



Department of


Children's Services

FOSTER PARENT NEWS DCS TRAINING NEWSLETTER

[CLICK HERE](#)



Foster Parent Training Resources



[CALENDAR OF LIVE TRAININGS](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)

Online Trainings



NAMI Basics Class is comprised of six session workshops for parents and caregivers of children and adolescents with a mental illness. The class covers illnesses, medication, in-depth documentation with additional resources with forms for the various systems like medical and school.



**START DATE: TBA
TO REGISTER:
CONTACT DENISE STEWART
615-361-6608
DSTEWART@NAMITN.ORG**







AIMHiTN go


Celebrate Babies Week Exclusive Trainings!

Join us as we celebrate babies the entire month of October! Let's celebrate the preciousness of life, their individual uniqueness, the playfulness each child brings, and all the incredible work you do to support and advocate for them and their families.

Training Line Up:

- Oct 4th: Celebrate Babies through **Parenting**, with Rebecca Aslinger, Ed.S, a parent of three with unique abilities.
- Oct 12th: Celebrate Babies through **Touch**, with Jody Wright, CEIM, IAIMIT, Infant Massage Therapist.
- Oct 18th: Celebrate Babies through **Life**, with Karsey Conohan, Doula.
- Oct 19th: Celebrate Babies through **Play**, with Susan Elswick EdD, LCSW, RPT-S, Play Therapist.

 aimhitn.org/training-and-events-calendar

FOSTER PARENT INCENTIVE BONUS



Fostering Incentive Bonus is for eligible placements only. Here's how to apply.

Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ Placed on or after 2/15/23
- ✓ Child/ youth has been in the home 6 consecutive months or more.
- ✓ Child/ youth is 12 years of age or older when the placement began.
- ✓ Child/ youth is a member of a sibling group placed together for the duration of the 6 month timeframe.
- ✓ Foster Parent is compliant with training requirements (7/1/22 through 6/30/23)

Apply Here

Link:

https://stateoftennessee.formstack.com/forms/incentive_bonus_application_for_dcs_foster_parents

Thank you!

QR Code:



Friday, September 22, 2023

Love in Action: Connecting

**Foster Parents and
Community Advocates**

**FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE
AND RESOURCE FAIR**

8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

FREE EVENT

(Approved by DCS for Foster Care Training Hours.)

CHAPEL HILL BAPTIST CHURCH

76 CHAPEL HILL ROAD

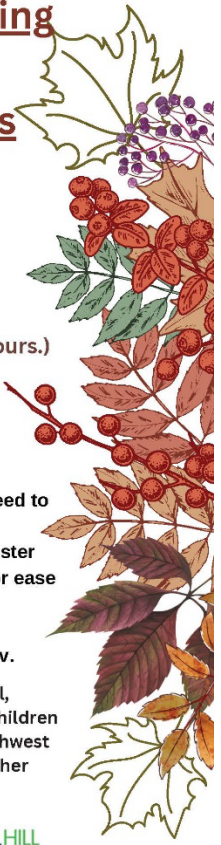
MILAN, TN 38358

REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

Parents, agencies, service providers and vendors need to register via Eventbrite due to space and food. For convenience, Foster Parent Agencies may submit foster parents' names and emails to Jerri.Moore@tn.gov for ease of registration.

*Food Sponsors Needed- contact Dana.Cobb@tn.gov.

Sponsored by Rural West Citizens Review Panel, Department of Children's Services, NW Council on Children and Youth, SW Council on Children and Youth, Northwest TN Headstart, Mitchell's Body Shop, and many other Regional Partners.



We know about ACEs...

**But what about PCE?
Positive Childhood
Experiences in TN**

CLICK HERE



DCS wants to hear from you. Whether you are a brand new parent or a seasoned pro, we want to hear your concerns, needs, and training requests.



Our first meeting will be:
September 21 at 5:30pm CST
 200 Athens Way 3rd floor
 Suite C, Nashville

[CLICK HERE](#)

