

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth Fiscal Year 2003-04 Annual Report



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth
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Letter from the Chair

December 31, 2004

Dear Reader:

My first year as chair of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has been a fun and eventful one. I get to work with wonderful people – the members of the Commission and its staff. The new members of the Commission have brought worlds of professional and volunteer experience and knowledge to the organization and have melded well with our veteran members. We reorganized the Commission's committee structure to effectively draw on the skills of its members. All of TCCY's Commission members dedicate their time to helping make TCCY truly the voice for Tennessee's children.

The Children's Program Outcome Review Team has forged a better relationship with the Department of Children's Services, including increasing the number of DCS staff trained as external reviewers. We conducted a special review of Woodland Hills Youth Development Center, which was useful in helping DCS deal with problems that arose there.

Once again this year our Children's Advocacy Days were very successful, a partnership between TCCY and Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee that drew 500 people. We plan other partnerships and collaborations to amplify our voice as we advocate for children.

We took back responsibility for financial monitoring of TCCY's grantees, and, I believe, are doing an excellent job of making sure funds are used appropriately. Two staff members transferred to TCCY from the Department of Finance and Administration and have improved our ability to assess how well grantees are utilizing funds.

The state's communities and TCCY have done a good job meeting the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. In 2003-04, we reduced deinstitutionalization of status offenders (DSO) violations to the lowest level since 1993. Our diligent monitoring and success in educating local courts, law enforcement and facility managers have yielded good results.

After years of good intentions, we have begun to truly address disproportionate minority confinement and contact (DMC) with the juvenile justice system. Four active DMC task forces are working within their communities, including working with local law enforcement and juvenile courts, to reduce the rate of incarceration of minority youth. With our Americorp*Vista volunteers now on board, we anticipate being able to make measurable progress on this entrenched problem.

Coordination is at the core of TCCY. TCCY works arm in arm with local, regional, statewide and national groups as their mission and goals intersect with ours, and all of our nine regional councils seek partners as they plan their activities.

Nowhere is the job of advocacy more apparent than our effort to affect policy and legislation. We always want to be positive, but we believe in prevention. We had another successful year working with the Tennessee General Assembly to ensure legislation beneficial to Tennessee children and families passed, and avoiding the passage of bills that would have been detrimental.

As we move into a new year, we will continue to partner with agencies to promote and protect the health, well-being and development of children and youth. We will work hard to ensure good legislation will pass. We also will strive to address the enduring problem of DMC while continuing to meet the core requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. All of this will be done as we, the Commission members and staff of TCCY, remain focused on our mission – to advocate improvement in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families.

Sincerely,


Cindy Durham



Letter from the Executive Director

December 31, 2004

Dear Reader,

Fiscal year 2003-2004 was another good year for the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth. Staff and Commission members adjusted to changes as new members settled into their responsibilities and veteran members graciously accommodated new procedures.

TCCY regional councils on children and youth continued their strong advocacy and networking roles. The approximately 3,000 members of the nine regional councils across Tennessee met regularly for training, information sharing, networking, and effective advocacy. Their participation in Children's Advocacy Days resulted in an outstanding event focused on prevention of child abuse and neglect. And the involvement of regional council members in legislative advocacy efforts helped us continue to ensure the General Assembly only passed legislation establishing good public policy for Tennessee children and families.

The diligent efforts of staff, Commission members and juvenile court judges and staff across Tennessee enabled us to maintain compliance with the core requirements for continued funding under the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act. Deinstitutionalization of status offenders, a serious threat to continued federal funding a few years ago, continued to decline.

Activities to address disproportionate minority contact and confinement (DMC) increased with a further revitalized state task force and four local DMC task forces with AmericaCorps*Vista staff. We are particularly excited by prospects for addressing this thorny issue through the collaboration with the Select Committee on Children and Youth following passage of HJR 890.

During this year, TCCY's KIDS COUNT staff was excited by the opportunity to collaborate with KIDS COUNT partners in Alabama and Kentucky to publish and disseminate *The Rural South: Listening to Families in Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee*. We were proud to be part of the Annie E. Casey Foundation's first round of funding focused on the needs of rural families and children.

With the appointment of Viola Miller as Commissioner of the Department of Children's Services, we have had significantly improved understanding of the value of information and data gleaned through the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) evaluation of systems serving children in state custody. Our partnership with DCS has become a close working relationship to provide information useful for and used for system improvement. We also began a new partnership with DCS providing third party external review of cases that were presenting particular challenges.

In 2005, TCCY will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its creation in Tennessee statutes. We look forward to continuing our mission in what we believe is a vital role in the children's services community – advocating for improvements in the quality of life for Tennessee children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda O'Neal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'L' and 'O'.

Linda O'Neal
Executive Director

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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, when it was reauthorized through 2006.

Appointed by the governor for 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

Four standing committees oversaw the operations of the agency during fiscal year 2003-04. 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 *Budget and Data Committee* was responsible for fiscal matters, such as Commission budget requests, budget analysis and budget recommendations, and for agency efforts to collect and disseminate information, including *The Advocate*, *KIDS COUNT* and other publications.

The *Councils Committee* reviewed activities related to the nine regional councils on children and youth and interdepartmental activities.

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.

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 2003-04, 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. Topics for meetings included a report on foster care in Tennessee by Mary Lee, a Commission member formerly in foster care; a discussion of the Department of Human Services’ proposed child support guidelines by Tennessee Justice Center attorney Russ Overby and Mike Adams, assistant commissioner; a report by Department of Children’s Services staff, Bonnie Hommrich, Patti Odom, Eric Henderson, and Elizabeth Black, on the Brian A lawsuit; consideration of legislative issues; and approval of grant awards.

Commission Membership*

	Cindy Durham, Chair*	
	Gallatin	
Betty Anderson Covington	Natasha Blackshear Nashville	P. Larry Boyd Rogersville
Sidney Bynum Nashville	Dennis Clark Chattanooga	Beverly Cosley* Chattanooga
Tabitha Dean* Cordova	James B. Ford Franklin	Tim Goldsmith Memphis
Marti Herndon Martin	Trudy Hughes* Maryville	Charles Hutchins Greeneville
E. Ann Ingram Columbia	Drew Johnson Johnson City	Susan Lawless-Glassman Germantown
Mary Lee Dickson	Carlton Lewis Nashville	Christy Little Jackson
Jerry W. Maness Memphis	Sharon T. Massey Clarksville	Linda Miller Memphis
Marie Mobley Goodlettsville	James K. Scott Knoxville	Sue Pilson Cookeville
Joetta Yarbro Dyersburg		

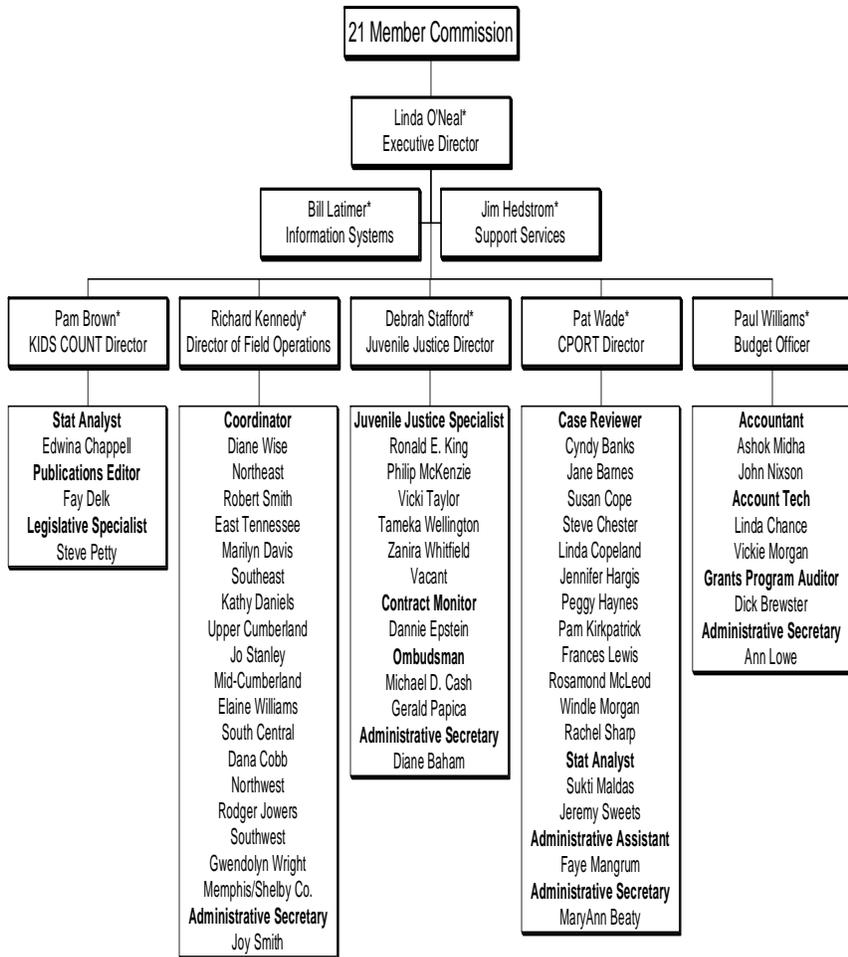
*At press time. Angi Agle, Joe Askins, Murray Butler, Johnny Horne, Jim Kidd and Suzan Mitchell served as members of the Commission during fiscal year 2003-04.

Staff

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth has 53 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. One staff member who monitors grant compliance is located in West Tennessee. 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

Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth



*Management Team

Budget

**TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & YOUTH
ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
BY OBJECT CODE / FUNDING SOURCES
FISCAL YEAR 2003-2004**

	STATE	JUVENILE JUSTICE	CPORT	KIDS COUNT	TOTAL
Personal Services and Benefits					
01 Salaries / Longevity	\$602,900	\$476,600	\$628,300	\$79,100	\$1,786,900
02 Benefits	160,400	152,400	214,600	16,700	544,100
Total Personal Services and Benefits	\$763,300	\$629,000	\$842,900	\$95,800	\$2,331,000
Other Expenditures					
03 Travel	\$36,300	\$100,200	\$105,300	\$4,600	\$246,400
04 Printing, Duplicating, Binding	6,000	81,400	22,300	10,100	119,800
06 Communications & Shipping Costs	8,400	4,200	3,300	1,300	17,200
07 Maintenance, Repairs & Services	800	600	1,000	100	2,500
08 Professional Services & Dues	12,200	9,900	26,400	1,100	49,600
09 Supplies & Materials	18,400	19,000	13,600	3,600	54,600
10 Rentals & Insurance	111,100	11,500	96,700	11,300	230,600
11 Motor Vehicle Operation			700		700
12 Awards & Indemnities	700	600	0	100	1,400
13 Grants & Subsidies	2,200	6,471,600	2,300	100	6,476,200
14 Unclassified	400	400		400	1,200
16 Equipment	2,000	1,500	2,300	200	6,000
25 Professional Services by Other State Agencies	49,400	62,900	40,300	3,900	156,500
Total Other Expenditures	\$247,900	\$6,763,800	\$314,200	\$36,800	\$7,362,700
Total Expenditures	\$1,011,200	\$7,392,800	\$1,157,100	\$132,600	\$9,693,700
Funding Sources					
State--Appropriations	1,011,100	314,800	8,200	47,700	1,381,800
Federal--O J J D P		6,028,900			6,028,900
Interdepartmental--DCS		1,049,100	1,148,900		2,198,000
Other--Kids Count--Casey Foundation				75,000	75,000
Other--Kids Count--Rural Poverty Study				9,900	9,900
Total Funding	1,011,100	7,392,800	1,157,100	132,600	9,693,600
Positions					
Full-Time	16	13	20	4	53
Part-Time	2	0	0	0	2
Seasonal	0	0	0	0	0
Total Positions	18	13	20	4	55

TCCY FY 03 - 04 Expenditures By Program

Program	Total Expenditures Of Programs	State Funds	Federal Funds	Interde-partmental Funds	Other Funds
Advocacy: To provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families in Tennessee.	\$349,900	\$69,200	\$252,700		\$28,000
Juvenile Justice: To implement the federal Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act and efficiently and effectively administer state and federal Juvenile Justice funds.	6,939,900	294,600	5,597,500	1,047,800	
Children's Services Evaluation: To conduct the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (C-PORT) process, an independent evaluation of the delivery of services to children in state custody and their families.	1,154,700	5,700		1,149,000	
Regional Councils on Children and Youth: To develop and support Regional Councils on Children and Youth and to carry out appropriate regional activities related to the Department of Children's Services.	800,100	783,500	16,600		
Information Dissemination: To effectively implement the Tennessee KIDS COUNT project for the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on indicators of the well-being of children in Tennessee and to disseminate other appropriate information.	300,200	148,500	66,700		85,000
Coordination of Services: To engage in efforts to improve coordination in the delivery of services to children and families in Tennessee.	148,900	80,400	22,300	46,200	
Total Expenditures by Source of Funds	\$9,693,700	\$1,381,900	\$5,955,800	\$2,243,000	\$113,000



Advocacy

The primary mission of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth is to provide leadership for advocacy activities on behalf of children and families. Major strategies for effective advocacy include extensive networking and efforts to assist in the coordination of services.

