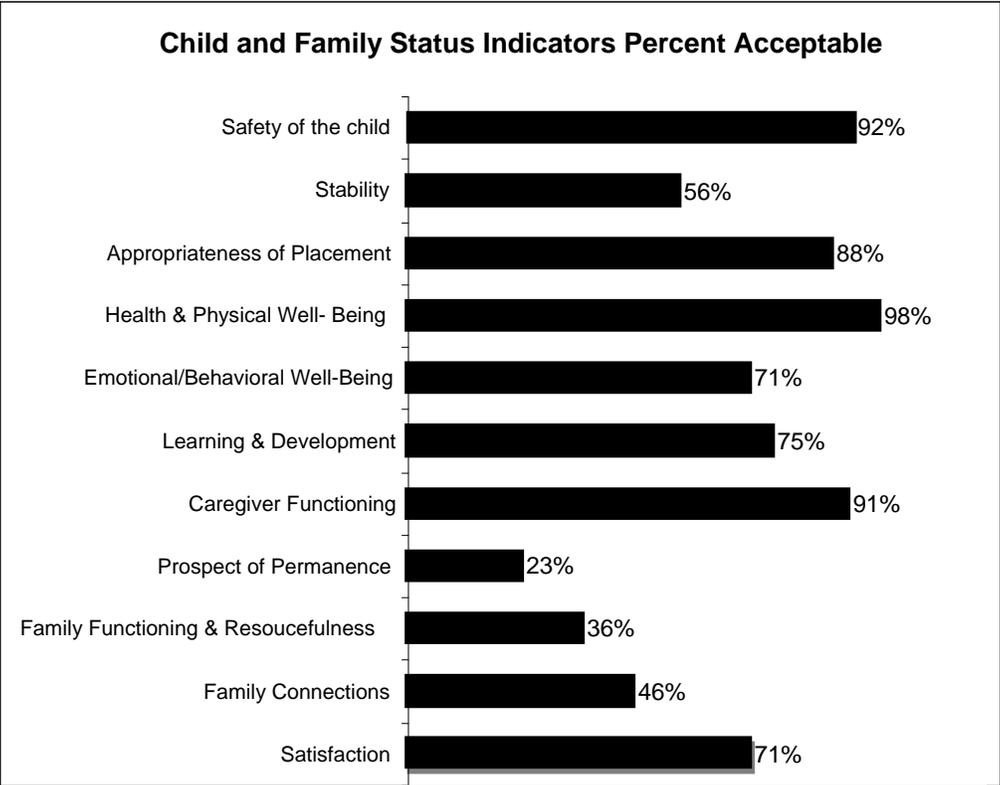
**Percent of Children who received Child Protective Services
prior to Custody**



Types of Services and Supports for the Child and/or Family*

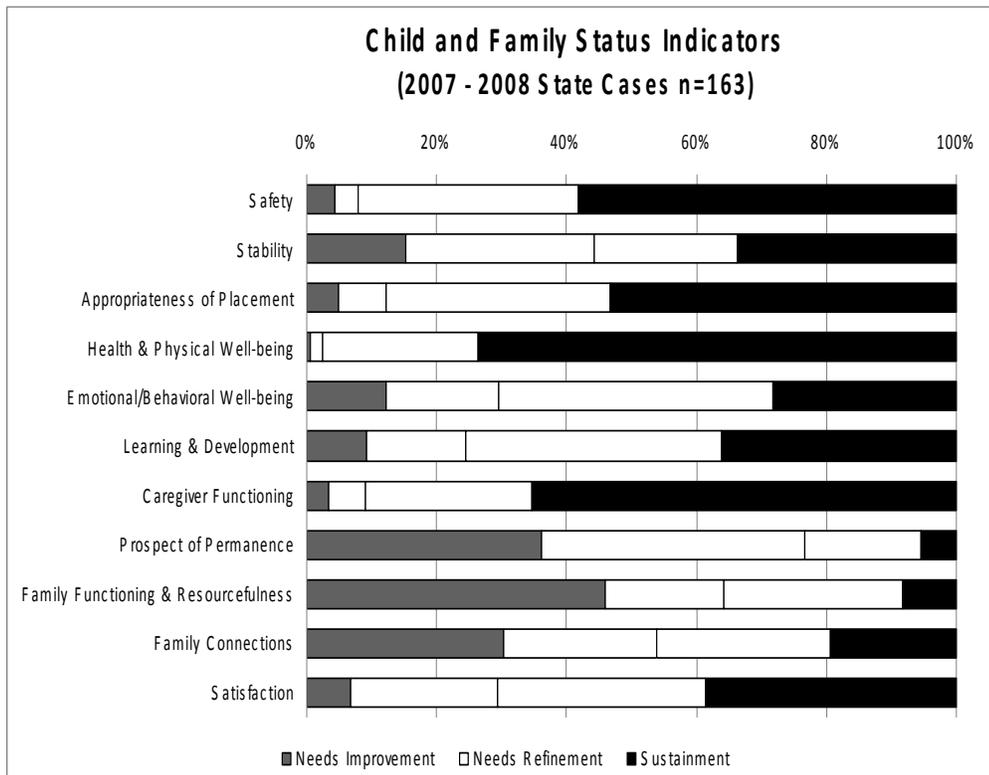
(* Children/Family require a variety of services; the graph depicts the focus of most services; Other** - services not listed)





