

Celebrating *Unsung* *Heroes* in Tennessee



TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON
CHILDREN & YOUTH



**PARENT
LEADERSHIP
COLLABORATIVE**

a program of **nurture the next**



Cultivating Parent Advocates & Building Powerful Partnerships

Nurture the Next has championed Parent Leadership & Advocacy in Tennessee for the past 18 years.

Efforts focus on building strong and lasting partnerships.

Empowered parents can advocate effectively for:

- *their families*
- *programs & services*
- *their communities*





The Importance of Parent Advocacy & Engagement: Benefits for Children

Higher academic achievement

Healthier social–emotional
development

Positive school behavior

and, many more!

The Importance of Parent Advocacy & Engagement: Benefits for Families

Improved service delivery


Increased collaboration

Strengthened communities

and, many more!



How Parents Serve as Advocates

- 
- Sharing personal experiences and expertise
 - Participating in committees and boards
 - Building relationships with policymakers
 - Mentoring and supporting other parents

National Parent Leadership Month

**Thank you, parents, for being
the first teachers & leaders
of the next generation!**



Amplifying parent voices

Empowering meaningful participation

Underscoring the importance of parent engagement



Unsung Heroes

ORDINARY PEOPLE, EXTRAORDINARY THINGS



Recognizing exceptional parent leaders



Celebrating dedication



Inspiring others to embrace their leadership potential



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Meet Three of Tennessee's *Unsung Heroes*

Ethel
Johnson



Mariah
Wolfe

Mary
Boyd

Introducing the new *Unsung Hero* Award

- Partnership with TCCY
- Celebrates parent advocates across Tennessee
- Honors parents who exemplify:
 - Advocacy for children and families
 - Collaboration with others
 - Dedication to strengthening families and communities
- Symbolizes belief in power of parent voices



Contact us:

EMAIL info@nurturethenext.org

WEBSITE nurturethenext.org

PHONE 615-383-0994





**We're raising the next
generation, together.**