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 – 2004

More than 500 advocates attended the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's two-day 16th annual Children's Advocacy Days (CAD) held on March 16-17, 2004, in the War Memorial Auditorium. This year's events centered around a luncheon on March 16 co-sponsored by Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee. Sid Johnson of Prevent Child Abuse America gave the keynote speech, and Terry Morris, a NASA engineer who was abused as a child, was the featured speaker. Each CAD participant received an information packet.

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. Speakers on March 17 included Charlotte Bryson, Tennessee Voices for Children; Jan Bushing, Tennessee Department of Education; Mary Jo Howland, Tennessee State Board of Education; Patti Killingsworth, TennCare Bureau; Tony Garr, Tennessee Health Care Campaign; Mary Walker, Tennessee Department of Children's Services; Katy Spivak and Kim Crane, Vanderbilt Child and Family Policy Center; and Carla Snodgrass and Cindy Savage, Prevent Child Abuse America.



The TCCY Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award was presented to Emmy Haney of Chattanooga, who was instrumental in starting the Chattanooga Children's Advocacy Center and worked with the CASA program. The Making KIDS COUNT award went to Ashley Heher of the Chattanooga Times Free Press. Drew Farmer of Jackson earned the Youth Excellence Award for his come back from drug abuse and his efforts to draw attention to the problem. Dennie Littlejohn of Knoxville was recognized for his long-time efforts to address minority over-representation in the courts.

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 309 different roles with governmental and nonprofit agencies serving children and their communities. Ninety-one of these positions were with local organizations.

National/Southeast Regional Organizations

TCCY staff members served on seven national or Southeastern regional committees, task forces, and 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;
- ✓ Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Washington, D.C.; National Steering Committee; Board of Editors; Fall Planning Committee;
- ✓ Southern Coalition of Juvenile Justice Regional Specialists Committee, Washington, D.C.;
- ✓ United States Ombudsman Association.

State Organizations

Staff members participated on a total of 59 statewide committees, task forces and boards that addressed 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:

- ✓ Adolescent Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Advocates to DHS;
- ✓ Brian A. Work Group
- ✓ Child Care Resource and Referral Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Children's Cabinet of Governor Bredesen's Administration;

- ✓ Children's Health Policymakers' Discussion and Teleconference Planning Committee;
- ✓ Families First Working Group;
- ✓ Health Resources and Services Administration Systems of Care State Council;
- ✓ Juvenile Justice and Mental Health Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Mental Health and Substance Abuse Co-Occurring Disorders Coalition;
- ✓ Mental Health Planning Council Children and Youth Committee;
- ✓ Mental Health Planning Council TennCare Partners Roundtable Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment Subcommittee;
- ✓ Mental Health Planning Council Criminal Justice Committee;
- ✓ Mental Health Planning Council TennCare Partners Roundtable;
- ✓ Mental Health Review Committee;
- ✓ Save TennCare Save Lives Coalition;
- ✓ Special Adolescent Populations Study Advisory Committee;
- ✓ State Information Systems Managers (ISM) Events Committee;
- ✓ Senator Lamar Alexander's Human Services Advisory Group;
- ✓ State Information Systems Managers (ISM) Group;
- ✓ State System of Care Council;
- ✓ State Technology Implementation Group (TIG);
- ✓ Suicide Prevention Network Advisory Board;
- ✓ TennCare for Children, Statewide Advisory Group*, Coordination Committee;
- ✓ TennCare Advocates;
- ✓ Tennessee Access Network;
- ✓ Tennessee Association for Child Care;
- ✓ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, Mid-West and Middle Tennessee chapters;
- ✓ Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Board of Directors;
- ✓ Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Advisory Council;
- ✓ Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Kinship Care Advisory Council;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Assessment Workgroup;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Child and Family Service Review Stakeholder Group;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Child Sexual Abuse Task Force;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Children's Services Children's Justice Taskforce; Child Abuse Awareness Committee;*
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Education Family Literacy Coalition;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Education Grants for Dropout Prevention Committee;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Health Child Fatality Review Team;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Health Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Human Services Advocates Committee;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care Board of Review;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Human Services Families First Advisory Council;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Children's Crisis Services Review Committee;

- ✓ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Mental Health Planning Council;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Services Planning and Oversight Committee;
- ✓ Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Transitioning Youth Workgroup;
- ✓ Tennessee Disabilities Training Network;
- ✓ Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance, Tennessee State University Site Advisory Committee;
- ✓ Tennessee Developmental Disabilities Council;
- ✓ Tennessee State Legislature Select Committee on Children and Youth Protective Services Reform Workgroup;
- ✓ Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network;
- ✓ Tennessee Voices for Children;
- ✓ Truancy Workgroup Initiative; Legislative and Policy Subcommittee*;
- ✓ Workforce Development Committee;
- ✓ Yes-2-Kids Conference Committee;
- ✓ Youth Court Advisory Board;
- ✓ Youth Violence Conference Committee.

*TCCY staff served as chair.

Regional Organizations

Commission staff served on a total of 23 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:

- ✓ Success by Six;
- ✓ Tennessee Association for Child Care;
- ✓ 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;
- ✓ Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network.

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 2003-04, TCCY staff members made 57

presentations, five national or multi-state, 33 statewide, 12 regional and seven local, to more than 3,372 people.

Additionally, TCCY staff presented 22 displays to nearly 9,000 individuals at conferences, health fairs, college recruitment meetings, government days, and teen meetings. The purpose of these displays was to disseminate TCCY information and recruit members for the regional councils.

Legislative Advocacy

TCA 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 2004 legislative session of the 103rd Tennessee General Assembly the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth took positions on 29 pieces of legislation, supporting 20 bills and opposing nine bills regarding children and families in Tennessee. Of the bills the Commission supported, eight passed, while only one bill the Commission opposed passed after being amended to significantly reduce its scope. While not addressing any specific bills, the Commission also took supportive positions on expanding and funding early childhood education and strengthening efforts to address methamphetamine manufacturing and abuse and its harmful effects on children.

The Commission also opposed a bill continued from 2003 that would have made unnecessary changes in child custody arrangements.

TCCY legislative staff provided regional council members and child advocates with weekly updates beginning March 5 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. The *Legislative Update* tracked the status of up to 132 bills; the *Legislative Report* provided bill summaries and tracked the status of 307 bills; the *Legislative Summary* issued June 25, 2004, included summaries of 104 laws enacted during the 2004 session. These bills affected the health, well-being and development of Tennessee's children and youth and their families over the broad spectrum of policy issues from criminal law to family law, education to health care, and public finance to transportation.

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, as amended; and to 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.

Each state participating in the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Act of 1974, amended, is required to have a state advisory group. In Tennessee, TCCY serves as the state advisory group responsible for the administration of funds received through the Act. It is 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 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. In November 2002 the JJDP Act was reauthorized. The basic core requirements were maintained. However, the fourth requirement changed from addressing "minority over-representation in secure confinement" to "addressing minority over-representation at all levels of the juvenile justice system." The core requirements are to:

- ✓ Deinstitutionalize status offenders (DSO);
- ✓ Remove children from adult jails;
- ✓ Separate children from adult offenders; and
- ✓ Address disproportionate minority contact.

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). In March 2004 the Commission submitted the 2004 Three-Year Plan that included a juvenile crime analysis of court referrals, adjudications, offenses and transfers to adult court categorized by race and gender. The three-year plan included program areas to receive priority for JJDP Act funds. The program areas for this period included Delinquency Prevention, Minority Over-Representation, Gender Specific Services, Court Services, and Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO).



Facilities and Program Monitoring

To assure compliance with the core requirements, TCCY conducts periodic on-site monitoring of all adult jails and lock-ups and all secure juvenile facilities in Tennessee, including juvenile detention centers, temporary holding resources and training schools. Commission staff reviews records to determine the number of children detained and the circumstances of their detention. In fiscal year 2003-04, Commission staff conducted 474 monitoring visits at 139 facilities. The Department of Finance and Administration monitored programs that received state and federal funds until February 2004, when TCCY staff began monitoring programs funded by the agency. Additionally, TCCY staff conducted 141 on-site and program monitoring visits of federally funded programs to provide technical assistance, project support and assure contract compliance. They also made sure programs met the goals and objectives specified, and they complied with Title VI nondiscrimination policies.

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

The Policy 22 monitoring function was transferred from F&A to individual departments, agencies and commissions in Tennessee on February 2, 2004. The following 2003-04 TCCY contracts have been monitored thus far following the above guidelines:

On-site:

1. CASA of Tennessee Heartland-CASA
2. Family Affair Ministries-EUDL
3. Fayette County-State and JABG
4. Hamilton County-Title V and CASA
5. Humphreys County Board of Education-EUDL
6. Henry County-JABG
7. Loudon County-EUDL and JABG
8. MADD Tennessee-EUDL
9. Tennessee Legal Community Foundation-Federal
10. Dickson County-JABG
11. Shelby County-JABG
12. Apostolic Church of Christ-Federal
13. West Tennessee Legal Services-Federal
14. Rutherford County –JABG
15. Shelbyville Housing and Development Corporation-Federal
16. Henry County Board of Education-Federal

17. Washington County-Title V
18. Helen Ross McNabb Center-JABG
19. Madison County-JABG
20. Center for Youth Issues in Nashville-Federal
21. Warren County-Federal
22. Bradley County-EUDL
23. American Family Institute-Federal
24. TCJFCJ-Federal
25. Reach of Cannon County-Federal
26. City of Bristol-JABG and Title V
27. Frontier Health-Federal and JABG
28. Lauderdale County-Federal
29. Center for Youth Issues-EUDL
30. Campbell County-JABG
31. Roane County-JABG
32. Youth Visions-Federal
33. Lincoln County Board of Education-EUDL
34. Williamson County-JABG
35. Metropolitan County of Nashville/Davidson County-JABG
36. Wilson County-JABG
37. Wilson County-Federal
38. Girl Scouts of Moccasin Bend Council-Federal
39. City of Clarksville-JABG
40. Hamblen County-JABG
41. Montgomery County-JABG
42. Cheatham County-JABG
43. Children and Family Services, Inc.-Federal
44. Legal Aid of East Tennessee-Federal
45. Exchange Club of Memphis
46. Sevier County-JABG
47. Blount County-JABG
48. Teen Peace of Nashville-Federal

Desktop reviews:

1. Houston County-State
2. Jackson County-State
3. Jefferson County-State
4. Johnson County-State
5. Henry County-State
6. Humphreys County-State
7. Lauderdale County-State
8. Hawkins County-State
9. Coffee County-JABG
10. Greene County-JABG

TCCY Juvenile Justice Monitoring Activities Fiscal Year 2002-03

Number	Type of Program	Monitoring/On-site Frequency	Total Number of TCCY Monitoring/On-Site Activities
14	Court Appointed Special Advocate Programs (CASA)	*	3
95	State Supplement/Reimbursement Accounts	*	8
37	Federal Formula Grant Programs	Annually*	36
6	Title V Grants	Annually*	9
47	Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program	Annually*	70
1	Challenge Program	Annually*	1
7	Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program		14
207		Subtotal	141
112	Jails and/or Lockups	Annually/Quarterly	150
9	Temporary Holding Facilities	Monthly	108
18	Juvenile Detention Centers	Monthly	216
139		Subtotal	474
346		Total	615

*The Department of Finance and Administration monitored these programs until February 2004. TCCY assumed responsibility for program monitoring in February.

Compliance Monitoring Report

Each year TCCY submits to OJJDP a monitoring report summarizing violations of the Act's mandates. The 2003-04 Compliance Monitoring Report indicated a total of 147 deinstitutionalization of status offender (DSO) violations for the state. The maximum allowed was 399. This is the lowest number of DSO violations since 1993 (see chart).