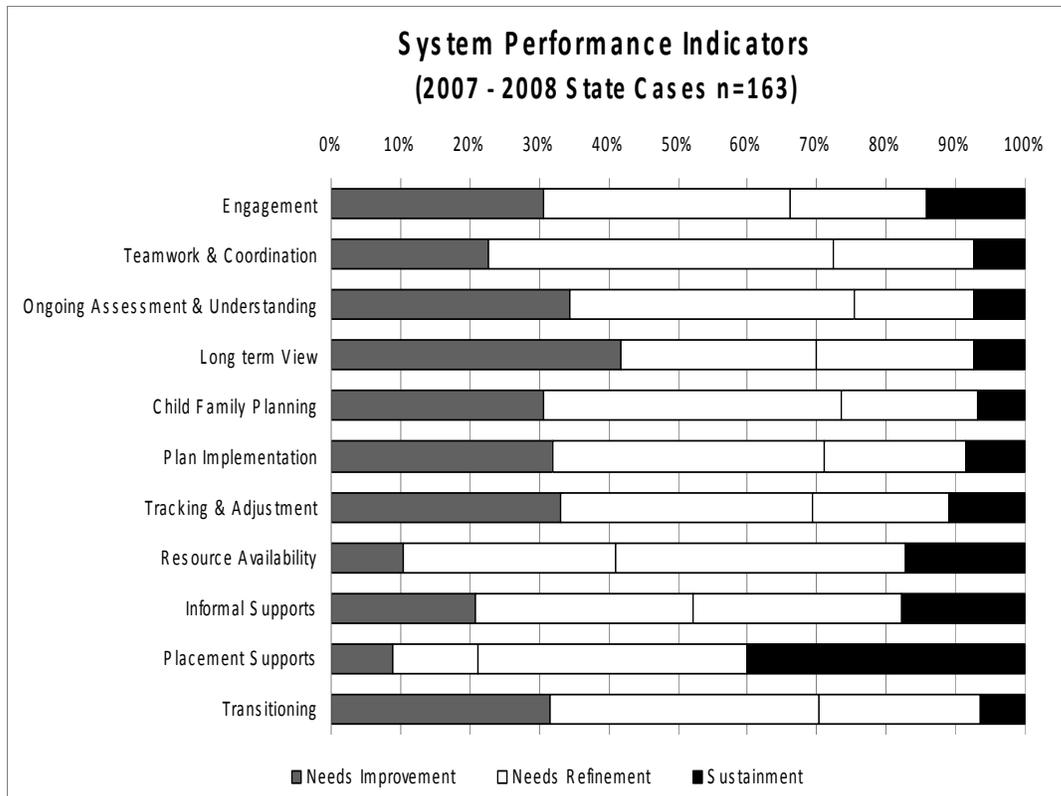
Rating the Key Indicators for Status

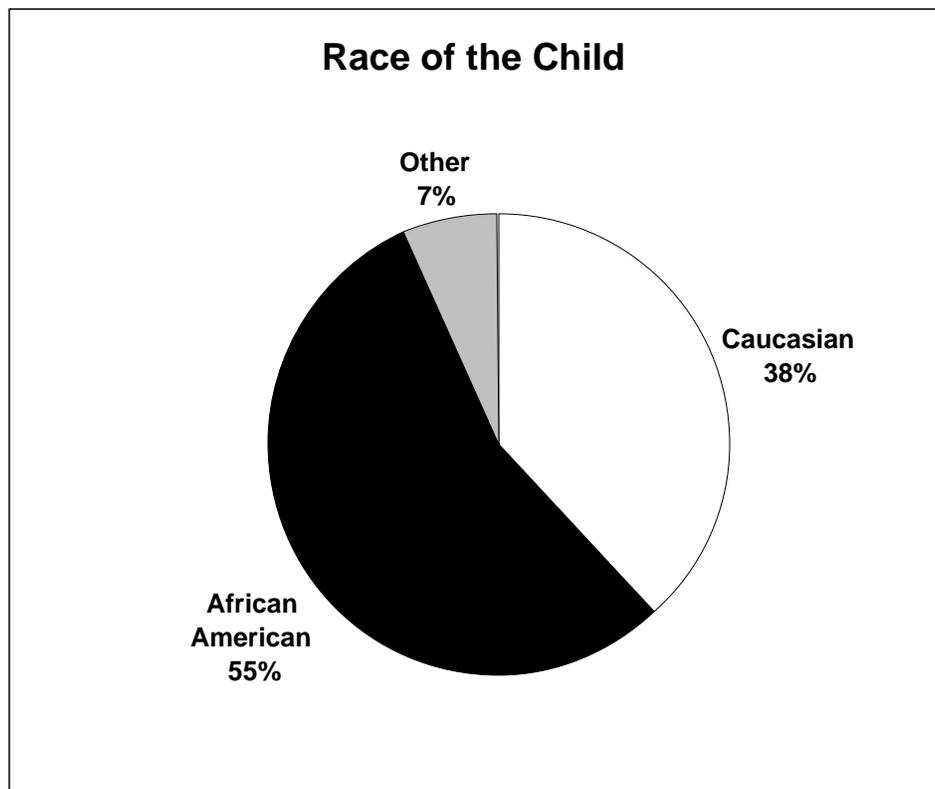
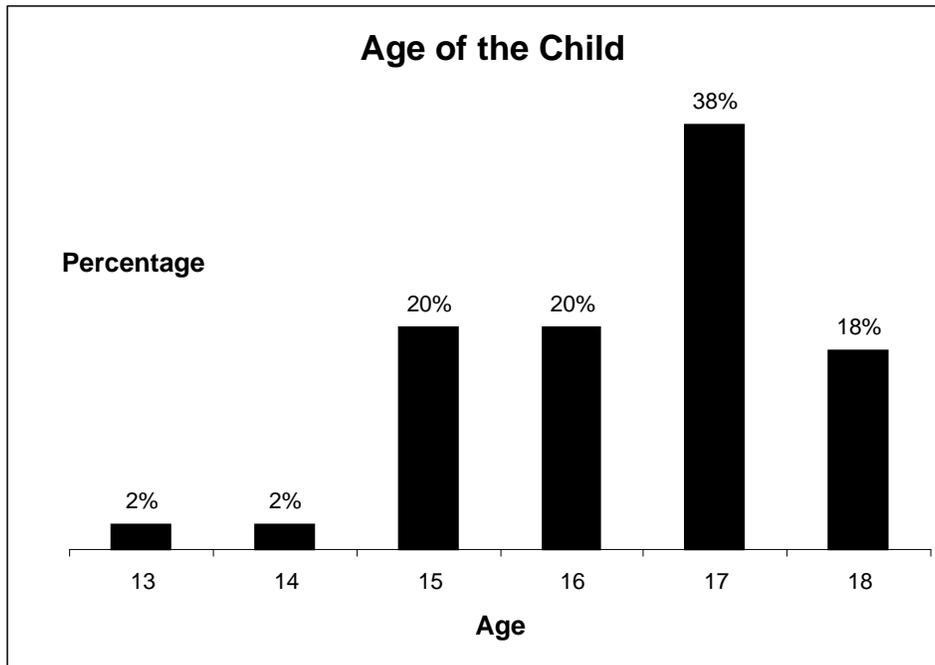
Inadequate			Adequate		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Serious and Worsening Problems	Substantial and/or continuing Problems	Unacceptable	Minimally Acceptable	Substantially Acceptable	Optimal
Needs Improvement		Needs Refinement		Sustainment	



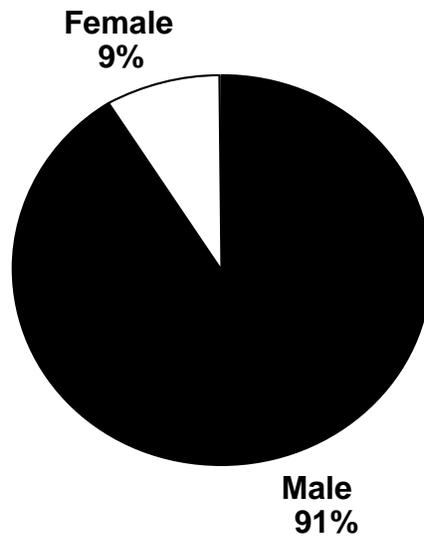
Rating the Key Indicators for System

Inadequate			Adequate		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Completely Unacceptable	Substantially Unacceptable	Unacceptable	Minimally Acceptable	Substantially Acceptable	Optimal
Needs Improvement		Needs Refinement		Sustainment	