*2 hours of training credit for attending



- 9/21/23 [Building Strong Brains](#)
- 9/21/23 [Creating Normalcy Through Prudent Parenting](#)
- 9/26/23 [Therapeutic Parenting: From Perfection to Reflection](#)
- 10/2/23 [Therapeutic Parenting 101: Strengthening Quality](#)
- 10/3/23 [Creating Normalcy Through Prudent Parenting](#)
- 10/3/23 [Positive Childhood Experiences](#)
- 10/5/23 [CARE \(Child & Adult Relationship Enhancement\)](#)
- 10/10/23 [Child Sexual Abuse 101](#)
- 10/12/23 [TBRI for Parents: Correcting](#)
- 10/21/23 [Trauma Informed Parenting Strategies \(TIPS\)](#)
- 10/24/23 [Core Teen: Understanding & Managing Challenging Behaviors](#)
- 10/25/23 [Internet Safety](#)
- 10/26/23 [Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths \(CANS\)](#)
- 11/7/23 [Building Strong Brains](#)
- 11/9/23 [Communicating through Pop Culture to Connect w/ Your Child](#)
- 11/9/23 [Caring for Children with Special Health Care Needs](#)
- 11/13/23 [Creating Normalcy Through Prudent Parenting](#)
- 11/14/23 [Child Sexual Development \(w/ the Sexual Assault Center\)](#)
- 11/14/23 [Understanding the Basics of FASD for Parents](#)
- 11/16/23 [TBRI for Parents - Connecting: Engagement Strategies](#)

PLEASE JOIN US TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE...

FOSTER CARE REVIEW BOARD (FCRB)

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP WILL PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW OF STATE AND FEDERAL LAW AND POLITY THAT SUPPORTS THE FCRB. PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO ASK QUESTIONS.



September 19, 2023
1:00-2:30pm CST / 2:00-3:30pm EST
1.5 hrs. of Training Credit

[CLICK HERE](#)

Why We Do It – The DCS Training Team!



Courtney Mauk – Foster Parent Training Officer 1

I have worked with children and families for over ten years in a variety of roles. I was “lucky” when I started college because I knew exactly what I wanted to do; I wanted to become the person I needed when I was younger. I am afforded the opportunity to do this as a Foster Parent Trainer by teaching and guiding those who desire to care for one of Tennessee’s most vulnerable populations, our children. I chose to work with the Department of Children’s Services to reach a larger population of potential foster parents in hopes of making a greater impact within my community.

I consider it a privilege to serve others and to have had the opportunity to walk alongside those who found themselves in what may have been the darkest moments of their lives. To me this is not “just a job”; it’s my purpose.

In-Person FREE EVENT
Love in Action: Connecting Foster Parents and Community Advocates

FOSTER CARE CONFERENCE AND RESOURCE FAIR

Friday, September 22, 2023
8:30 AM to 2:30 PM

THE CHURCH AT SUGAR CREEK
3400 E MITCHELL ST.,
HUMBOLDT, TN 38343



[CLICK HERE](#)



TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services rip

October 5, 2023
5:30-7:00 pm CST / 6:30-8:00 EST
1.5 hrs Training Credit

TN Department of Children’s Services

Regional Intervention Program: Child-Adult Relationship Enhancement: CARE Part 2



Applying Infant Mental Health in Child Welfare Practice

October 6, 2023	Building (and Maintaining) Relationships
November 3, 2023	Discussing Hard Topics with Families & Young Children
February 2, 2024	Maximizing Visitation and Family Time
March 8, 2024	Navigating Transitions and Permanency
April 5, 2024	Special Considerations: Substance Use
May 3, 2024	Special Considerations: Domestic Violence
June 7, 2024	Special Considerations: Neglect

[CLICK HERE](#)



DCS Child Welfare Legal Seminar with Susan Kovac

2023 Virtual Lunch and Learn Series

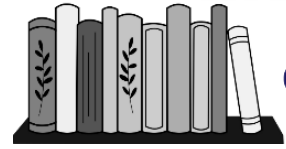


Susan Kovac
Regional General Counsel Emeritus

Join us during the DCS Child Welfare Legal Seminar in this virtual lunch and learn series with Susan Kovac, Regional General Counsel Emeritus at the TN Department of Children's Services for a series of virtual learning sessions about important legal matters for child welfare professionals and the community. Each month we will discuss key topics including, Legal Considerations about Paternity in Child Welfare, Severe Abuse Determinations, Terminations of Parental Rights and information about the Indian Child Welfare Act. Each session will go into more detail about each topic and offer tips, guidance and recommendations for understanding the court systems. Participants are encouraged to bring and ask questions!