The drastic reduction of violations is due to the untiring efforts of TCCY Juvenile Justice specialists and TCCY regional coordinators monitoring juvenile detention facilities, temporary holding resources, jails and lockups on a monthly rather than a quarterly basis. They also provide technical assistance and advice on alternatives to secure placements. In addition, the Department of Children's Services (DCS) helped by being more timely in finding placements for juveniles. Commission members also assisted in reduction efforts by talking to judges and facility directors in their areas regarding the alternatives to secure placements. Knox County, the largest populated county in eastern Tennessee, reduced their violations from 31 to 15 for the 2003-04 year.

In regard 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 only 20 jail removal violations during the 2003-04 monitoring period, with 100 percent of jails and lockups monitored. The number of jail removal violations was up from 12 in 2002-03. One county sheriff's office had improved its facility and increased its secure area, causing this increase. TCCY staff met with the juvenile judge, YSO and sheriff for technical assistance and training. Due to constant contacts and trainings, there were no separation violations for the reporting period, a significant reduction from almost 3,800 violations in 1977.

At the end of 2003-04 Tennessee had five counties that were out of compliance. This was an improvement from 2002-03, when the number was 10 counties. Due to the population of counties, two counties each had one violation causing them to be out of compliance. We continue to strive to make Tennessee violation free. We continue to go out into the counties and do trainings and help the juvenile courts and detention facilities staffs with whatever assistance is needed. Tennessee also had 31 counties with violations in 2002-03. For 2003-04 Tennessee reduced that number by 11, with only 20 counties having violations.

DSO Violations, Present and Past			
1989-90	118	1997-98	484
1990-91	100	1998-99	783
1991-92	182	1999-00	364
1992-93	242	2000-01	290
1993-94	318	2001-02	184
1994-95	391	2002-03	166
1995-96	346	2003-04	147
1996-97	356		

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, when reauthorized in 2002, also included disproportionate minority contact with the juvenile justice system as a core requirement to replace disproportionate minority confinement. Minority over-representation occurs when the “proportion of juveniles detained or confined in secure detention facilities, secure correctional facilities, jails, and lock-ups who are members of minority groups...exceeds the proportion such groups represent in the general population.”

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

- ✓ Collecting data, which verified a disproportionate number of minority youth in secure confinement in rural and metropolitan areas of the state;
- ✓ Educating local Tennessee communities regarding disproportionate minority contact/confinement (DMC);
- ✓ Completing the DMC Assessment Study on minority over-representation in secure confinement in the Tennessee Juvenile Justice System;

- ✓ Using Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) Consultants to provide technical assistance training on DMC to all four local DMC Task Force members in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox and Shelby counties;
- ✓ Attending national conferences on DMC to keep updated on the latest information on minority over-representation;
- ✓ Presenting in Madison County to a group of citizens interested in starting a new DMC Task Force committee to look at minority over-representation in secure confinement and contact with the juvenile justice system.
- ✓ Improving the data collection tool used to determine racial identity;
- ✓ Continuing Intensive Technical Assistance (ITA) from Teresa Lurry, consultant from Port St. Lucie, Florida, who continued working with TCCY staff on strategies to address and reduce the large numbers of minorities at all levels of the juvenile justice system;
- ✓ Recruiting a Madison County citizen to become a member of the statewide DMC Task Force.

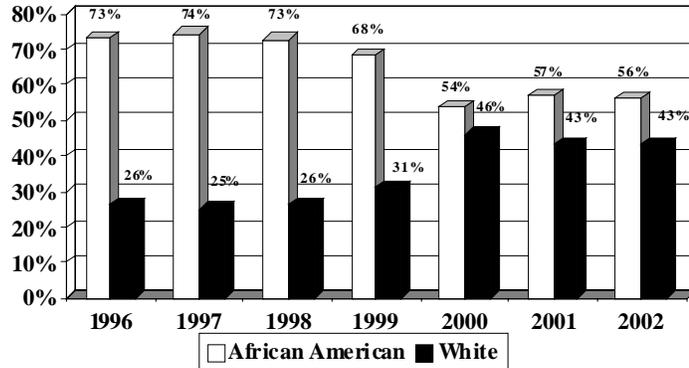
The statewide DMC Task Force formed in 1995 works to address minority over-representation issues at the state and local levels. The committee (See current membership list in this section) met four times during fiscal year 2003-04 to develop strategies to reduce DMC in problem areas. The DMC Task Force held its second strategic planning retreat in July to look at and/or modify decisions made and implemented from its retreat in February 2001.

For Tennessee as a whole, 20 percent of at-risk youth ages 12 to 17 are children of color. Overall referrals of minority youth to juvenile court had a significantly higher rate than White youth. In Tennessee, 56 percent of the juveniles placed in secure detention facilities for calendar year 2002 were African-American. This was a 2 percent increase from the year 2000. Unfortunately, minority over-representation still remains a major issue that must be addressed and taken seriously by all Tennesseans, including state legislators, local community leaders, juvenile court judges and staff, law enforcement officials, school personnel, faith-based organizations, and parents and guardians.

Statewide commitments to state secure facilities (Youth Development Centers) in 2002 had an index of 2.4 or 49 percent (over-representation) involving African-American youth and 0.6 or 43 percent (under representation) involving majority American youth. This is compared to a 1.0 index representing proportionate numbers in relation to percentage of the population each group represents. Therefore, African-American youth were almost two times more likely to be held in youth development centers than would be expected based on their representation in the juvenile population. A historical view of the data regarding minority over-representation is illustrated in the chart below.

Juveniles Confined in Secure Juvenile Detention Facilities

Tennessee Statewide



¹ Source: Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges CY1996-CY2000

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 four local DMC Task Forces in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox and Shelby counties; 3) The hiring of four Americorp* Vista Volunteers to coordinate the DMC Task Force activities in the four local aforementioned counties; 4) Passage of HR 890, calling for legislative study and report on DMC, by the legislature; 5) Funding of several youth programs regarding delinquency prevention and minority overrepresentation.

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

West

Morrie Noel	Juvenile Court	Shelby County
Lorenzo Caldwell	Clergy	Shelby County
John Hall	Service Provider	Shelby County
Randi Guigui	Service Provider	Shelby County
Veronica Coleman-Davis	Service Provider	Shelby County
Harrell Carter	Radio Talk Show Host	Southwest

Middle

Kathy Bell	DCS	Mid-Cumberland
Janet Nielsen	TCJFCJ	Mid-Cumberland
Jaunita Veasy,	Black Children's Institute	Mid-Cumberland
Denise Nickleberry	Juvenile Detention	Mid-Cumberland
Julius Witherspoon	Residential Director	Mid-Cumberland
Jenny Jones	Social Science Professor	Mid-Cumberland

East

Dennie Littlejohn, Chair	Social Worker, Head Start	Northeast
Mary Williams	Administrator	East
Beverly McKeldin	Service Provider	Southeast
James Woodard	DCS	East
Johnny Horne	TCCY Commissioner	Southeast
Dwight Stokes	Juvenile Judge	Northeast
Beverly McKeldin	Service Provider	Southeast
William Murrah	Service Provider	East
Jim Griffin	Service Provider	East
Wilma Wiley	DCS	East
Bo Walker	Administrator	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 level for the second and third years will be 75 percent and 50 percent, respectively, of the first year's budget.

Federal regulations require that 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. 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 \$1.21 million in Federal Formula Grant funds in fiscal year 2003-04. The Commission awarded grants to agencies for delinquency prevention and intervention projects to ensure that youth who are at risk of committing offenses receive appropriate services. During this reporting period, grantees served more than 18,000 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.

Title V Grants

The 2002 reauthorization of the JJDP Act included a Title V allocation to promote collaboration within communities to develop delinquency prevention strategies. TCCY holds training sessions for local units of government community teams to develop long-range planning for their neighborhoods. 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 2003-04, 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.

Listed below are the local units of government that were awarded the Title V funds.

Title V Grantee	FY 2003-04 Award Amount
City of Bristol	\$89,236
City of Brownsville	\$66,167
Hamilton County	\$61,914
Hancock County	\$103,407
Lawrence County	\$83,104
Washington County	\$84,470

Challenge Activities

The purpose of the Challenge Activities Funds is to provide states with incentives to develop, adopt, and improve policies in one of 10 specific areas. The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth chose to fund two Challenge Activities program areas. They include:

- ✓ Activity J, Developing and adopting policies to establish State administrative structure to develop program and fiscal policies for children with emotional or

- behavioral problems and their families. The structure would coordinate the activities of major child-serving systems and implement a statewide case review system, and
- ✓ Activity F, establishing and operating a state ombudsman office for children, youth, and families to investigate and resolve complaints relating to action, inaction, or decisions of providers of out-of-home care to children and youth.
- Tennessee received \$230,000 in fiscal year 2004 for Challenge Activities.

The TCCY Ombudsman Program was funded under Activity F. This program helped to resolve concerns of parents, guardians, and agencies regarding children in state custody. The objectives of this program was to communicate with all parties involved in the child's case, investigate the issues of the individual making the referral, facilitate discussions between parties, and mediate resolutions that are in the best interest of the child. Additional information regarding the Ombudsman Program is discussed later.

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 \$5,000 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 that were not eligible to receive at least \$5,000. Grants were distributed through a request for proposals that focused on accountability and enhancing services for youth in the juvenile justice system.

Funds are available for the following 12 program purpose areas (a 10 percent cash match is required when applying for these funds, except for Purpose Area 1).

- ✓ Purpose Area 1. Building, expanding, renovating, or operating temporary or permanent juvenile correction or detention facilities, including training of correctional personnel. A 50 percent cash match is required for all construction costs.
- ✓ Purpose Area 2. Developing and administering accountability-based sanctions for juvenile offenders.
- ✓ Purpose Area 3. Hiring additional juvenile court judges, probation officers, and court-appointed defenders and funding pre-trial services for juveniles, to ensure the smooth 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 backlogs reduced.
- ✓ Purpose Area 5. Providing funding to enable prosecutors to address drug, gang, and youth violence problems more effectively.
- ✓ Purpose Area 6. Providing funding for technology, equipment, and training to assist prosecutors in identifying and expediting the prosecution of violent juvenile offenders.
- ✓ Purpose Area 7. Providing funding to enable juvenile courts and juvenile probation officers to be more effective and efficient in holding juvenile offenders accountable and reducing recidivism.
- ✓ Purpose Area 8. Establishing court-based juvenile justice programs that target young firearms offenders through the establishment of juvenile gun courts for the adjudication and prosecution of juvenile firearms offenders.
- ✓ Purpose Area 9. Establishing drug court programs for juveniles to provide continuing judicial supervision over juvenile offenders with substance abuse problems and to provide the integrated administration of other sanctions and services.
- ✓ 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 that work with juvenile offenders who are referred by law enforcement agencies, or that are designed, in cooperation with law enforcement officials, to protect students and school personnel from drug, gang, and youth violence.
- ✓ Purpose Area 12. Implementing a policy of controlled substance testing for appropriate categories of juveniles within the juvenile justice system.

Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL)

Adolescence marks the age in which experimentation with mood altering substances is most active. Underage drinking is America's number one youth drug problem, killing six and half times more people younger than the age of 21 than all other illicit drugs

combined. Alcohol causes serious problems in young people, including death, poor health, and weak academic performance.

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administration (SAMHSA), in the 2003 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), information regarding Tennessee showed that:

- ✓ 41.1 percent of youth ages 12 to 17 reported using alcohol one or more times during the past 30 days before the assessment;
- ✓ 25.5 percent of youth ages 12 to 17 reported having a great risk of having five or more drinks of an alcoholic beverage on one or more of the past 30 days.

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. The funds were given to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for its program to target establishments selling alcohol to minors and educate youth regarding alcohol and its effects. Their activities consisted of the following programs and goals:

Youth in Action (YIA) Program

- ✓ The significant increase in knowledge regarding alcohol and its effects;
- ✓ An increase in youth activism in the state concerning underage consumption;
- ✓ An increase in youth believing that they have the control and ability to make life-altering decisions;
- ✓ An increased ability to dispel alcohol-related myths.

Youth Leadership Statewide Training

- ✓ To provide young people with the skills necessary to return to their individual communities in order to make changes in attitudes, policies, and laws that condone underage drinking and other drug use;
- ✓ To develop the skills necessary to implement effective programs that help reduce social and retail availability of alcohol to minors.

Compliance Measures

- ✓ Reduce the sale and availability of alcohol to minors.

Zero Tolerance/Shoulder Tap

- ✓ Reduce third party transactions;
- ✓ Decrease the number of adults willing to purchase alcohol for minors;
- ✓ Educate the community and retail establishments of the laws governing third party transactions.