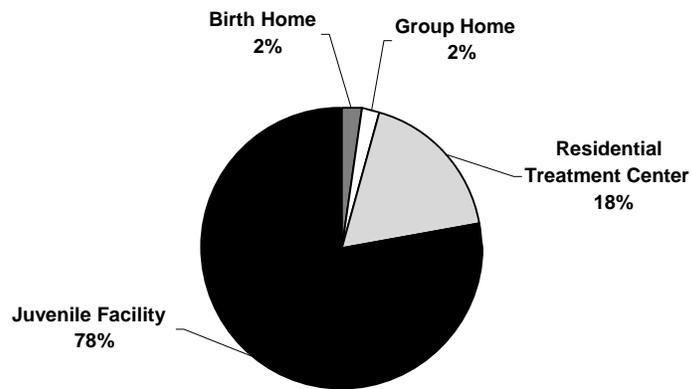




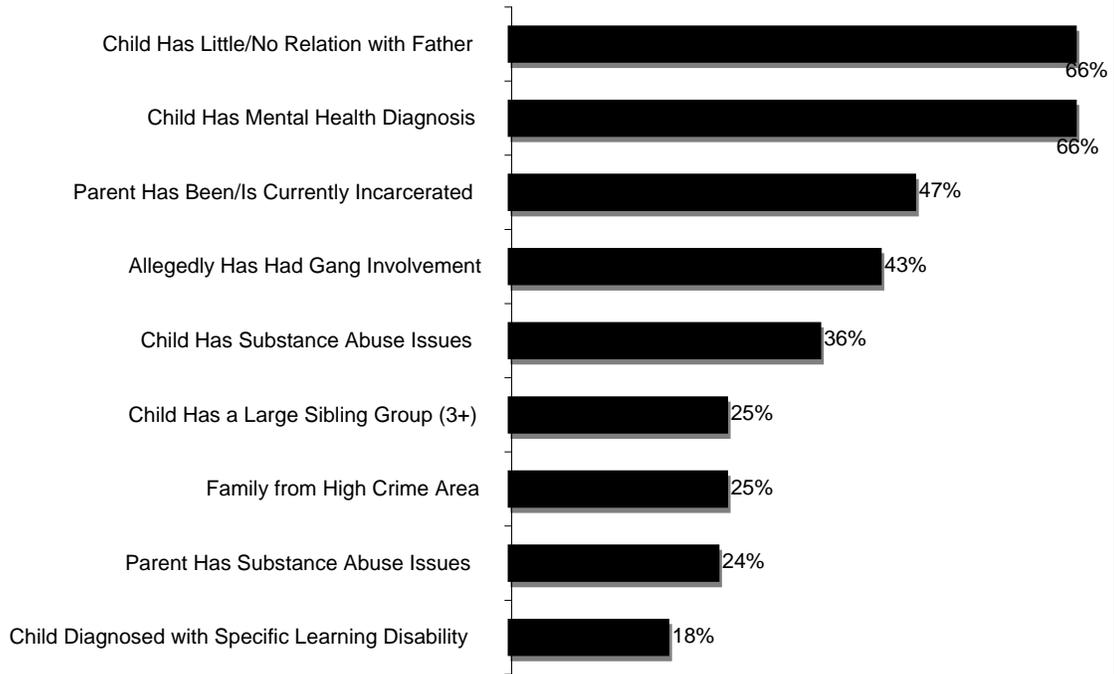
Gender of the Child



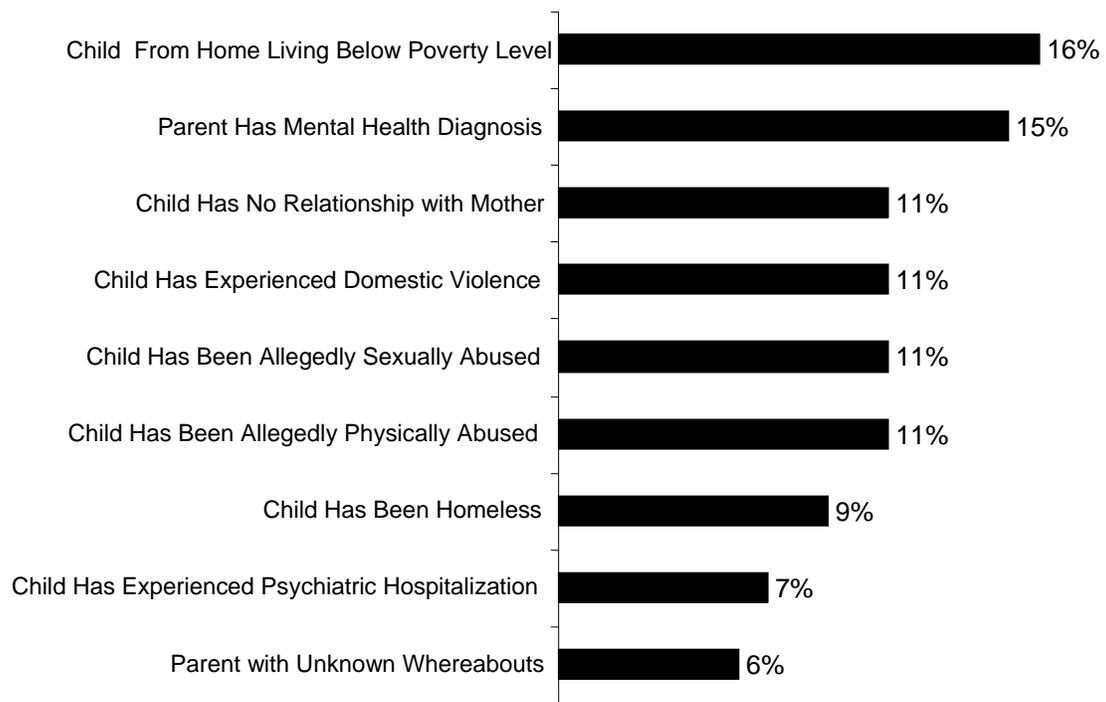
Placements

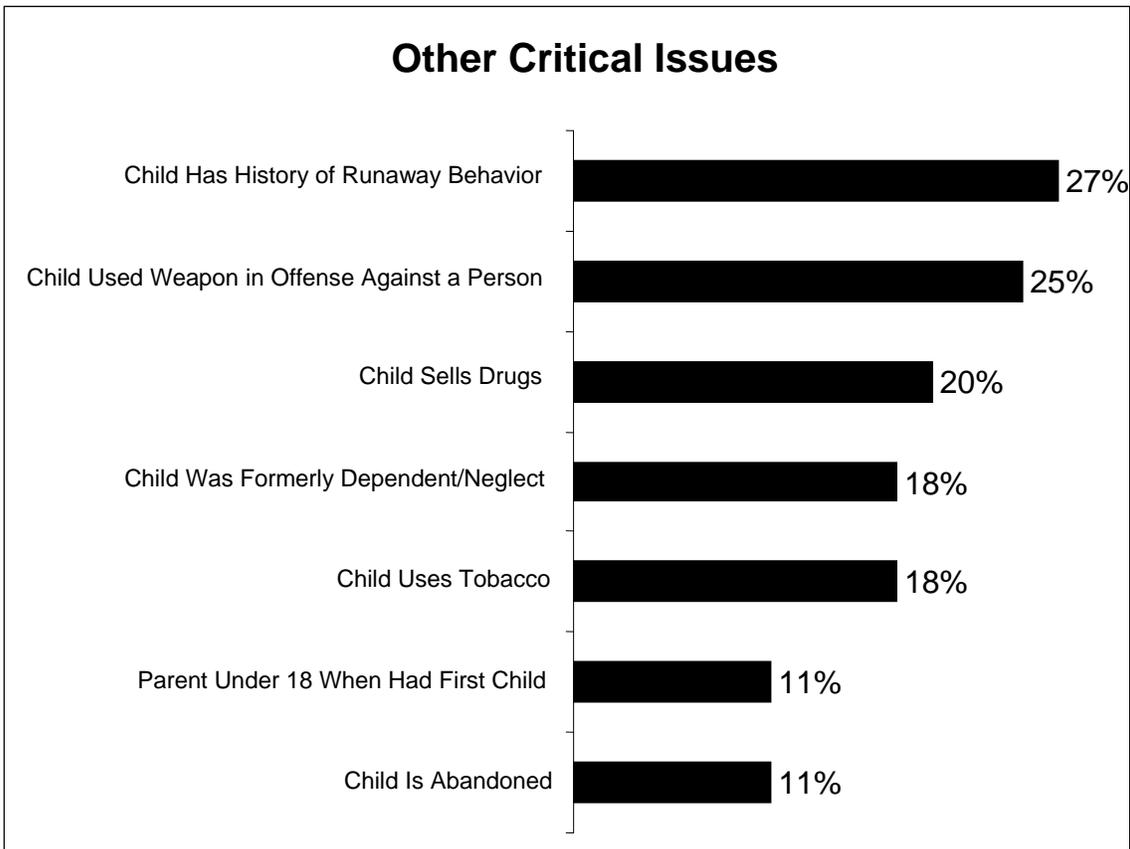
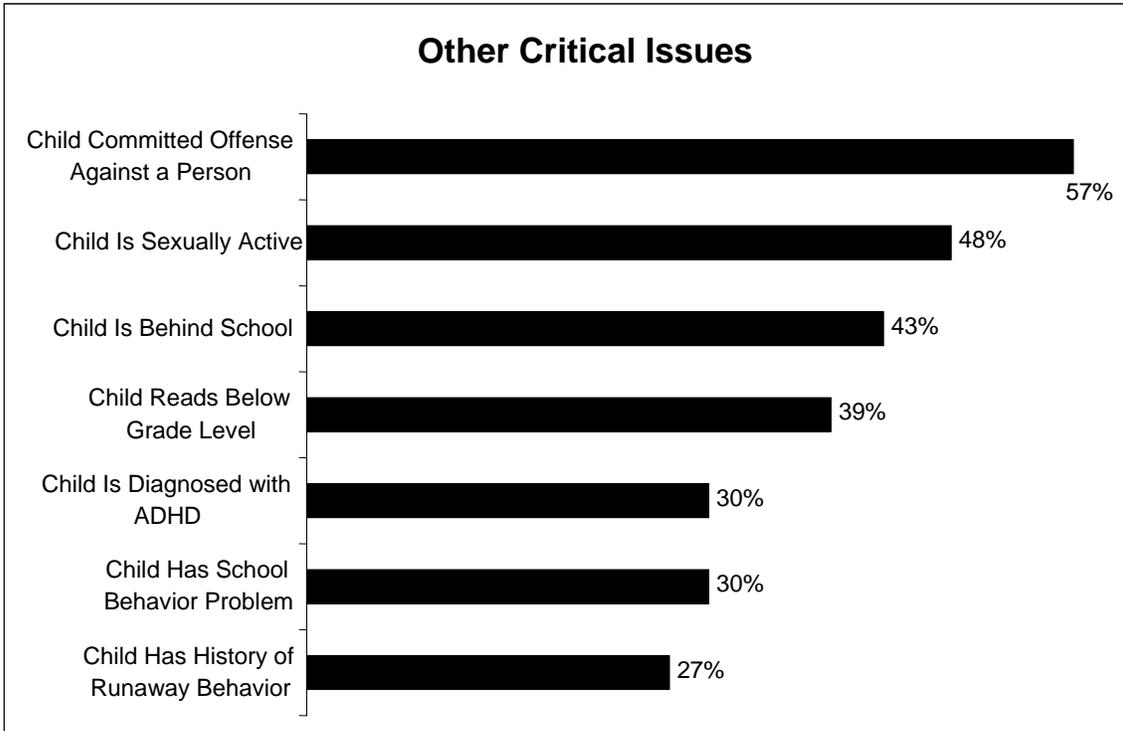