Library



[CLICK HERE](#)

Training Credit: 1.5 hour each:

Severe Abuse Determinations with Susan Kovac

- October 12, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)

Terminations of Parental Rights

- November 2, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)

Learn more about the Indian Child Welfare Act

- November 17, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT - [Click here to register.](#)



Resources for Youth Suicide Prevention

Child Sex Abuse 101 with the Sexual Assault Center

October 10, 2023

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 PM CT or 6:30 to 8:00 ET

Child Sexual Abuse 101 (2 CEUs available)

In this training, participants will be equipped with introductory information about child sexual abuse (CSA), focused on statistics and prevalence; intersecting social contexts; insight on risk factors and signs; intro-level neurobiology; offender statistics and groomer dynamics; how to handle a disclosure of sexual abuse; how to legally fulfill reporting duties as a Tennessee mandatory reporter; community resourcing; and an introduction to trauma exposure response.

CLICK HERE



Learn More about Drug Endangered Children

October 17, 2023 from 1:00 to 2:30 PM CT or 2:00 to 3:30 PM ET

[Click here to register!](#)



Child Sexual Development: Behaviors, Identity, Trauma with the Sexual Assault Center



November 14, 2023

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 PM CT or 6:30 to 8:00 ET

CLICK HERE

Child Sexual Development (2 CEUs available)

This training explores the dynamics of childhood sexual development from ages 0 - 18. We will discuss how traumatic experiences can "flip the switch" and influence sexual development resulting in experiences and behaviors that are commonly misunderstood by professionals working with survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

CLICK HERE



**EMERGENCY RESPONSE TOOLKIT:
AN EARLY RELATIONAL APPROACH**
Home-Visitor Edition



AIMHiTN.org



**SCAN TO VISIT
OUR WEBSITE**



bluecare.bcbst.com/foster

**QUESTIONS ABOUT
YOUR BENEFITS?**

1-888-422-2963

TRS: Dial 711,

ask for 888-418-0008

SelectKids_GM@bcbst.com

Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE)

Join our community partners, the Regional Intervention Program for HOPE training! Positive experiences can ease toxic stress and help children and youth grow into more resilient, healthier adults. HOPE identifies ways that our communities and systems of care can better ensure that all children have more positive experiences and that all families have support to nurture and celebrate their strengths. Participants will be able to ask questions and receive resources!



November 30, 2023
5:30 to 7:00 PM
or 6:30 to 8:00 PM

CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER



Helpful Links

- [Training Website](#)
- [Training Calendar](#)
- [Online Trainings](#)
- [Self-Care](#)
- [Podcast Episodes](#)
- [Helpful Resources](#)
- [Regional Training Contacts](#)
- [Birth Children Resources](#)
- [Unsung Hero of the Month](#)

NCTSN The National Child Traumatic Stress Network



CLICK HERE

TRAUMA AND CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: TAKING CARE OF YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY

NCTSN The National Child Traumatic Stress Network



CLICK HERE

CHOOSING TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE FOR CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: A FACT SHEET FOR CAREGIVERS

NCTSN The National Child Traumatic Stress Network



CLICK HERE

UNDERSTANDING TRAUMA RESPONSES IN CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND WHEN TO SEEK HELP

SelectKids: We're Here for Foster Families

We work with the State of Tennessee and the Department of Children's Services (DCS) to help foster children across the state stay healthy, safe and on track.

Foster parents, we're here to support you and help you get the best health care possible for your foster child or teen.

Our member care team can help your family do all this and more:

- › Get treatment for long-term conditions
- › Manage medication
- › Stay on track with doctor visits
- › Recognize depression and handle stress

One-on-One Help

We're here to help your foster child with healthy living and long- or short-term conditions. One-on-one help doesn't cost anything, and they can join or cancel anytime with just a call.

We offer your foster child or teen:

- › Their very own care team
- › Health coaching to reach their best health
- › A care team to work with their providers
- › Help learning how to make good decisions about their health

Transportation

Do you need help getting your child to health care appointments? Your DCS representative can help you get a ride to non-emergency TennCare visits. We can also set up some non-emergency rides in special situations.

ID Cards

If your child needs another ID card, your DCS representative can send you one. Or call us at **1-888-422-2963** and we'll mail you one. You can also log in to your online account at **bluecare.bcbst.com** to print a temporary ID card.



**SCAN TO VISIT
OUR WEBSITE**

bluecare.bcbst.com/foster

**QUESTIONS ABOUT
YOUR BENEFITS?**

1-888-422-2963
TRS: Dial 711,
ask for 888-418-0008

SelectKids_GM@bcbst.com



BlueCare Tennessee is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.



Affordable Connectivity Program

The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

The benefit provides a discount of up to \$30 per month toward internet service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute more than \$10 and less than \$50 toward the purchase price.