Media Awareness

- ✓ Increase awareness about the consequences of underage drinking and help young people understand the laws in their state;

- ✓ Increase youth's concept that adolescents do have control over their futures through the choices they make;
- ✓ Increase the ability of youth to dispel alcohol-related myths;
- ✓ Increase in youth activism in the state regarding underage alcohol consumption.

In February 2002, the administrative responsibility for the EUDL program was transferred to TCCY. A request for proposals was developed, and training on the program was given to agencies and organizations (including MADD) that were interested in reducing the sale and use of alcohol. Program objectives for a statewide strategic plan included:

- ✓ To have an underage drinking coalition in each comprehensive community program with a special emphasis on increasing law enforcement participation;
- ✓ To demonstrate collaborative efforts with law enforcement, Department of Health, Department of Safety, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, schools, etc.;
- ✓ To develop youth leadership and participation in planning and program activities at the state and local levels.

Programs funded include Youth Crossing Bridges, Memphis; Loudon County Juvenile Services, Lenoir City; Bradley County Government, Cleveland; Brownsville Police Department; MADD-Tennessee; Family Affairs Ministry, Nashville; Humphreys County Board of Education, Waverly; and Somerville Police Department.

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 TCA 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 2003-04 TCCY contracted with 53 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 nonsecure placements only. Funds are allocated to counties according to a weighted formula based on historical usage of the grants.

JABG Pass Through		
Anderson County	Clinton	\$ 21,425
Blount County	Maryville	33,371
Bradley County	Cleveland	26,459
Campbell County	Jacksboro	5,357
Carrol County	Huntingdon	5,865
Cheatham County	Ashland City	7,076
Coffee County	Manchester	5,667
Metro Nashville-David	Nashville	525,894
Dickson County	Charlotte	15,588
Fayette County	Somerville	7,507
Greene County	Greeneville	15,296
Hamblen County	Morristown	14,323
City Of Morristown	Morristown	11,971
Hamilton County	Chattanooga	192,276
Haywood County	Brownsville	6,413
Henry County	Paris	6,430
Knox County	Knoxville	105,181
City Of Knoxville	Knoxville	80,973
Loudon County	Loudon	6,365
McMinn County	Athens	12,464
Madison County	Jackson	54,604
Marion County	Jasper	5,733
Maury County	Columbia	24,581
Monroe County	Madisonville	7,088
City of Clarksville	Clarksville	28,504
Montgomery County	Clarksville	18,628
Putnam County	Cookeville	20,680
Roane County	Kingston	6,761
Rutherford County	Murfreesboro	63,699
Sevier County	Sevierville	20,613
Shelby County	Memphis	740,777
City Of Bristol	Bristol	11,353
Sullivan County	Blountville	76,275
Sumner County	Gallatin	30,953
Warren County	McMinnville	5,853
City Of Johnson City	Johnson City	24,195
Williamson County	Franklin	29,740
Total		\$ 2,275,938

Reimbursement Account		
Anderson	Clinton	\$ 7,500
Bledsoe	Pikeville	2,000
Blount	Maryville	400
Cannon	Woodbury	300
Carter	Elizabethton	5,500
Cheatham	Ashland City	500
Claiborne	Tazewell	300
Cocke	Newport	1,600
Coffee	Manchester	7,200
Crockett	Alamo	800
Decatur	Decaturville	300
Dickson	Charlotte	9,000
Dyer	Dyersburg	300
Fayette	Somerville	600
Giles	Pulaski	1,200
Grainger	Rutledge	300
Greene	Greeneville	300
Hamblen	Morristown	9,500
Hancock	Sneedville	400
Hardeman	Bolivar	4,000
Hardin	Savannah	600
Hawkins	Rogersville	7,500
Haywood	Brownsville	600
Henderson	Lexington	500
Hickman	Centerville	300
Jefferson	Dandridge	5,000
Lauderdale	Ripley	5,000
Lawrence	Lawrenceburg	300
Loudon	Loudon	2,400
Marion	Jasper	5,500
Marshall	Lewisburg	1,600
Mauzy	Columbia	9,000
McMinn	Athens	1,400
Montgomery	Clarksville	9,000
Monroe		300
Moore		300
Pickett		300
Polk	Benton	300
Rhea		300
Roane	Kingston	300
Robertson	Springfield	2,500
Scott	Oneida	300
Sequatchie	Dunlap	600
Smith	Carthage	600
Stewart	Dover	600
Sullivan	Blountville	12,000
Tipton		300
Hartsville/Trousdale	Hartsville	300
Unicoi	Erwin	2,000
Van Buren		300
Warren	McMinnville	500
Washington	Jonesborough	12,000
Wayne	Waynesboro	500
Total		\$135,000

State Juvenile Justice Supplements

The Commission administers state funding for improving juvenile court services as provided by TCA 37-1-162. In fiscal year 2003-04, each county received \$9,000. State budget shortfalls resulted in a 10 percent reduction from previous years. 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 service 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 cannot be used to pay salaries or expenses of juvenile court judges or for construction or remodeling of adult facilities. In fiscal year 2003-04, all 95 counties used approximately 94 percent of the state supplement funds to pay the salaries of youth services officers or other staff to enhance the services of the court. In addition, funds are used for travel for YSOs, equipment, and supplies for the court. Use of these funds can vary as long as the expenditures improve juvenile court services and do not supplant local funds.

Court Appointed Special Advocates

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.

Each year, TCCY seeks to increase the number of CASA programs by recommending additional dollars in budget recommendations to the governor and including an increase in the agency's annual budget request. In fiscal year 2003-04, state CASA funds provided services for more than 3,800 children in Anderson, Blount, Davidson, Hamblen, Hamilton, Knox, Madison, Sevier, Shelby, Sullivan, Sumner, Washington, Williamson, and Wilson counties. Each county received \$15,000.

Federal Formula Grants Awarded by TCCY
Grant Period: 10/1/02-9/30/03
By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders		
Wilson County Government	Lebanon	\$ 45,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Children & Family Services	Covington	30,000
Martha O'Bryan Center	Nashville	27,146
Legal Aid of East Tennessee	Knoxville	10,000
UT Chattanooga	Chattanooga	43,817
YMCA Metro/Knoxville	Knoxville	43,500
Delinquency Prevention		
American Family Institute	Chattanooga	34,000
Anderson Co Board of Education	Clinton	44,965
Apostolic Faith Church of Jesus Christ	Dyersburg	35,838
Battered Women Inc/Avalon Center	Crossville	32,432
Break the Cycle Inc	Loudon	30,000
Center for Youth Issues-Nashville Inc	Nashville	17,274
Chattanooga Kids on the Block	Chattanooga	8,761
DVIC/Teen PEACE	Nashville	30,269
Frontier Health Inc	Johnson City	30,000
Girl Scouts of Moccasin Bend	Chattanooga	25,000
Hancock County Board of Education	Sneedville	35,309
Mediation Services of Putnam County	Cookeville	30,000
Obion County Schools	Union City	25,000
Putnam County Board of Education	Cookeville	33,750
R.E.A.C.H. of Cannon County	Woodbury	24,000
United Way of Blount County	Maryville	30,000
Warren County	McMinnville	25,000
YMCA Metro/Chattanooga	Chattanooga	45,000
Systems Improvement		
TN Legal Community Foundation	Nashville	50,000
TCJFCJ Information Systems	*Nashville	10,000
TCJFCJ Training	*Nashville	35,000
Juvenile Court Services		
DeKalb County Government	Smithville	16,500
Dyer County Juvenile Court	Dyersburg	26,804
Jefferson County Juvenile Court	Dandridge	22,313
Lauderdale County Juvenile Court	Ripley	27,318
Total		\$ 923,996

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

Grant Period: 10/1/03 - 9/30/04

By Program Category

Grantee	Location	Amount
Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders		
Knox County Government	Knoxville	\$ 76,575
Wilson County Government	Lebanon	\$ 30,000
Disproportionate Minority Confinement		
Children & Family Services	Covington	20,000
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (DMC)	Knoxville	58,700
Martha O'Bryan Center	Nashville	18,097
TN Legal Community Foundation	Nashville	60,000
UT Chattanooga	Chattanooga	29,211
Youth Visions Inc	Memphis	30,000
Delinquency Prevention		
American Family Institute	Chattanooga	25,500
Anderson Co Board of Education	Clinton	29,997
Apostolic Faith Church of Jesus Christ	Dyersburg	23,892
Avalon Center/Battered Women Inc	Crossville	21,622
Children's Advocacy Center Inc	Chattanooga	31,288
Center for Youth Issues-Nashville Inc	Nashville	11,516
Chattanooga Kids on the Block	Chattanooga	5,841
DVIC/Teen PEACE(Juvenile Court)	Nashville	20,179
DVIC/Teen PEACE	Rutherford, Sumner, Williamson	60,000
Exchange Club Family Center	Memphis	60,000
Frontier Health Inc	Johnson City	22,500
Girl Scouts of Moccasin Bend	Chattanooga	18,750
Hancock County Board of Education	Sneedville	23,539
Henry County Board of Ed	Paris	28,605
Junior's House Inc	Fayetteville	52,622
Legal Aid of East Tennessee (Spec Ed)	Knoxville	50,000
Little Children of the World Inc	Etowah	46,940
Mediation Services of Putnam County	Cookeville	20,000
Putnam County Board of Education	Cookeville	22,500
R.E.A.C.H. of Cannon County	Woodbury	16,000
Shelbyville Housing & Dev Corp	Shelbyville	55,217
United Way of Blount County	Maryville	22,500
Warren County	McMinnville	18,750
West TN Legal Services Inc	Jackson	60,000
YMCA Metro/Chattanooga	Chattanooga	30,000
Systems Improvement		
TCJFCJ Information Systems	*Nashville	15,000
TCJFCJ Training	*Nashville	35,000
Juvenile Court Services		
Jefferson County Juvenile Court	Dandridge	14,875
Lauderdale County Juvenile Court	Ripley	18,212
Total		\$ 1,183,428

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

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 2003-04, two hearings were held regarding three children. A transfer hearing is convened by the department requesting the transfer or, in an emergency situation, by the receiving facility. Both children involved in the hearings were White males. Both hearings dealt with young people with suicidal ideation and suicide attempts. One had also made threats to others.

One hearing was held at Western Mental Health Institute, and another at Middle Tennessee Mental Health Institute. ¶¶

CPORT

During fiscal year 2003-04 TCCY continued to implement the Children's Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) evaluation. This process evaluates the service delivery system designed for children and their families involved in state custody. The ultimate goal of CPORT is to promote positive system change by providing qualitative and quantitative information for a process of continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families.

The CPORT evaluation collects and organizes essential information about the population of children served, the needs of the children and families, and the system's ability to adequately perform or function to meet the needs of the children and families it serves. The pertinent information is collected using a special instrument called a protocol. The protocol is a booklet containing a series of in-depth, structured interviews. Each interview contains a set of questions regarding the status of the child and family; the functions of the service delivery system; demographics; TennCare implementation; and Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT).

Structured interviews were conducted with the following: child (if age appropriate), parents, custodial department workers, 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 Permanency Plans, social histories, court orders and other pertinent reports were copied and reviewed. The majority of information was collected through the interview process.

The CPORT evaluation, conducted on a calendar-year basis as opposed to a fiscal year, began its 10th year of reviews January 27, 2003, and involved 44 to 48 randomly selected cases in each of the 12 Department of Children's Services (DCS) Community Services Agency regions. Data for 2003 were reflective of the population of children in the custody of DCS. By December 12, 2003, 558 cases were reviewed. These data were then summarized regionally and compared to the cases randomly selected for statewide analysis.

The statewide sample consisted of 343 child-custody cases designed to be statistically significant at the 95 percent level of confidence with +/-5 percent accuracy. Additionally, regional samples were designed to be statistically significant at the 85 percent level of confidence with +/-10 percent accuracy.



In 2003, 12 full-time CPORT case reviewers determined the status of children and families being served. One external reviewer training workshop was conducted in Nashville on April 14-17, 2003. Seven new external reviewers, representing the Department of Children's Services, a direct service provider agency and two TCCY staff members, were trained to perform CPORT intensive case reviews.

Reviewer training required intensive instruction and fieldwork preparation activities focusing on the administration of the CPORT protocol and the procedures required for its use. In addition, basic techniques of interviewing were taught, as well as standards of evaluation and research principles.

Modified training workshops were held on January 17-22, 2003, to train all experienced external reviewers on the revisions made to the 2003 CPORT protocol. Sixteen participants, in addition to TCCY staff, attended modified training. This is an integral part of the process.