High-Risk Critical Issues

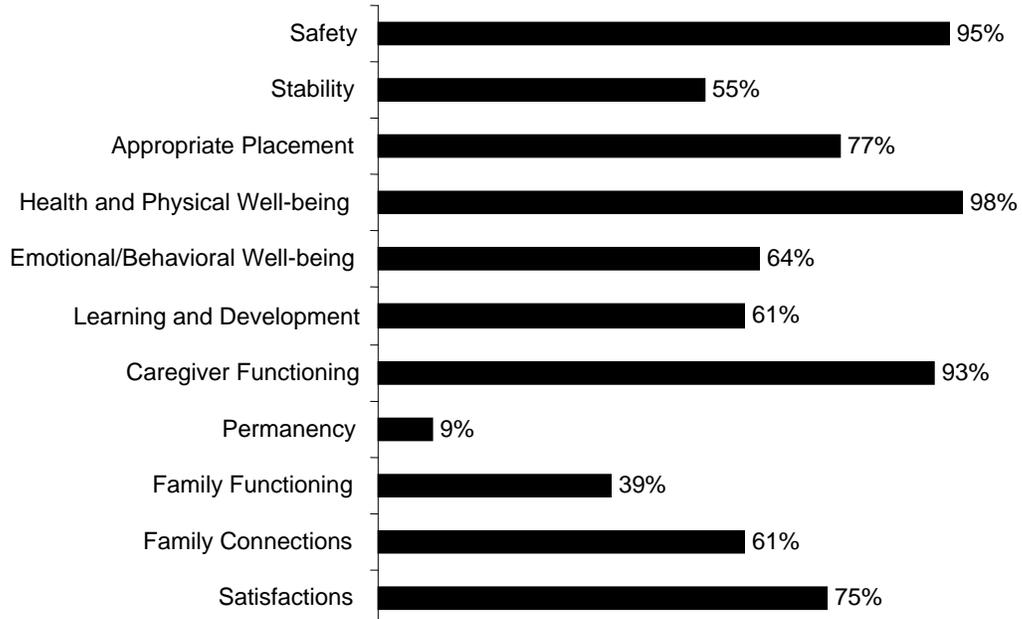


High Risk Critical Issues

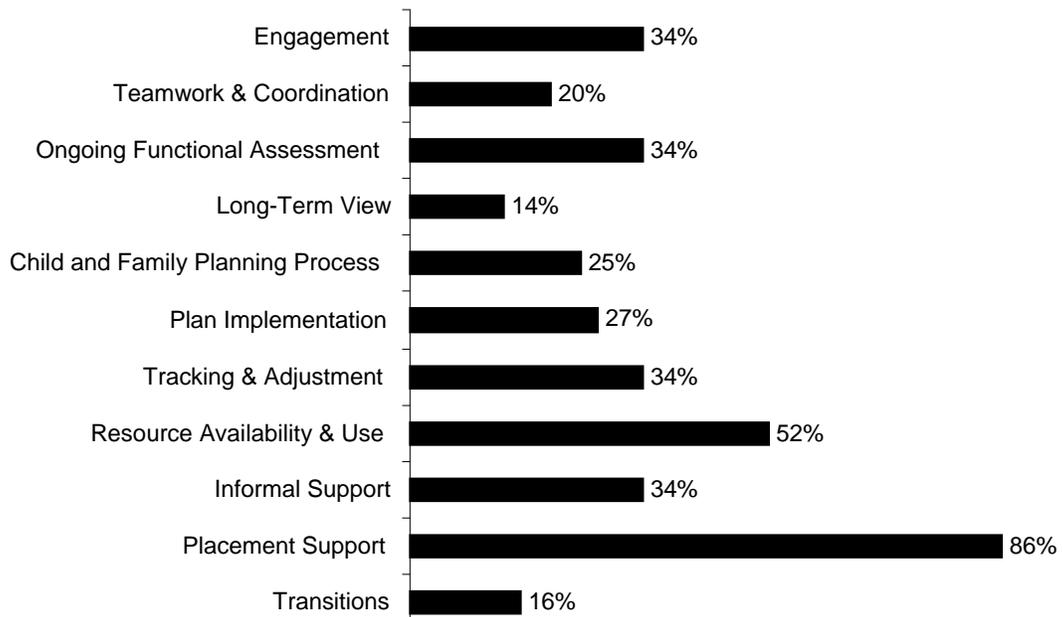




Child and Family Status Indicators Percent Acceptable



System Performance Indicators Percent Acceptable





Regional Councils

Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-106 requires the Commission on Children and Youth to organize a regional council on children and youth in each of the state's nine development districts. It establishes the councils as the ongoing communication link between the Commission and regional and local areas in Tennessee. The statute requires one locally based staff person for each regional council and identifies as the following duties of the councils to:

- ✦ Provide for mutual exchange of information and networking among service providers, advocates and elected officials;
- ✦ Educate council members, officials, others involved in services for children and youth and the general public concerning the needs and problems of children and youth in the region and the state;
- ✦ Coordinate regional and local efforts between public and private service providers to enhance services for children and youth;
- ✦ Advocate for legislation, policies and programs at the local and regional level to promote and protect the health, well-being and development of children and youth; and
- ✦ Collect, compile and distribute data and to make recommendations of the needs and problems of children and youth.

In fiscal year 2007-08, nearly 2,500 community representatives and professionals were active members of the nine regional councils. The information below presents the nine regions and the regional coordinators. Summary information about each council is presented on the following pages.

TCCY Regional Councils and the Coordinators

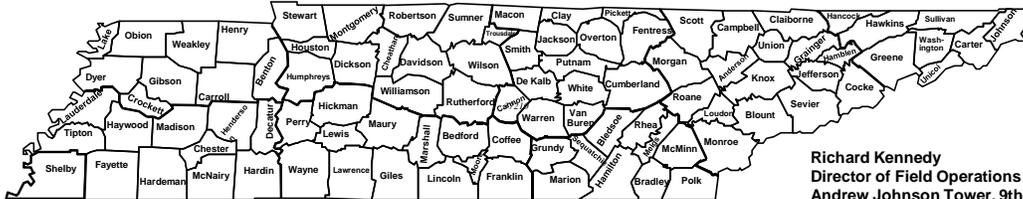
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 (901) 543-7657
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 (931) 381-2053 (Fax)
 Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us

Kathy Daniels
Southeast Council
 540 McCallie Avenue, Ste. 643
 Chattanooga, TN 37402
 (423) 634-6210
 (423) 634-3094 (Fax)
 Kathy.Daniels@state.tn.us

Revised 12/06/2006

Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

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1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension
Johnson City, TN 37604
Phone: (423) 979-4585
Fax: (423) 979-3267
E-mail: Diane.Wise@state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Council has 239 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Ralph Sparks, Upper East Tennessee Detention Center
Past-President	Tony Cox, SteppenStone Youth Treatment Center
Vice-President	Carrie Marchant, Foundation for Life's Principles
President-Elect	Jane Pack, Department of Children's Services
Secretary	Kelly Ritsco, Volunteer
Treasurer	Christen Minnick, Washington County Health Department

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Child and Family	Amy Cinnamon, Hawkins County Family Resource Center
Hospitality/Public Relations	Terry Henson, Tennessee Department of Health
Juvenile Justice	Pam Harr, Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Legislative	Darrell Holden, Retired, Volunteer
Membership/Nominating	Judith Holden, Tennessee Department of Health
Regional Advocacy	Amy Williams, Court Appointed Special Advocate for Kids

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

September 27, 2007	Town Hall Meeting: The State of Mental Health Services for Children and Youth in Tennessee
November 30, 2007	Healthy Kids: Body, Mind and Spirit Conference
February 1, 2008	Annual Breakfast for Our Legislators
May 23, 2008	Legislation of the 105th General Assembly

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

November 30, 2007	Healthy Kids: Body, Mind and Spirit Conference
February 1, 2008	Annual Breakfast for Our Legislators
March 11 and 12, 2008	Children's Advocacy Days

April 18, 2008

Child Abuse Prevention: What You Need to Know
Today Conference

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

Diane Cupp, director of Court Services with the Johnson City Juvenile Court, was recognized as the 2008 Child Advocate of the Year.

East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Vacant
531 Henley Street, Suite 735
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone: (865) 594-6658
Fax: (865) 594-6658
E-mail: Richard.Kennedy@state.tn.us

East Tennessee Council Membership

The East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth has 166 members representing the 16 counties in the region: Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Claiborne, Cocke, Grainger, Hamblen, Jefferson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Roane, Scott, Sevier and Union.

East Tennessee Council Officers

President	Currently Vacant
President-Elect	Currently Vacant
Secretary	Charity Smith, University of Tennessee, Agriculture Extension
Past President	George Gorghis, Knox County Juvenile Court
Treasurer	Cynthia Hudson, Knox Area Pregnancy Prevention Initiative

East Tennessee Council Committees

Nominating Committee	Currently Vacant
Legislative Committee	Currently Vacant
Juvenile Justice/ Education	Currently Vacant

East Tennessee Council Meetings

September 15, 2006	Self Injuries: Silent Scars
April 20, 2007	Juvenile Justice Training
May 23, 2007	Early Adolescent Brain Development and the Effects of Child Abuse
June 7, 2007	SJR 799 Mental Health Town Hall Meeting

East Tennessee Council Special Events

October 26, 2006	Parent Leadership Training Conference
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Southeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Regional Coordinator: Kathy Daniels
540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 643
Chattanooga, TN 37402
Phone: (423) 634-6210
Fax: (423) 634-3094
E-mail: Kathy.Daniels@mail.state.tn.us

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Southeast Council has 250 members representing the 10 counties in the region: Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers

President: Hugh Reece,
Progressive Sentencing, Inc.
Vice President: Becky Encizo
Bradford Health Services
Secretary: Dalton Mook
UTC Social Work Department
Treasurer: Katie Larue
Partnership for Families,
Children, and Adults
Past President: Jeanne Bille
Child Advocate

Hiwassee Council Officers:

President: Lisa Wiley
Action Counseling
Vice President: Teresa Shull
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Secretary: vacant
Legislative: Max Hood
Parkridge Valley Hospital

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs:

Legislative	Becky Encizo, Bradford Health Care
Public Relations	Hugh Reece, Progressive Sentencing, Inc.
Hospitality and Child Welfare	Katie Larue, Partnership FCA
Nominations/Awards	Shula Yelliott, Hamilton County Read 20
Mental Health	Stephanie Austin, HCA Parkridge Valley Dorothy Stephens, Fortwood Mental Health Center
Juvenile Justice/Youth Issues	vacant

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings and Topics

September 19	Children's Mental Health Town Hall Meeting
November 7	Bradley County Anti-Drug Coalition
December 7	Lunch with Southeast Legislators
January 16	MLK Annual Conference
May 22	Early Childhood Trauma and Brain Development

Special Projects for Children and Youth

Santa for All Seasons – Christmas Donation for Children in Foster Care.
Co-Sponsored “Show Me You Care Children’s Mental Health Conference.”

Southeast Tennessee Council Awards

(TBA) The Advocacy Award will be presented at the Fall Meeting in September.

Upper Cumberland Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Patty Ray
1000 England Drive, Suite F
Cookeville, TN 38501
Phone: (931) 646-4041
Fax: (931) 520-0080
E-mail: Patty.Ray@state.tn.us

Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 260 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren and White. Thirty-one agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Jody Roberts, Coordinator, Avalon Center
President Elect	John Rust, Program Coordinator, Cover Kids, Community Services Agency
Secretary	Kim Knotts, Resource Linkage Coordinator, Department of Children's Services
Treasurer	Betty Vaudt, Child Care Resource and Referral Center
Past President	Christy Nason, Eckerd Wilderness Educational System

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive Committee	Officers, Past President, and Committee Chairpersons
Legislative/Advocacy	Kelly Dishman, County Mayor, Van Buren County
Membership/Hospitality	Christy Pailing, Upper Cumberland Training Specialist, MTSU
Program Committee	Lorie Krauss, Upper Cumberland Training Specialist, MTSU
Publicity Committee	Jessica Tucker, Resource Linkage Coordinator, DCS

Upper Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

October 12, 2007	UCCCY Annual Networking Conference. Nashville. Community College in Cookeville. Keynote address: "Effects of Trama," John Ebert, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.
December 14, 2007	Annual Legislative Brunch, Senator Charlotte Burks, Representative Charles Curtiss, and TCCY Executive Director Linda O'Neal.
February 1, 2008	Quarterly Council Meeting. "What is Domestic Violence and How Does it Impact Children," Janell Clark,

May 2, 2008

Executive Director of Genesis House. Panel Discussion: Genesis House, Avalon Center, Families in Crisis. UCCCY Quarterly Council Meeting “The Attachment Relationship and its Impact on Children,” Jan Clifton, Catholic Charities of Tennessee, Marianne Schroer, Carolyn Isbell, Executive Director of the Stephens Center and Cheri Richards, Upper Cumberland Regional Administrator for DCS.

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

March 11- 12, 2008

Annual Children’s Advocacy Days Co-Sponsor

April 10, 2008

“TDEC” team member for developing

Methamphetamine Protocol in Putnam County

April 8, 2008

“Blue Ribbon Tree Memorial” co-sponsored in five counties, in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, sponsored by the Stephens Center

April 29, 2008

“Not One More” forum panel member, in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month, sponsored by the Warren County District Attorney General

Upper Cumberland Council Award

The Upper Cumberland 2007 Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Ann Stamps, with Cumberland Mountain Mental Health. The award was presented at the UCCCY Fall Networking Conference on October 12, 2007.

Mid-Cumberland Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: April Swoner

710 James Robertson Parkway, Ninth Floor

Nashville, TN 37243-0800

Phone: (615) 532-1579

Fax: (615) 741-5956

E-mail: April.Swoner@state.tn.us

Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 550 members representing the following 13 counties in the region: Cheatham, Davidson, Dickson, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Robertson, Rutherford, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Williamson and Wilson.

Mid-Cumberland Council Executive Officers

Past President

Kim Stringfield, 23rd District Children’s Advocacy Center

President

Tom Murdock, Centerstone

Vice President

Phillip Morrison, Amerigroup

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children
Juvenile Justice	Vacant
Child Welfare and Health	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children
Legislative	Vacant

Mid-Cumberland Council County Representatives

Cheatham and Robertson	Regina Duffie, Tennessee Child Protective Services
Davidson	Doris Pell, Tennessee Voices for Children
	Michael Kirshner, Mental Health Cooperative
Dickson	Kim Stringfield, 23rd District Children’s Advocacy Center
Houston	Camille Lashlee, Centerstone Mental Health Center
Humphreys	Amy Sue Williams, Department of Children’s Services
Montgomery	Monica Causey, Tennessee Voices for Children
	Patrice Jessie, community member
Rutherford	Vacant
Stewart	Nancy Spiers, Dover Elementary School
Sumner and Trousdale	Thomas Marks, Department of Health
Williamson	Betsy Adgent, Williamson County Juvenile Court
Wilson	Saranne Winfield, Southern Stars
	Joey Hunnicutt, Wilson County Youth Ranch

Mid-Cumberland Council Quarterly Meetings and Topics

July 19, 2007	Mental Health Town Hall Meeting Nashville
August 16, 2007	Executive Board Meeting, Nashville, yearly planning meeting
August 31, 2007	Sumner County Council Meeting, Gallatin

Mid-Cumberland Council Sponsored Events

March 13-14	Children’s Advocacy Days, TCCY, Nashville.
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South Central Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Francis Elaine Williams
 815 South Main Street
 P.O. Box 397
 Columbia, Tennessee 38402-0397
 Phone: (931) 490-5887 or 381-2040
 Fax: (931) 381-2053
 E-mail: Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us

South Central Tennessee Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council has 151 members representing but not limited to the 13 counties in the region: Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Hickman, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Marshall, Maury, Moore, Perry and Wayne counties.

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	Bobbie Cox, Director of Foster Grandparent Program, South Central Human Resource Agency, Fayetteville
Vice President	James McCune, Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill
Secretary/Treasurer	Brenda Miller, Administrative Assistant, Middle Tennessee Juvenile Detention Center, Lewisburg
Past President	Tabitha Steadman, EMT IV, Lawrenceburg

South Central Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Executive	Bobbie Cox, South Central Human Resources Agency, Fayetteville
Juvenile Justice/CARE	James McCune, Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill
Legislative	Ann Roberts, Parent, Tullahoma

South Central Council Meetings and Topics

May 8, 2007	SCTCCY Legislative Meeting; Tullahoma
August 20, 2007	SCTCCY Juvenile Justice Meeting, Spring Hill
August 21, 2007	SCTCCY Business Meeting; Executive Committee Meeting, Lawrenceburg
August 9, 2007	Council Meeting, Town Hall Meeting, State of Children's Mental Health Services in Tennessee, Maury Regional Hospital, Columbia
September 2007	Making a Difference and KIDS COUNT, NHC HomeCare, Columbia
October 5, 2007	SCTCCY Executive Board and Committee Meetings
October 29, 2007	SCTCCY Business Meeting
November 7, 2007	Accessing Government Services+ for Children and Families, Federal, State and Regional Agencies Expo, Columbia
November 14, 2007	Council Meeting, Christmas Boxes for Military Families
March 6, 2008	Council Meeting, Legislation, Tullahoma
March 11-12, 2008	Children's Advocacy Days, Nashville
March 13, 2008	Council Business Meeting and Executive Board Meeting, Columbia
April 2, 2008	Council Business Meeting and Election of Officers
April 17, 2008	Juvenile Justice Workshops, Compliance Standards, Lynchburg
April 18, 2008	Juvenile Justice Workshops, Compliance Standards, Columbia
April 1, 2008	Advocacy in "5", Shelbyville
May - June, 2008	Council Meetings/Community Town Hall Meetings on KIDS COUNT, SCTCCY, and The Center for Family Development: Lynchburg
May 15, 2008	Lynchburg
May 19, 2008	Fayetteville