The evaluation suggests improvements in the delivery of services to children and families, and CPORT continually improves the data-gathering process.

The Child Behavior Checklist (CBCL) and the Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) provide supplemental assessments to the CPORT review process. These assessment tools were administered during the review process. The CBCL was developed by Thomas M. Achenbach and provided a behavior-rating scale, which assessed behavior problems and social competencies of the children reviewed. The CAFAS was developed by Kay Hodges and was used to assess a child's psychosocial functioning. It has been adopted by several other states for evaluating state-served children. In addition, the assessment tools were expanded to include the Child and Adolescent Level of Care Utilization System (CALOCUS). This new instrument will be beneficial in identifying the most appropriate level of care need for the children reviewed.

The CPORT evaluation documented the adequacy of the status of the child and family and how the system was functioning to meet the needs of the child by providing qualitative and quantitative data for continuous improvement in the delivery of services to children and families. The quantitative data were a result of an examination of 13 status indicators for the child and family and 17 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. The indicators for determining the status of the child and family and for determining the adequacy of service system functions were established by a Design Team representing the departments of Education (DOE), Finance and Administration (F&A), Health (DOH), Human Services (DHS), Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities (MHDD), Youth Development (now assimilated into DCS); the Assessment and Care Coordination Team (ACCT); the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (TCJFCJ); service providers; and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work (UTCSW). Its function was to develop the specifications for the CPORT evaluation.

The following 13 status indicators were examined for the child and family. Design Team members agreed the indicators with asterisks must be found positive for an overall adequate finding regarding the status of the child and family. The indicators are:

1. Safety of the child and community; *
2. Emotional well-being*;
3. Physical well-being*;

4. Caregiver functioning*;
5. Stable home;
6. Permanence;
7. Appropriateness of placement;
8. Educational and vocational progress;
9. Family unification;
10. Independent living, if 13 years of age or older;
11. Child satisfaction;
12. Family satisfaction; and
13. Overall status of child and family.

The reviewers evaluated the following 17 system functions or capabilities in the context of how the system served one child at a time. Once again, the functions or capabilities with the asterisks must have been found positive for an overall adequate finding for the system. The functions or capabilities are:

1. Assessment of needs*;
2. Long-term view for services*;
3. Child participation*;
4. Family participation*;
5. Service plan design*;
6. Service plan implementation*;
7. Service coordination*;
8. Monitoring change*;
9. Advocacy;
10. Early child and family intervention;
11. Home and community resources;
12. Placement resources;
13. Supportive interventions for staying or returning home;
14. Urgency response;
15. Progress achieved – child;
16. Progress achieved – family; and
17. Overall adequacy of services.

Research standards and guidelines specify the importance of reporting results to all research participants, so Exit Conferences were scheduled in each region following the review to report the data-gathering results. A PowerPoint presentation illustrating the data with charts and graphs and a qualitative report summarizing specific strengths, noteworthy accomplishments, weaknesses of the system, recommendations, training and resource needs were provided.

The participants in the review process, such as direct service staff; supervisory and management personnel; social counselors and case managers from DCS, CSA, MHDD and DOE; placements; and juvenile courts attended. The average attendance at a CPORT Exit Conference per region was approximately 29 professionals. Statewide, approximately 342 professionals attended. Additional state agency administrative staff, legislators and child advocates also were provided copies of the CPORT results.

For calendar year 2003, CPORT reported the following data on children in state custody:

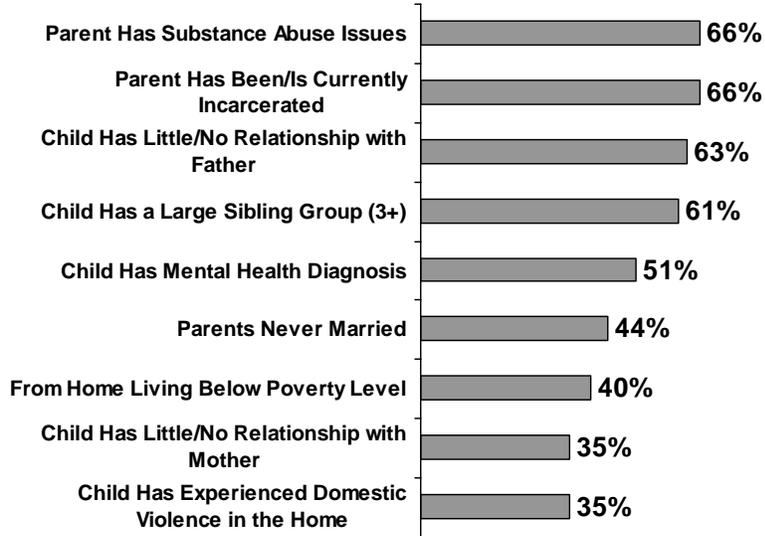
- ✓ 50 percent of the total petitions were filed by Department of Children's Services/Department of Human Services; followed by courts (14 percent), relative/family (9 percent) and law enforcement (8 percent);
- ✓ 73 percent of the children were adjudicated dependent/neglect; 21 percent, delinquent and 6 percent, unruly;
- ✓ 27 percent of the children were in custody primarily due to neglect by caretaker, and 30 percent because of child's behavior problems;
- ✓ 43 percent were in a foster placement (including regular and therapeutic custodial department foster homes and regular and therapeutic contracted foster homes); 20 percent were in a group placement (any congregate living environment); 18 percent were with birth or adoptive parents or other relatives; 14 percent were in paid kinship; 5 percent were on runaway status;
- ✓ 59 percent were 13 years or older; 22 percent were 6 to 12 years; 19 percent were newborns to age 5;
- ✓ 60 percent of the children were Caucasian; 31 percent African-American; 9 percent were categorized as "other" (includes Asian-American, Hispanic and biracial);
- ✓ 61 percent of the children were male; 39 percent were female; those adjudicated dependent/neglect were 56 percent male; 44 percent female; children adjudicated unruly were 47 percent male, 53 percent female; those adjudicated delinquent were 79 percent male, 21 percent female;
- ✓ 36 percent of the children came from single-parent families where the mother was the head of the household;
- ✓ 66 percent of the children had parents who were or had been incarcerated; 27 percent involved the father; 22 percent of the families involved the mother, and 17 percent involved both parents;
- ✓ Almost all children, 96 percent, were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.

Although most children were appropriate for custody, approximately 22 percent remained in custody too long. More than half the children in custody too long needed either termination of parental rights or to complete adoption (57 percent). Ninety-two percent of those needing termination of parental rights (TPR) or to complete adoption had been in custody 20 months or longer at the time of the CPORT review. Fifteen percent of these children had been in custody longer than four years. A number of children had experienced delays in either TPR or adoption due to a variety of reasons, including failure to expedite TPR or adequately explore adoption or legal issues. Sixty-two percent of the children needing to complete adoption were ages 6 to 12.

For 2003, children and family conditions that possibly contributed to the risk of entering or remaining in custody were categorized under "Critical Issues." These are issues characteristic of children and their families that influence the need for services.

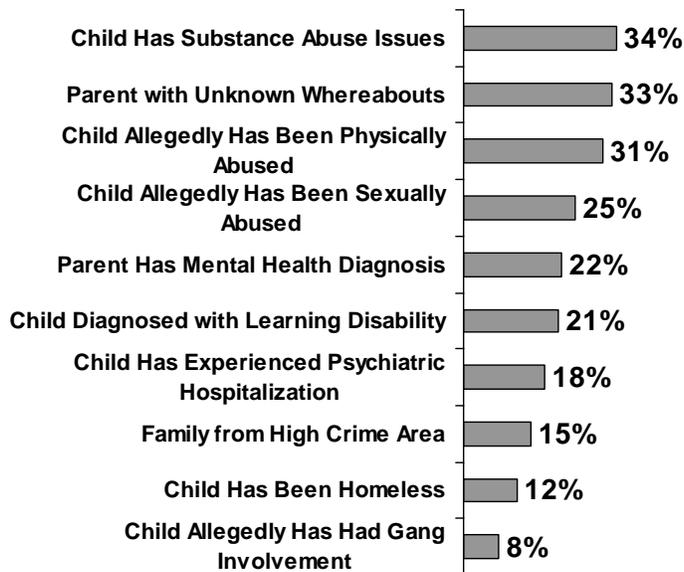
High-Risk Critical Issues

All Cases



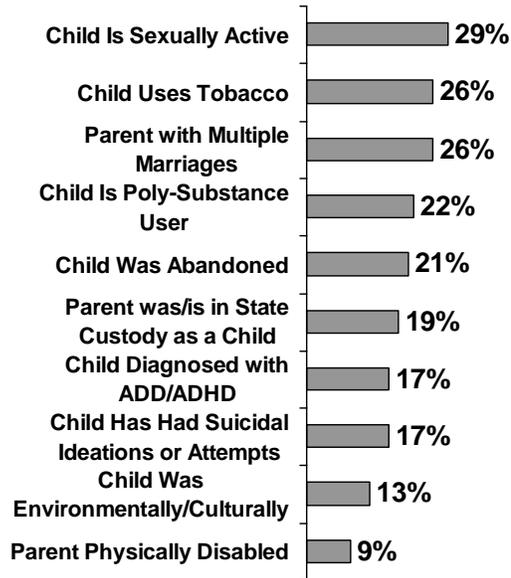
High-Risk Critical Issues

All Cases



Other Critical Issues

All Cases



There appears to be considerable risk of custody for children experiencing multiple risk factors.

Strengths Identified Statewide in 2003 CPORT Findings

- ✓ Most children were appropriate for custody at the time of custody.
- ✓ Most children were in the least restrictive, most appropriate placement to meet their needs.
- ✓ Substantial services had been provided in an effort to prevent custody.
- ✓ In almost all cases, when appropriate, siblings were placed together in compliance with Brian A./Best Practices.
- ✓ Most children with a goal of reunification were visiting with families in appropriate settings.
- ✓ The majority of children were in placements close to home or in the DCS region.
- ✓ In most cases the TNKIDS extract/screens contained accurate information.
- ✓ Many children were in high quality foster homes with foster parents very committed to the children, and many were willing to adopt.
- ✓ Excluding runaways, most children were receiving Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment services.
- ✓ Most children needing special education services were receiving them.

- ✓ Most social services caseloads were at the level needed to meet Brian A./Best Practice requirements with an average of 15; adoption caseloads averaged 10. Juvenile Justice caseloads averaged 24.

Weaknesses Identified Statewide in 2003 CPORT Findings

- ✓ The assessment of needs identified for children/families was often inadequate.
- ✓ Many Permanency Plans were inadequate, not addressing current issues/service needs of the child and family, and lacking strategies to achieve the permanent goal.
- ✓ Service coordination and communication between various system components were often inadequate.
- ✓ Many children in the Brian A. class experienced more than two out-of-home placements, ranging from three to 20 with an average of five and a median of four. The average total number of placements for all children in custody was five.
- ✓ Many children had experienced a change in case managers within the past 12 months because many case managers possessed 12 or fewer months experience and other case managers were reassigned.
- ✓ Many children stayed in custody too long.
- ✓ Truancy or other school problems were major factors contributing to custody for a number of school-age children.
- ✓ A number of children experienced lengthy stays (30 days or more) in detention/emergency shelter/diagnostic shelter awaiting a placement.
- ✓ A number of children experienced multiple custodies, in some cases three or more times.
- ✓ A number of children received in-home services/crisis intervention but still entered custody.
- ✓ A number of children did not receive timely subsequent dental screenings as required by EPSDT, and hearing and vision screenings were not always adequately documented.
- ✓ TennCare sometimes delayed service implementation or provided inadequate services due to insufficient provider network, especially for mental health services, refusal to pay for specialized services, extended waiting periods and difficulty scheduling appointments.

CPORT Findings on the Status of the Child/Family Reported as Percents										
	'94	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03
Cases reviewed in an overall positive status	74	75	79	83	81	87	84	84	87	87
Safety of children positive	91	93	92	93	95	95	93	93	94	94
Children's physical well-being addressed	95	94	96	95	99	98	97	95	97	97

Children placed with adequate caregivers	90	92	91	94	94	96	93	94	95	96
The child's emotional well-being was being addressed	78	78	82	84	85	90	88	87	88	88
Families were receiving services to remain intact or to reunify with children	58	62	66	68	60	74	80	80	83	80
Families were satisfied with services received	58	59	67	69	65	70	68	57	72	69

The 2003 CPORT results indicated that the overall percentage of children in a positive status (87 percent) stayed the same as the previous year. Overall, most children were in a positive status and were safe, receiving services and supports to address their physical well-being, and with caregivers who were able to provide necessary supports and supervision. The emotional well-being indicator continued to be the primary factor in defaulting the overall status of the child to negative. The 12 percent of children rated inadequate in emotional well-being needed services to address issues of physical/sexual abuse, grief/separation/ loss, and/or abandonment. Children ages 13 and older were least likely to receive the appropriate level of services to address their emotional well-being.