May 20, 2008	Lawrenceburg
June 2, 2008	Shelbyville
June 5, 2008	Lewisburg
June 9, 2008	Pulaski
June 10, 2008	Centerville
June 12, 2008	Hohenwald
June 16, 2008	Manchester
June 17, 2008	Columbia
June 19, 2008	Waynesboro

Northwest Council on Children and Youth ◆

Coordinator: Dana M. Cobb
 1235 Buena Vista Road
 Post Office Box 586
 Huntingdon, TN 38344
 Phone (731) 986-4243 Fax (731) 986-3200
 E-mail: Dana.Cobb@state.tn.us

Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 324 members representing the nine counties in the region: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President	Joyce Hale, Weakley County Alternative School
Vice President	Jennifer Hart, Baptist Behavioral Health
Secretary	Betty Rasberry, Retired
Treasurer	Eddy White, Dyer County Juvenile Court

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention	Marilyn Goodman, Milan Special School District Michelle Horton, U.T. Martin Shannon Mayo, Northwest Head Start
Juvenile Justice	Henry Thomas, Department of Children Services
Legislative	Joetta Yarbrow, Dyersburg Family Resource Center Sherri Sedgebear, Carey Counseling Center
Membership	Lori Hendon, Weakley County Carl Perkins Center Sharaye Hendrix, NW Child Care Resource & Referral

Northwest Council Meetings, Trainings and Topics

July 27, 2007	Life in the State of Poverty Training, Benton County Schools
August 2, 2007	Life in the State of Poverty Training, Huntingdon and Clarksburg Schools
August 30, 2007	METH: Just The Facts – Recent Trends Workshop
September 13, 2007	NW Mental Health Town Hall Meeting

September 17, 2007	Life in the State of Poverty Training, Hollow Rock-Bruceton Schools
September 29, 2007	National Earthquake/Disaster Awareness Symposium Co-Sponsor
October 2, 2007	Families First: Big Changes! Big Impact! Workshop
November 2, 2007	Northwest Fall Conference “Sex Crimes and Identity Theft” and Provider Fair
January 2, 2008	Life in the State of Poverty Training, Trenton Special School District
January 18, 2008	Martin Luther King Violence Prevention Symposium, Co-Sponsor
January 25, 2008	NW Council Legislative Forum and Breakfast
February 4, 2008	Life in the State of Poverty Training, University of Tennessee, Martin
February 7, 2008	Life in the State of Poverty Training, University of Tennessee, Martin
March 11-12, 2008	Child Advocacy Days, Co-Sponsor
March 14, 2008	Life in the State of Poverty Training, Bethel College
April 11, 2008	Stress Management Workshop
April 12, 2008	Northwest Early Childhood Conference, Co-Sponsor
June 22-27, 2008	West Tennessee Teen Institute, Co-Sponsor

Northwest Tennessee Council Special Events

Northwest Imagination Library Project
 Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month: Cookie/Goody Basket Project
 Reelfoot Rural Ministries Dental Program

Northwest Tennessee Council Awards

2007 Child Advocate of the Year Award Winner: Randy Hatch, Carroll Academy, Huntingdon
 2007 Agency of the Year Award Winner: 24th Judicial District Attorney General’s Office, Honorable Hansel McAdams, Attorney General

Southwest Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

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Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 186 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison and Tipton.

Council Leadership

Chairperson	Jimmie Trice-Baylor, Department of Children's Services
Vice Chairperson	Carol Burroughs, Henderson County Schools
Treasurer	Barry Cooper, JACOA
Secretary	Rhonda Ewing, Tennessee Voices for Children
Past Chairperson	Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children's Home

Council Meetings and Events

August 22, 2007	"DonorPulse" Web Conference
August 27, 2007	Viewing Site for Hearing of the Select Committee on Children and Youth
September 19, 2007	"Addressing Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System: What State Policymakers Should Know" Audio Conference
September 20, 2007	"Natural Allies: Partnerships with Local United Ways and Chambers of Commerce" Audio Conference, in cooperation with Family Self-Sufficiency Alliance of West Tennessee.
October 17, 2007	"Raising the Profile of Pre-K: A National Strategy Session" Teleconference in cooperation with the Freed-Hardeman University School of Education
October 18, 2007	"Building on Success" Workshop.
October 29, 2007	"Community Building: Introduction to the Dream and the Method" Workshop.
November 15, 2007	"Seeking Financial Stability: Community Strategies to Help Families Save and Build Assets" Workshop... in cooperation with the Family Self-Sufficiency Alliance of West Tennessee.
November 16, 2007	"Take Care: Self-Preservation Skills for Professionals Serving Children" Workshop.
January 10, 2008	"Racial Disparity in the Child Welfare System" Audio Conference.
January 24, 2008	"Childhood Attachment and Attachment Disorders" Workshop, in cooperation with the Madison County CASA.
March 11-12, 2008	Children's Advocacy Days
March 13, 2008	"Unnatural Causes: Is Inequality Making Us Sick?" Kick-Off Event; SWCCY joined the Madison Co. Community Health Action Team as an event co-sponsor.

- March 19, 2008 "Dads in the Mix" Web Conference, in cooperation with Jackson-Madison County Regional Health Department's Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Program.
- April 16, 2008 "Youth: The REAL Future of the South" Community Forum, in cooperation with the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service.
- April 17, 2008 "Thinking Ahead: How to Develop a Comprehensive Communitywide Plan for Children and Youth" Audio conference in cooperation with the City of Jackson Mayor's Youth Services Coalition.
- June 10, 2008 "Improving Outcomes for Children through Performance Based Contracting" in cooperation with DCS-SW Cross-Functional Team, Freed-Hardeman University Department of Behavioral Sciences and Family Studies, Union University Department of Social Work.

Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council

Coordinator: Gwendolyn Wright
 170 N. Main Street, 9th Floor
 Memphis, TN 38103
 Phone: (901) 543-7657
 FAX: (901) 543-6462
 E-mail: Gwendolyn.Wright@state.tn.us

Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 239 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President	Sandy Guntharp, University of Memphis
President Elect	Peggy Pryor Johnson, Memphis City Schools
Past President	Kelli Grissom, Memphis Child Advocacy Center
Treasurer	Vince Robertson, Minister
Secretary	Jacqueline King, Porter Leath

Memphis/Shelby County Committees and Chairs

Prevention	Henrietta Jones, Department of Mental Health Mental Retardation
Youth and Juvenile Justice	Gwendolyn Harbert, Department of Human Services
Legislative	Bobbie Thompson, UT School of Social Work
Executive	Sandy Guntharp, University of Memphis

Memphis/Shelby County Meetings and Topics

July 9, 2007	Town Hall Meeting: State of Children's Mental Health in Memphis and Shelby County
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November 14, 2007

Alternatives to Juvenile Justice: The Informal
Adjustment Pilot Program

February 20, 2008

Effective Advocacy

Memphis/Shelby County Council Events

December 5, 2007

Annual Legislative Reception: Focus on Infant Mortality

March 11-12, 2008

Children's Advocacy Days, Nashville

April 17-19, 2008

Spring Training Conference:

"Bringing Communities Together for Children and
Youth"

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

Ruth Hamblen with Le Bonheur Center for Children and Parents was the recipient of the
Council's Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award. ♦



Information Dissemination

The Tennessee KIDS COUNT project is part of a national effort to track the status of children throughout the United States, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. KIDS COUNT seeks to enrich local, state and national discussions of ways to secure better futures for all children by providing policymakers and citizens with benchmarks of child well-being. Publications completed and promoted during fiscal year 2007-08 included *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee 2007*, *Opportunity for All Children in Tennessee*.

KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee

At the state level, the principal activity of the Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is the publication and dissemination of the annual *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*. *The State of the Child in Tennessee* uses the best available data to measure the physical, educational, social and economic well-being of children and families in the state. The report also fulfills TCCY's mandate in Tennessee Code Annotated 37-3-103(a)(1)(E) to annually publish "a comprehensive report on the status of children and youth in Tennessee."