Most children were in least restrictive, most appropriate placements to receive services, and the stability of the children's living arrangements was positive.

Child satisfaction stayed the same and, although it is not always an indicator of the quality of services received, families were satisfied 69 percent of the time, a slight decrease from 72 percent last year. Families were the most satisfied when the children were in group placements and they were receiving services for the children to return home. There were differences in family satisfaction based on age, with families of children who were ages 6-12 much more satisfied than families of children age birth to 5. There was not much difference in satisfaction based on race, residence or adjudication.

CPORT Findings on Adequacy of Service System Functions Reported as Percents									
	'95	'96	'97	'98	'99	'00	'01	'02	'03
Service system functioned adequately to meet needs of child/family	40	46	51	33	46	42	38	54	53
Assessment of needs of child/family	80	86	86	73	70	68	65	74	76
Service Plan design	63	71	72	48	63	63	58	70	67
Service plan implementation	66	67	73	69	79	78	79	85	84
Service coordination	61	65	70	59	67	71	69	77	79
Monitoring/change	61	66	72	60	74	80	84	87	86
Supportive intervention for children to stay or return home	64	65	72	64	76	76	81	82	79
Progress achieved by family	50	56	56	52	55	59	55	57	55

In 2003 the system functioned adequately 53 percent of the time, a level roughly equivalent to the previous year (54 percent).

Child participation (93 percent) and family participation (93 percent) were major strengths, indicating the system was engaging most children and families in the planning and implementation of services. However, only 55 percent of the families were making progress or improvement as measured in outcomes/benefits. Families of children adjudicated delinquent were least likely to receive services to remain intact or reunify, and families of children in foster homes were least likely to achieve progress. Families were more likely to achieve progress when children were placed at home while families of children in foster homes were least likely to achieve progress.

Among the system indicators, assessment of needs, service plan design and service coordination needed the most attention. The weakest system function was service plan design (67 percent adequate), which was especially inadequate for children ages 13 and older or for children who were African-American.

The assessment of needs indicator for identifying the needs of children and families was 76 percent.

Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) Findings Summary

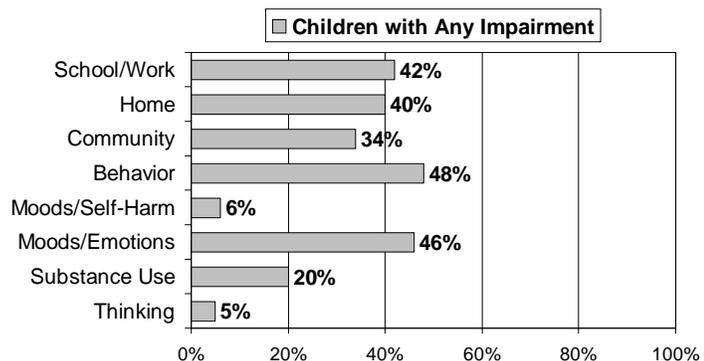
The Child and Adolescent Functional Assessment Scale (CAFAS) is used as a supplemental tool to the CPORT evaluation. The assessment is very useful in determining a child’s ability or inability to function in the community by measuring the child’s level of psychosocial impairment. The CAFAS measures the degree of psychosocial impairment in functioning of children and adolescents secondary to emotional, behavioral, or substance use problems. The CAFAS is multidimensional, measuring functioning in five areas: role performance (school, home, and community), moods (self-harm and emotions), behavior towards others, thinking, and substance abuse.

Among the cases reviewed, 292 eligible cases had completed CAFAS assessment from the total 343 children and youth (ages birth to 21 years) included in the 2002 CPORT sample.

Although many of the children were rated as functioning in the average range for their age for specific areas, 76 percent demonstrated some type of impairment in at least one area.

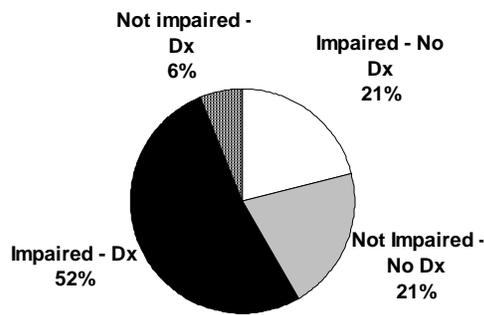
Level of Impairment on 8 CAFAS Subscales

2003 CAFAS (n=292)



Sixty percent of the children demonstrated some type of impairment in at least two or more areas. Fifty-one percent were rated with moderate or severe impairment in at least one area. Among the cases reviewed, the two domains with the most problems in functioning reported were role performance (the effectiveness with which the child fulfills the roles most relevant to his or her place in the community and includes the subscales for school/work, home, and community) and moods and emotions (the extent to which the child's behavior exhibits age-appropriate skills, control and expressions of feelings and the absence of self-harmful behavior).

Impairment in Any Subscale Compared with Diagnosis 2003 CAFAS (n=292)

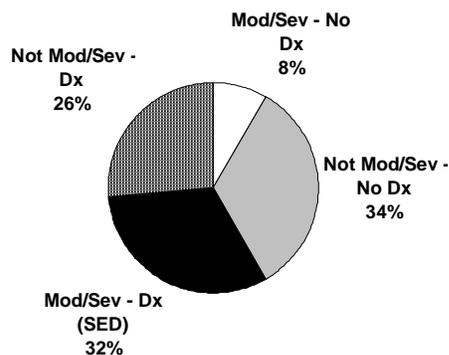


The pie chart shows the distribution of children with impairment in any subscale of the CAFAS. Fifty-one percent of the children in custody had a reported formal mental health diagnosis. Of those children with a completed CAFAS, 21 percent of children without a reported formal mental health

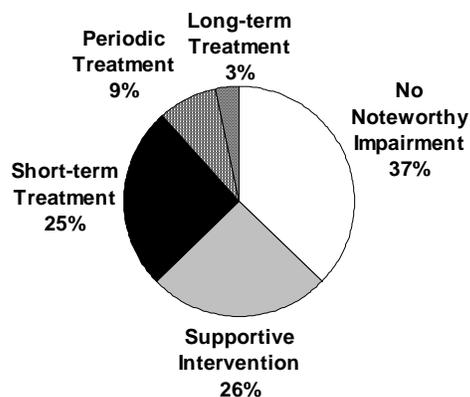
diagnosis scored a mild, moderate or severe impairment in any subscale. Many of the 6 percent of children who had a mental health diagnosis but rated as not impaired on the CAFAS might, in fact, have been functioning at that level because of the effectiveness of treatment, including medications, they were receiving as a result of the diagnosis.

Children with both formal mental health diagnosis and moderate or severe impairment in their daily living skills as measured by psychosocial functioning are considered seriously emotionally disturbed (SED) and at highest risk of future problems. Thirty-two percent of the children were so identified.

Moderate to Severe Impairment in Role Performance Compared with Diagnosis 2003 CAFAS (n=292)



Overall Level of Service Needed 2003 CAFAS (n=280)



Overall, the CAFAS total scores indicated the following treatment needs for the sample population of children and youth in state care: 26 percent, supportive intervention; 25 percent, short-term treatment (up to 6 months); 9 percent, periodic treatment over a 6-24 month period; and 3 percent, long-term

treatment (one to five years). This indicates a significant proportion of children needing specialized and long-term care.

2004 CPORT Reviews

In late 2003 the CPORT protocol was revised, and in 2004 case reviewers were trained on the new protocol as well as system changes.

Three training workshops were conducted to train TCCY staff and external reviewers on the CALOCUS and two CPORT modified training workshops were conducted in Nashville on January 27-28, 2004.

The 2004 CPORT reviews began February 9, 2004, and as of June 30, 2004, 230 cases had been reviewed, encompassing six of the 12 Department of Children's Services regions.¶

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 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 2003-04, 2,434 community representatives and professionals were 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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Rodger Jowers
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Elaine Williams
South Central Council
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(931) 381-2053 (fax)
Elaine.Williams@state.tn.us

Marilyn Davis
Southeast Council
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(423) 634-3094 (Fax)
Marilyn.Davis@state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Diane Wise
1233 Southwest Avenue, Extension
Johnson City, TN 37604
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E-mail: Diane.Wise@state.tn.us

Northeast Tennessee Council Membership

The Northeast Council had 259 members representing the eight counties in the region: Carter, Greene, Hancock, Hawkins, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington.

Northeast Tennessee Council Officers

President	Holly Hardin, Camelot Care, Inc
Past President	Bob Larkins, Sullivan County Juvenile Court, Division II
Vice President	Sandi Fisher, Northeast Tennessee Community Services Agency
President Elect	Kathy Bailey, Northeast Tennessee Community Services Agency
Secretary	Mandy Hooven, Sullivan County Juvenile Court, Division II
Treasurer	Judy Holden, Northeast Tennessee Regional Health Office

Northeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Legislative	Amy Harris, Tennessee Department of Children's Services Julie Trent-Mayes, Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Juvenile Justice	Sharon Stover, Johnson City Juvenile Court
Child and Family	Kathy Bullen, Unicoi County Schools
Membership/Nominating	Terry Henson, Carter County Health Department
Hospitality/Public Relations	Linda Holden, Sullivan County Schools
Regional Advocacy	Ann Shepard, Tennessee Department of Health

Northeast Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

September 26, 2003	Methamphetamine Labs Awareness Training
December 5, 2003	STDS: More Bugs, More Problems
February 13, 2004	Youth Villages and the Crisis Team
May 21, 2004	Legislation of the 103 rd General Assembly

Northeast Tennessee Council Special Events

October 27, 2003	Training for the Trainer of Parenting Training Programs
November 14, 2003	Risky Behavior is Risky Business Seminar
February 6, 2004	Breakfast for Our Legislators
March 16-17, 2004	16 th Annual Children's Advocacy Days
April 30, 2004	Teen Suicide Prevention: Risks, Response and Resources

Northeast Tennessee Council Award

The 2004 Child Advocate of the Year Award was presented to State Representative Robert Patton.

East Tennessee Council on Children and Youth

Coordinator: Robert E. Smith
531 Henley Street, Suite 735
Knoxville, TN 37902
Phone: (865) 594-6658
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E-mail: Robert.E.Smith@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	Amy Dilworth, Tennessee Protection and Advocacy
President-Elect	George Gorghas, Knox County Juvenile Court
Secretary	Marsha Boran, Tennessee Voices for Children

East Tennessee Council Committees

Executive Committee	Amy Dilworth, Tennessee Protection and Advocacy
Nominating Committee	Cynthia Hudson, Knox County Health Department
Legislative Committee	Tannis Duncan, Sevier County Schools, Special Education
Membership Committee	Patricia Pearson, East Tennessee Community Services Agency
Juvenile Justice/ Education	Amy Dilworth, Tennessee Protection and Advocacy Committee

East Tennessee Council Meetings

September 3, 2003	Child and Family, Inc. Programs and Services
November 5, 2003	Knox County Teen Assessment Project
December 3, 2003	“Celebrate the Holidays” Social and Networking
January 7, 2004	Helen Ross McNabb Children’s Programs
February 4, 2004	Knox County Juvenile Court Services
March 5, 2004	Youth Villages Programs and Services
May 5, 2004	Tennessee Protection and Advocacy Programs and Services

East Tennessee Council Special Events

October 1, 2003	Mental Illness Awareness Week
April 16, 2004	Juvenile Justice Forum. “Methamphetamine for First Responders”

Regional Coordinator: Marilyn Davis
540 McCallie Avenue, Suite 643
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Phone: (423) 634-6210
Fax: (423) 634-3094
E-mail: Marilyn.Davis@state.tn.us

Southeast Tennessee Council Membership:

The Southeast Council has 410 members representing the 10 counties in the region:
Bledsoe, Bradley, Grundy, Hamilton, McMinn, Marion, Meigs, Polk, Rhea and Sequatchie.

Southeast Council Officers:

President: Dorthy Stephens
Fortwood Center
Vice President: Jeanne Bille
Health Dept/Hamilton Co.
Secretary: Dalton E. Mook
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Treasurer: Jamie Bergmann
United Way

Hiwassee Council Officers:

President: Carolyn Gibbon
Regional Intervention Program
Vice President: Denese Williams
Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Secretary: Jim Wille
Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland
Legislative: Tim Tatum
Bradley County Schools
Legislative: Liesl Martz
Hiwassee Mental Health
Hospitality: Lisa Wiley
Bradley Co. Juvenile Court
Public Relations: Shannon Bishop
Cleveland City Schools
Nominations/Awards: Sandra Falagan
Behavioral Medicine Center
Membership: Clark Graham
Rhea Co. Schools
Past President: Lisa Mantooth
American Red Cross of Bradley County

Southeast Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs:

Legislative: Max Hood, Hiwassee Mental Health Center
Public Relations: Hugh Reece, Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Hospitality: Cynthia Coleman, Fortwood Center
Nominations/Awards: Shula Yelliott, Volunteer Center
Membership: Frank Hill, Weed and Seed
Jennifer Jackson, Community Foundation.
Juvenile Justice/DMC: Bo Walker, Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults
Beverly McKeldin, Chattanooga Human Services./Child Care
Mental Health: Mary Beth Catanzaro, Hamilton County Juvenile Court
Stephanie Austin, Valley Hospital

Southeast Council and Hiwassee Council Meetings and Topics

Southeast Council: September 19, 2003	New Directions in DCS: Meet the new DCS Commissioner and Assistant Commissioner
Hiwassee Council: October 20, 2003	How to be an Effective Witness in Court Judge Deacon and D.A. Sandra Doneghy
SE Council: November 5, 2003	Methamphetamines Task Force U.S. Attorney's Office and DEA
SE Conference: January 14, 2004	M.L. King Children's Conference, Keynote Speaker: Dr. Douglas Wood, State Board of Education Panel Presentations and DMC
SE and Hiwassee: February 20, 2004	Legislative Planning Meeting
SE and Hiwassee: March 16-17, 2004	Children's Advocacy Days Met with legislators and disseminated information
Hiwassee Council: April 28, 2004	Issues & Changes in DCS Commissioner Viola Miller & Steve Hornsby, DCS Legal
SE Council: May 5, 2004	"SHOW ME U CARE" Children's Conference Keynote: Dr. Susan McGuire and Panel Presentations
Special Projects/Events: August 15, 2003 September 23, 2003 October 16, 2003 March 26, 2004 March 31, 2004 April 3, 2004 April 15, 2004	Co-Sponsored Child Care Hearings, Rep. Tommie Brown CPORT Exit Conference, SE Region Sponsored foster children at Christmas in Santa for All Seasons Project Sponsored a child at a Recognition Banquet for American Family Institute Co-Sponsored the Domestic Violence Awareness Conference Co-sponsored Intensive Probation Christmas Party at Hamilton County Juvenile Court CPORT Exit Conference, Hamilton County Sponsored Grant Training, TCCY Participated in Mall Event for Child Abuse Prevention Month Co-sponsored Child Abuse Prevention Conference Organized a Foster Care Suitcase/Backpack Collection Project for Southeast and Hiwassee Councils Donation to Partnership for Families, Children and Adults Organized a Voter Registration Drive at Events

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Upper Cumberland Council Membership

The Upper Cumberland Council has 200 members representing the 14 counties in the region: Cannon, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Fentress, Jackson, Macon, Overton, Pickett, Putnam, Smith, Van Buren, Warren and White. Eighty agencies are represented.

Upper Cumberland Council Officers

President	Christy Nason, Eckerd Wilderness Educational System
President Elect	Jody Reecer, Advocacy Resources Corp. (ARC)
Secretary	Jody Roberts, Coordinator, Avalon Center
Treasurer	Randi Moser, Director, AmeriCorp
Past President	Charlene Hall, Families and Schools Together (FAST)

Upper Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Executive	Officers, Past President, and Chairpersons
Legislative	Cheri Richards, UC Community Services Agency
Youth Issues/Juvenile Justice	Terry Alley, Upper Cumberland Human Resource Agency Nathan Miller, Advocacy Resources Corp.
Early Childhood/Prevention	Louise Gorenflo, Rural Cumberland Resources Dr. Betty Vaudt, Upper Cumberland Child Care Resource Center
Membership/Nominating/ Hospitality	Charlene Leftwich, Parent Advocate and Charlene Hall

Upper Cumberland Council Meetings and Topics

October 24, 2003	Annual Networking Conference, "Bully/Victim Violence Prevention," Rodger Dinwiddie, STARS
November 14, 2003	Juvenile Justice Training, "A Community Approach to the Meth Crisis," Mike Steinmann and Lt. Gary Howard
February 13, 2004	"Children's Health Issues/Obesity," Dr. Barry Wagner
May 7, 2004	"Teen Suicide Prevention," Linda Dunlap and Scott Ridgway

Upper Cumberland Council Special Events

December 5, 2003	Upper Cumberland Legislative Networking Breakfast, Early Childhood/Child Care, Betty Vaudt and Wendy Polsky, Tennessee Early Childhood Training Association.
August 12, 2003	"Redirecting Children's Behavior Seminar," Bill Corbett

Upper Cumberland Council Award

Upper Cumberland 2004 Advocate of the Year Award was given to Jody Roberts, Children's Program Coordinator, Avalon Center, Crossville.

Coordinator: Jo Stanley

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Mid-Cumberland Council Membership

The Mid-Cumberland Council has 658 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 County Representatives

Cheatham and Robertson	Woody Burton, Robertson County Juvenile Court
Davidson	Doris Pell, Tennessee Voices for Children Michael Kirshner, Mental Health Cooperative
Dickson	Kim Stringfield, Jackson Academy, LLC
Houston	Camille Lashlee, Centerstone Mental Health Center
Humphreys	Annette Puckett, Humphreys County Juvenile Court
Montgomery	Monica Causey, Youth Villages Heather Hansen, Youth Villages
Rutherford	Cheryl Hultman, First Call for Help/United Way of Rutherford County
Stewart	Nancy Spiers, The Center for Teaching and Learning
Williamson	Betsy Adgent, Williamson County Juvenile Court
Wilson	Saranne Winfield, Wilson County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Joey Hunnicutt, Wilson County Youth Ranch

Mid-Cumberland Council Executive Officers

President	Michelle Covington, Centerstone-Luton Site
Past President	Kelley Binkley, TRAC, Inc.
Vice-President	Susanne Roy, Doral Dental
Secretary	Millie Sweeney, Tennessee Voices for Children
Treasurer	Patsy Sanford, Mid-Cumberland Community Services Agency

Mid-Cumberland Council Committees and Chairs

Child and Adolescent Health	Shawn LeMasters, Youth Villages
Child Welfare	Terri Lawson, Residential Services, Inc.
Juvenile Justice	Carol Wilkin, Mid-Cumberland Community Services Agency Jackson Routh, TeenPEACE

Legislative Amanda Lucas, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital
Jackie Bryant, Mid-Cumberland Community Services Agency

Mid-Cumberland Council Quarterly Meetings and Topics

September 29, 2003 Youth Gang Awareness Training – Presenters: Dede Shearon and Gary Dennis, Metro Nashville Police Department-Gang Unit

December 5, 2003 Why Kinship for Children? – Presenters: Elizabeth Black, Kinship Care Coordinator, Department of Children Services and Panel of Relative Caregivers

February 9, 2004 Perspectives on Today's Early Childhood Education, Youth, and Legislative Issues - Eleventh Annual Legislative Brunch – Presenters: State Representatives Beth Harwell, and Sherry Jones; and Dr. Douglas Wood, State Board of Education

May 21, 2004 Child Abuse: A Professional Response to Children in Need - Presenters: Christopher Greeley, M.D., Vanderbilt Medical Center; and Lisa Dupree, M.S.W., Our Kids Center

Mid-Cumberland Council Sponsored Events

September 5, 2003 Gallatin Business and Professional Women, Inc., "Reality Store"

October 28, 2003 Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare, Middle Region

December 12, 2003 Foster Children's Christmas Party, Dickson County Council

January 16, 2004 Davidson County CPORT Exit Conference

March 16-17, 2004 Children's Advocacy Days, War Memorial Auditorium, Nashville

March 26, 2004 Foster Children's Easter Egg Hunt, Dickson County Council

April 2, 2004 An Update on Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorders and Children and Youth Conference – Presenters: Robert Hunt, M.D., Center for Attention; Dorisann Pell, Tennessee Voices for Children; and Bev Adcock, Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee

April 13, 2004 Wilson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

May 8, 2004 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Celebration – Nashville Zoo at Grassmere

May 20, 2004 Tennessee Department of Children's Services - Montgomery County Foster Parents Appreciation Banquet

May 22, 2004 Tennessee Department of Children's Services - Sumner County Foster Parents Appreciation Banquet

June 1- 4, 2004 South Central Community Services Agency – Middle Tennessee Teen Institute

June 10, 2004 Mid-Cumberland CPORT Exit Conference

Mid-Cumberland Council Award

The Mid-Cumberland Council on Children and Youth's 2003 Child Advocate of the Year Award was presented to Dorisann Pell of Tennessee Voices for Children, Nashville.

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South Central Tennessee Council Membership

The South Central Tennessee Council 332 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.

South Central Tennessee Council Officers

President	Tabitha Steadman, EMT, IV, Lawrenceburg
Vice-President	Marlisa Wallace, South Central Community Services Agency, Columbia
Secretary/Treasurer	Patsy Espenschied, SCTDD, Summertown Verna Brown, Parent/Child Advocate, Hohenwald
Past President	Gerald Geho, Systems Services Group, Lawrenceburg

South Central Tennessee Council Committees and Chairs

Executive/Juvenile Justice	Tabitha Steadman, Council President
Legislative	Elizabeth West, Marshall County Youth Services Director
CARE Committee	Dana Simpson, Educational Consultant
Juvenile Justice	Chuck Huckaby, Workforce Investment Board

South Central Tennessee Council Meetings and Topics

August 6, 2003	Business meeting, Lawrenceburg. Topic: Planning for 2003-2004, Juvenile Justice Update and Interagency Update.
October 16, 2003	“Celebrating 20 Years of Service in South Central,” Columbia State Community College, Columbia. Topics: “Protecting Your Identity and Yourself,” “Methamphetamines.”
March 23, 2004	“Defending the Defenders, David Crockett State Park, Lawrenceburg, James McCune, Tennessee Children’s Home, Spring Hill, and Mr. Jenkins with Pre-paid Legal Services
June 22, 2004	Plans for 2004-2005, Columbia Seventh-day Adventist Church, Columbia.

Council Special Projects/Collaborative Efforts

September 2003	Collaborated with South Central Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network on regional plans for 2003-2004.
September-December 2003	“Shoebboxes for Christmas,” gifts for children and families in need.
October 30, 2003	Participated in Youth Summit co-sponsored by SCTCCY

November 2004	Sponsored the CPORT Exit Conference, Columbia
July 2003 – June 2004	Co-sponsored with Maury County Health Council the HEART (Health Education Awareness Relationship Team) program
October 2003 – Feb 2004	“Books for Kids” with Maury County Health Council.
October 2003 – Apr 2004	Resource Directory for African-Americans, Brenda Dawson.
January 29, 2004	Tennessee Coalition for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Conference held in Nashville.
January 30, 2004	Children’s Caucus in Nashville.
March 16-17, 2004	Children’s Advocacy Days, Nashville.
May 17, 2004	Senior Expo, Seniors working with at-risk youth, Columbia.
June 16, 2004	SCTCCY members participated in Children’s Caucus in Nashville.


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Northwest Council Membership

The Northwest Council has 226 members representing the nine counties in the region: Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion and Weakley.

Northwest Council Officers

President	Lori Hendon, Carey Counseling Center
Vice President	Bret Brooks, Northwest Community Services Agency
Secretary	Kris Moore, Youth Villages
Treasurer	Kim Stephenson, Carey Counseling Center

Northwest Council Committees and Chairs

Education/Prevention	Joyce Hale, Weakley County Alternative School Marilyn Goodman, Milan Special School District
Juvenile Justice	April Curlin, Martin Housing Authority Allen Webb, Benton County Juvenile Court
Legislative	Raymond Jenkins, Northwest Community Services Agency Joetta Yarbrow, Dyersburg Family Resource Center
Membership	Janie Alexander, Northwest Community Services Agency Eddy White, Dyer County Juvenile Court

Northwest Council Meetings and Topics

July 25, 2003	Protecting Your Identity and Yourself: What Every Professional and Citizen Should Know Conference
July 29, 2003	NW CPORT Exit Conference

September 16, 2003	Understanding Adolescents Conference: Can You Hear Me Now? NW Council was a co-sponsor of this event.
October 9, 2003	Life is a Journey: Get Ready for the Detours, Mid-West, TCSW Conference. NW Council was a co-sponsor.
November 7, 2003	Another Brick in the Wall: Gangs, Methamphetamines, and Abuse, The Impact on Children and the Classroom Conference and Provider Fair.
January 16, 2004	NW Council Legislative Forum and Breakfast
March 16-17, 2004	Child Advocacy Days. NW Council was a co-sponsor.
April 19, 2004	METHodolgy: Defining a Different View About Methamphetamines in the Community. NW Council was a co-sponsor.
April 28-29, 2004	Applied Suicide Intervention and Skills Training (ASIST)

Northwest Council Special Events

October 2003	Red Ribbon Week Bookmark Project: Bookmarks were purchased and distributed to all NW 8th grade students.
December 2003	NW Council sponsored three children at Christmas.
April 2004	Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month: Cookie/goody baskets were made and delivered to 30 agencies.