The most recent 91-page report produced in fiscal year 2007-08 presented data on 40 indicators of child well-being. The narrative report focused on *Opportunity for All Children in Tennessee*. The areas are as follows:

- ✦ Births to Unmarried Females;
- ✦ Child Abuse, Reported;

- ✦ Child Abuse, Substantiated;
- ✦ Child Care;
- ✦ Child Death;
- ✦ Children in State Custody, Commitments;
- ✦ Children in State Custody, Remaining in;
- ✦ Children on Families First;
- ✦ Children Younger than 6 on WIC;
- ✦ Cohort Dropout Rate;
- ✦ Dentists by County of Practice;
- ✦ Event Dropout Rate;
- ✦ Fair Market Rents;
- ✦ Food Stamps Children Under Age 18;
- ✦ Food Stamps, Total;
- ✦ Free and Reduced Price Lunch;
- ✦ Infant Mortality;
- ✦ Juvenile Court Referrals;
- ✦ Low-Birthweight Babies;
- ✦ Median Home Sale Price;
- ✦ Medical Doctors by County of Practice;
- ✦ Per Capita Personal Income;
- ✦ Population Total;
- ✦ Population Younger than Age 18;
- ✦ Population, Hispanic Younger Than Age 18;
- ✦ Population, Minority Under Age 18;
- ✦ Population, Total Hispanic;
- ✦ Prenatal Care;
- ✦ Recorded Divorces;
- ✦ Recorded Marriages;
- ✦ School Expulsions;
- ✦ School Suspensions;
- ✦ Special Education;
- ✦ Teen Births;
- ✦ Teen Pregnancy;
- ✦ Teen Violent Death;
- ✦ Teens With Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- ✦ TennCare, Total;
- ✦ TennCare, Under 21;
- ✦ Youth Unemployment.

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* were the Tennessee departments of Children’s Services, Education, Health, Human Services and Revenue; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration; the Department of Labor and Workforce Development; other state agencies; the Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Juvenile Court; and various state and national reports.

National KIDS COUNT Data Book

The National KIDS COUNT Data book was released June 12, 2008, with an essay on Juvenile Justice reform. At the national level the principal activity of the KIDS COUNT Project is the annual *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, which uses the best available data to measure the educational, social, economic and physical well-being of children. Individual states and the District of Columbia are ranked on 10 indicators of child well-being. Tennessee ranked 42nd in overall cumulative rankings when compared with other states in the most recent publication. The Tennessee KIDS COUNT project works with the Casey Foundation and the Casey Foundation's public relations firm to disseminate and publicize the findings of the *Data Book*.

The Advocate

TCCY publishes *The Advocate*, a newsletter on children's issues, to inform children's advocates, children's service providers, legislators, policy makers, and regional council members about children's issues. During fiscal year 2007-08, TCCY newsletter continued to be available on the agency's Internet site and distributed through TCCY's ListServ.

The first 2007-08 issue of *The Advocate* was released in August 2007 and addressed problems of children in care. The second issue of *The Advocate* reported on suicide prevention efforts in Tennessee. The final two issues provided a more comprehensive look at substance abuse and new programs to respond to it.

Electronic Access to Data

Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year 2007-08 using the National KIDS COUNT CLIKS site at <http://www.kidscount.org/cgi-bin/cliiks.cgi>. The KIDS COUNT CLIKS site houses information for all 95 Tennessee counties on 75 indicators, with the option to map, graph, rank, and download raw data for Tennessee.

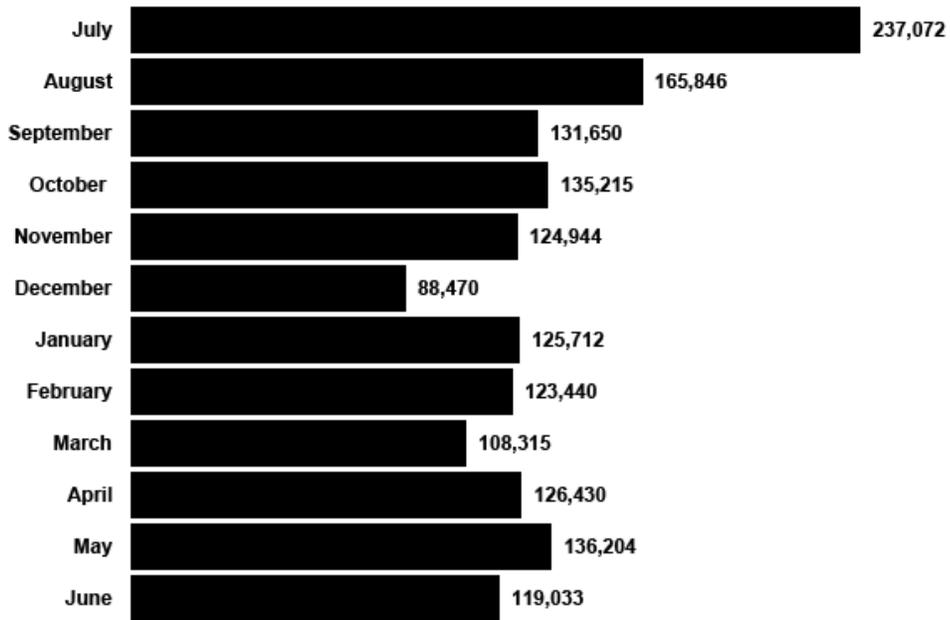
ListServ

TCCY has a Listserv with which it distributes updates about state legislation during the legislative session, and alerts about other issues and national legislation and information about newsletters as they are released. Directions for Listserv access can be found at <http://www.state.tn.us/tccy/listserv.html>.

During the fiscal year 2007-08, the TCCY website included information about all available Juvenile Justice funds, the Children’s Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) report, *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*, and *The Advocate*. All of the publications on the web were in pdf format. The TCCY calendar of events was updated weekly, and a listing of sources of information on social service providers was also included on the site. During 2007-08, there were 1,622,331 visits to the site.

TCCY Web Statistics Fiscal Year 2007-08

Total Hits 1,622,331



Source: Tennessee Web Statistics



Ombudsman Program

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's (TCCY) Ombudsman Program, in the Juvenile Justice Unit, acts as an impartial and independent reviewer of concerns, issues, and complaints pertaining only to children in state custody (foster care system) and in the kinship care (relative caregiver) program. As a neutral and autonomous reviewer, the ombudsman is a public servant who advocates for the well-being of children, ensures adequate family support and evaluates appropriate delivery of services.

In February 2008, Commissioner Viola Miller issued a memorandum to all DCS Regional Administrators announcing a "new process has been developed to provide oversight and support to the regions" pertaining to Child Protective Service (CPS) and Special Investigations Unit (SIU) cases that will require external, impartial reviews. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) has agreed to perform third party case reviews as a "means to address complaints that are not resolved satisfactorily" within the current DCS process. The goal of this collaborative effort is to assist the Department in providing quality services to children and families. The new procedure can affirm when policies and best practices were followed, and it can identify areas for improvement based upon review findings.

The Ombudsman Program does not seek problem resolution of a dispute if it is contrary to the best interest of the child or is inconsistent with local, state or federal laws and regulations. Additionally, the ombudsman cannot and will not:

- ✦ Serve as an agent of law enforcement;

- ✦ Act as an attorney;
- ✦ Provide legal advice;
- ✦ Find individual fault; or,
- ✦ Participate in a case bound for court due to Termination of Parental Rights, Child Protective Services, child custody or other non-jurisdiction circumstances.

Any individual or agency calling about a child or family receiving state services may get in touch with the ombudsman office with his or her questions or concerns. Referrals are obtained from a variety of sources:

- ✦ The departments of Children Services, Education, Health, and Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities;
- ✦ The offices of the governor and state legislators (senate and state representatives);
- ✦ TennCare Consumer/Child Advocacy Program;
- ✦ Tennessee Voices for Children;
- ✦ ACLU and Legal Aid Services;
- ✦ Guardians ad litem, therapists and service providers;
- ✦ Out of state children's advocacy groups;
- ✦ Foster parents, caregivers and relatives;
- ✦ Biological/adoptive parents; and
- ✦ Child/youth, neighbors and friends.

Statistical information with graphics for FY 2006-07 and fiscal years 2003 to 2006 are embedded towards the end of this summary.

Upon initial contact, the ombudsman will determine if the referral has merit or legitimate per Ombudsman Program protocol and jurisdiction. Additionally, the ombudsman will assess if the referent has sufficiently attempted to resolve his or her problem through normal administrative channels. The service is not designed or intended to supersede any existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the custodial department or other agencies providing state-funded services to children. Referents who have not attempted to get their concerns addressed in this manner are informed of the appropriate contacts and steps that can assist with their specific issues. When referents have sufficient reasons to depart from normal administrative systems or have been reasonably dissatisfied with the outcome of their complaints, the ombudsman may activate the referral as a valid case.

During the data-gathering phase, the ombudsman will plan a series of interviews with individuals directly involved in the case. These contacts may include the parents or caregivers, child or youth, custodial department's case managers, probation officers and middle to upper level management, juvenile court staff, caregivers or caretakers, residential and medical providers, foster parents, therapists, guardians ad litem, attorneys, teachers, relatives, friends and relevant others or stakeholders.

Preliminary contacts are used to:

- ✦ Verify referral information specific to the child's status or condition;
- ✦ Collect additional facts or information specific to the question or concern.

Through case-specific contacts, the validity as well as reliability of the complaint is assessed. Following initial interviews, follow-up contacts are used on an ongoing basis to provide updates and share information with individuals invested in the case. The data-gathering phase of the referral process may require anywhere from two days to two weeks or more on any given case.

The Ombudsman Program also provides information-only service. Increasingly, the number of information-only cases has become proportionate to the number of active or open cases. Referrals related to the referent's non-familiarity or misunderstanding of information given by the Department of Children's Services or service providers are resolved by providing a thorough explanation of policies and procedures adhered by the custodial department or other agencies.

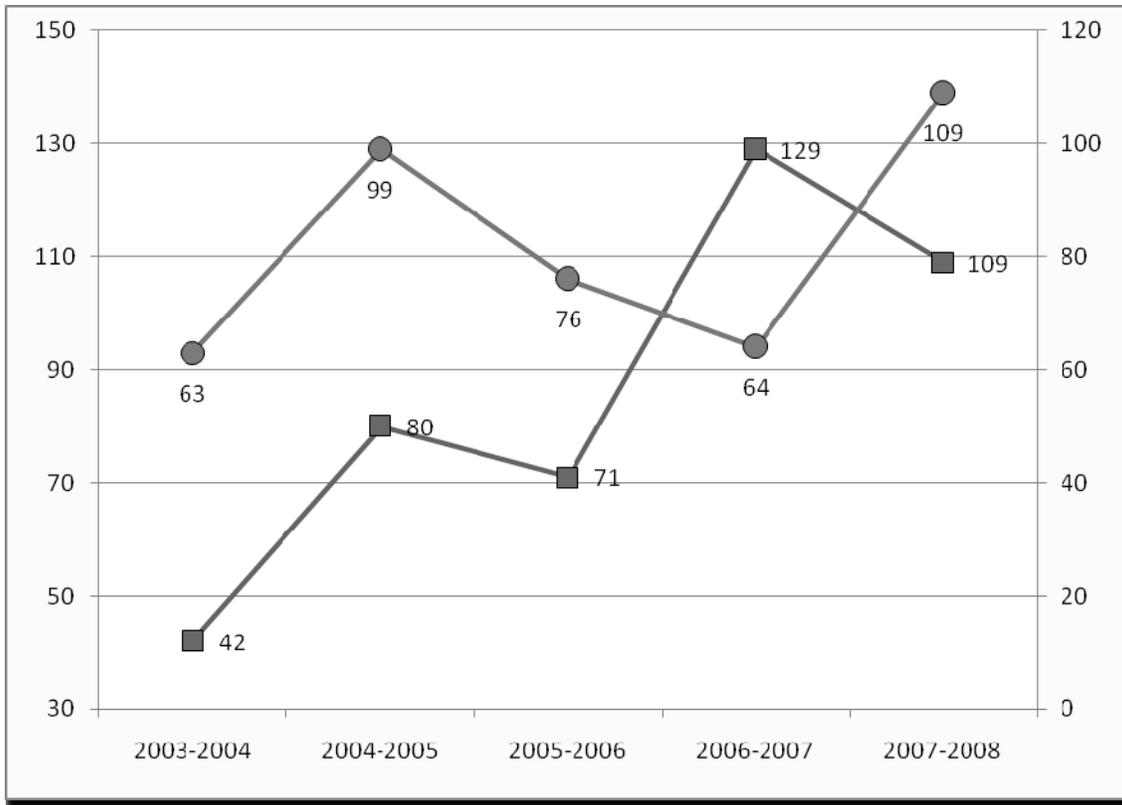
Referrals about obstacles to achieving agreed upon case outcome can lead to formal or informal mediation facilitated by the ombudsman. The ombudsman also tries to establish seamless communication among all parties involved in the case. Education and mediation efforts can lead to a meeting or re-staffing to strengthen and finalize the strategy for overcoming obstacles and achieving the desired outcome. Building on a common goal – the best interest of the child – is the overarching goal.

The TCCY ombudsman office takes advantage of ongoing outreach opportunities with a wide range of Tennessee children's services stakeholders. Dissemination of information efforts have included participation in TCCY regional councils and child advocacy organizations. Informative presentations during local and statewide meetings and conferences are made upon requests. The Ombudsman Office is always available to provide lectures and workshops to any interested community groups, nonprofit organizations, and other agencies working with children.

Originally funded in 1996 by a Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Challenge Grant (Activity F), the Ombudsman Program has a mandate to improve the quality of children's life in Tennessee by emphasizing thorough and expeditious service delivery. In fiscal year 2002-03 the program was expanded to include children in kinship care. As the Challenge Grant funds phased out, the state continued to fund the program.

The program, among other things, relies on confidentiality and a credible review process in achieving problem resolution. Referrals to the ombudsman are taken from any individual or agencies concerned with the plight of a child in the foster care system or relative caregiver program. Referrals must involve conditions or situations that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of children and youth. The ombudsman assumes various roles that include:

- ✦ A voice or an advocate on behalf of the child;
- ✦ An informal or formal mediator between a child and the system;
- ✦ A communicator or educator to help stakeholders understand policies/procedures;
- ✦ A facilitator expediting timely delivery of services.



Total 105 179 147 193 218

Note: Data for FY 2003-2004 began on October 1, 2003.

Highlights of FY 2007-08

- ✦ Total number of referrals received from July 1 to June 30 was 218.
- ✦ Total number of referrals closed from July 1 to June 30 was 179.
- ✦ There were 109 active cases and 109 information-only cases.
- ✦ From October 2003 to June 2008, a grand total of 842 referrals were received.
- ✦ In 2007 and 2008, the Ombudsman Program has produced a poster, a new brochure, and a “Your Rights and Responsibilities as a Minor” leaflet explaining its unique services designed for children in state custody, kinship care/relative caregiver program, and Child Protective Services.
- ✦ The chair of the USOA’s Conferences and Training Committee for the last six years is a TCCY ombudsman. He spearheaded annual conventions in Concord (2001), Chicago (2002), Honolulu (2003), Portland (2004), Nashville (2005), Des Moines (2006), Anchorage (2007), and Lexington (2008). The site of the USOA 2009 annual conference is Denver, Colorado.

Significant Ombudsman Program Accomplishment

TCCY hosted the United States Ombudsman Association's (USOA) 26th Annual Conference at Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville on September 19-22, 2005. More than 125 public sector ombudsmen from North America, Albania, Australia, Bermuda and England attended the convention. A number of federal-level and Canadian ombudsmen from Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, and Victoria also joined the annual event. There were 10 sponsors and six donors that contributed to the success of the convention. Two day-long preconference workshops, nine concurrent sessions, and three plenary sessions were offered at the conference. Mayor Bill Purcell gave the Welcome Remarks. Sen. Ron Ramsey (Chair, Senate Ethics Committee), Rep. Kim McMillan (Chair, House Ethics Committee), and Prof. Harry Hollis (Belmont University) were panelists in an "Ethics in the 21st Century" plenary session.

How to find an Ombudsman: www.state.tn.us/tccy/ombuds.html or 1-800- 264-0904. ✦



Title VI

As an administrator and recipient of federal funds, it is the intent of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) to bind all agencies, organizations or governmental units operating under its jurisdiction and control or receiving its funding to fully comply with and abide by the spirit and intent of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. From July 1, 2007, to June 30, 2008, no complaint was reported to TCCY regarding alleged discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI implementation plan.

Specific Title VI-related activities during fiscal year 2007-08 included the following list.

- ✦ All grantee programs awarded funds by TCCY completed the Title VI Self Survey by the scheduled due date.
- ✦ TCCY improved the distribution of the Title VI policies this year. A copy of the Title VI Implementation Plan was given to each TCCY employee, Commission member and grantee. Additional Title VI information, including Title VI brochures and posters, was also distributed to the appropriate groups.
- ✦ Title VI requirements were included in the Monitoring Review Guide used by the Department of Finance and Administration when monitoring TCCY sub-grantees.
- ✦ The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth submitted its annual Title VI Plan before the required deadline of June 30, 2008.

- ✦ The 2008 Title VI Implementation Plan included a letter from a minority person verifying review of the plan.
- ✦ An explanation of the Title VI policies was presented at grantee application trainings for new grantees. Training sessions were held in Nashville.
- ✦ All grant application packets for Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth funds included Title VI requirements.
- ✦ TCCY regional coordinators and central office staff visited grantees to assure compliance with the Title VI policies and provided technical assistance on Title VI issues.
- ✦ TCCY Minority Issues Committee reviewed and gave input on the development of the Title VI Plan.
- ✦ TCCY Grantee Matrix on Minority Vendors was completed.
- ✦ TCCY staff reviewed the Title VI Self Survey for updating. TCCY staff member attended Title VI training in Nashville. ✦