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Southwest Council Membership

The Southwest Council has 185 members, representing the 11 counties of the region: Chester, Decatur, Fayette, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Lauderdale, McNairy, Madison, and Tipton.

Council Leadership

Chairperson	Jonathan Searcy, West Tennessee Children’s Home
Vice Chairperson	Jimmie Trice-Baylor, Southwest Community Services Agency
Treasurer	Janis McCall, Citizen Advocate
Secretary	OPEN

Council Meetings and Events

July 29-30, 2003	Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training – co-hosted by SWCCY
July 31, 2003	Summit on Truancy Prevention for Southwest Tennessee: Crafting a Local Response

October 3, 2003	Children's Health Coordination Videoconference, co-hosted by SWCCY
October 6, 2003	Children's Needs During the Region's Disaster Recovery: A Focus Group
November 7, 2003	Show Me U Care: Communities Caring for Every Child's Mental Health
February 6, 2004	Children's Health Coordination Videoconference, co-hosted by SWCCY
March 5, 2004	Child Welfare in Southwest Tennessee, CPORT Results 2004
March 16-17, 2004	Children's Advocacy Days
April 19, 2004	METHodology: A Different Perspective on Methamphetamine

Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council

Coordinator: Gwendolyn Wright
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 Memphis, TN 38103
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Memphis/Shelby County Council Membership

The Memphis/Shelby County Children and Youth Council has 224 members representing Memphis and Shelby County.

Memphis/Shelby County Officers

President	Barry Mitchell, Memphis/Shelby County Juvenile Court
President-Elect	Kelli Grissom, Memphis Child Advocacy Center
Secretary	Jacqueline King, Porter Leath Children's Center
Treasurer	Vince Robertson, Memphis/Shelby County Community Services Agency

Memphis/Shelby County Committees and Chairs

Prevention	Marsha Ewart, University of Tennessee Boling Center
Youth and Juvenile Justice	Henrietta Jones, Senior Services
Legislative	Bobbie Thompson, Department of Human Services
Executive	Barry Mitchell, Memphis/Shelby County Juvenile Court

Memphis/Shelby County Meetings and Topics

August 26, 2003	Recognizing the Signs of Changing Times: Advocacy, Teens, Drugs and Violence
November 19, 2003	The Link Between Race and Special Education
February 24, 2004	Unmet Needs of Children of Prisoners
May 25, 2004	The Threat of Methamphetamines in Memphis

Memphis/Shelby County Council Events

December 3, 2003	Annual Legislative Reception
January 27, 2004	Workshop: Empathy
February 28, 2004	Love Shouldn't Hurt: Mini-Conference on Relationship Violence

May 10, 2004

Workshop: Appropriate Use of Consequences

Memphis/Shelby County Council Award

There were no nominees for the Mary F. Todd Advocacy Award. ¶¶



Information Dissemination

KIDS COUNT Project Publications

The Tennessee KIDS COUNT Project is part of a national effort to track the status of children throughout the United States. 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 2003-04 included *The Rural South: Listening to Families in Rural Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee*, and the national *KIDS COUNT Kids Count Data Book 2004*.

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 52-page abbreviated report produced in fiscal year 2003-04 presented data on 33 indicators of child well-being. The report included an essay, entitled "Ready for Success," described the foundation needed in order for a child to succeed. Indicators that were included in the publication are:

- ✓ TennCare;
- ✓ Prenatal Care;
- ✓ Low-Birthweight Babies;
- ✓ WIC;
- ✓ Infant Mortality;
- ✓ Teen Pregnancy and Birth;
- ✓ Sexually Transmitted Diseases;
- ✓ Child Abuse;
- ✓ Children in State Custody;
- ✓ Child Death;
- ✓ Teen Violent Death;
- ✓ Juvenile Court Referrals;
- ✓ Child Care;
- ✓ Head Start;
- ✓ Education;
- ✓ Special Education;
- ✓ High School Dropouts;
- ✓ School Lunches;
- ✓ Unemployment



- ✓ Families First;
- ✓ Food Stamps;
- ✓ Housing Costs;
- ✓ Population.
- ✓

The data sources for *The State of the Child in Tennessee* were the Tennessee departments of Children’s Services, Education, Employment Security, Health, and Human Services; the TennCare Bureau; the Tennessee Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Business and Economic Research Center, Middle Tennessee State University; the Business and Economic Research Center, University of Tennessee; the Tennessee Housing Development Agency, the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the Tennessee Department of Revenue, Tennessee State Special Schools; other state agencies; and various state and national reports.

The Rural South Listening to Families in Rural Alabama, Kentucky, and Tennessee was a collaborative effort with the KIDS COUNT projects in Alabama and Kentucky. The publication focused on qualitative data from focus groups, and quantitative data sets that were comparable across the three states. Quotes from focus group participants illustrated the struggles that rural families have in dealing with daily life in providing for their families. Participants shared specific concerns regarding an increase in drug use and availability and a lack of after school programs. The greatest issue across the three states was the lack of jobs that pay a living wage and that provide benefits such as health insurance.

National *KIDS COUNT Data Book*

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 43rd in overall cumulative rankings when compared with other states in the 2004 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 2003-04, TCCY made its newsletter available on its website.

The first 2003-04 issue of *The Advocate* was released in October 2003 and focused on family literacy program in Tennessee and other information on family literacy.

A November 2003 issue of *The Advocate* reported the results of TCCY-funded study of disproportionate minority confinement. The study included results from interviews with court staff and an evaluation of records.

The May 2004 issue of *The Advocate* was focused the CPORT evaluation. The final edition of the year, which was published in June 2004, reported on the findings of the *KIDS COUNT: The State of the Child in Tennessee*.

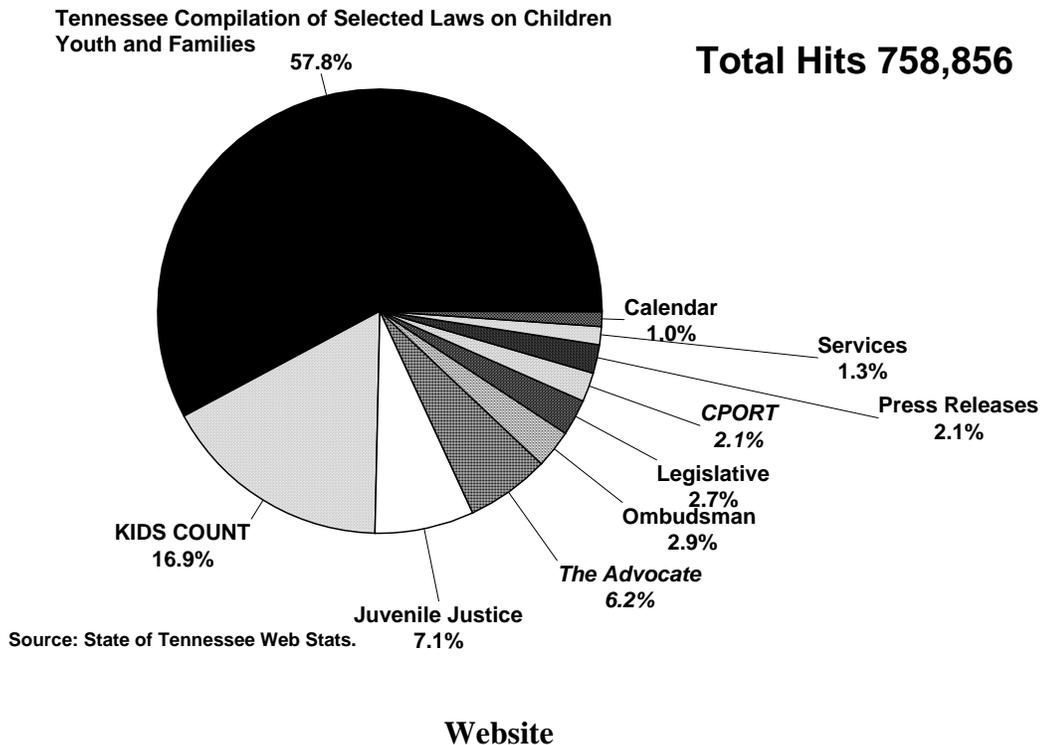
The newsletters also included events of interest to child advocates and reports from TCCY's regional councils.

Electronic Access to Data

Tennessee KIDS COUNT data were provided on the Internet during the fiscal year 2003-04 on the Tennessee Department of Health's Health Information Tennessee (HIT) website. The HIT site provided access to *The State of the Child* data for Internet users who wish to use an interactive process to produce graphs and maps for specific indicators and demographic areas. TCCY also made the information available on the agency's website at <http://www.tennessee.gov/tccy/>, and the National KIDS COUNT CLIKS site at <http://www.aecf.org/cgi-bin/cliiks.cgi>. The KIDS COUNT CLIKS site houses information for all 95 Tennessee counties on 31 indicators, with the option to map, graph, or summarize data. CLIKS gives the user an opportunity to compare data across the 50 states, Washington D.C. and the Virgin Islands.

TCCY Web Statistics

Top 10 Visited Areas FY 2003-04

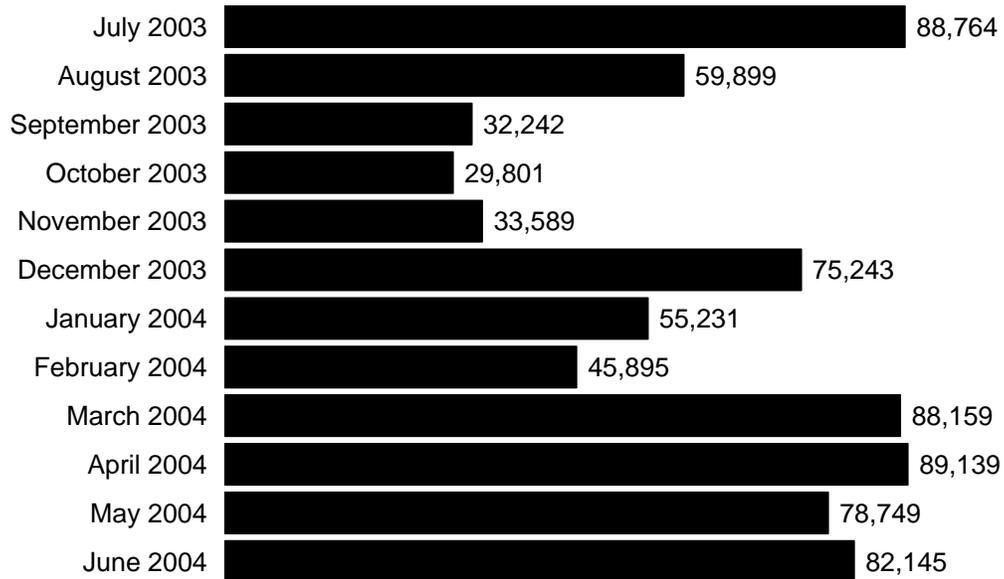


During the fiscal year 2003-04, the TCCY website included information about all of the Juvenile Justice funds available, the Children’s Program Outcome Review Team (CPORT) report, *KIDS COUNT The State of the Child in Tennessee*, and *The Advocate*. All of the publications on the website were in pdf format so they can be reproduced as a replica of the hard copy publications. 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 2003-04, 758,856 visits to the site were recorded, a monthly average of 63,238 hits

TCCY Web Statistics

Average Monthly Hits
63,238

Fiscal Year 2003-2004



Source: State of Tennessee Web Stats.



Ombudsman Program

The Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's (TCCY) Ombudsman, in the Juvenile Justice Unit, acts as an impartial reviewer of concerns, issues, and complaints pertaining to children in state custody (foster care system) and in kinship care (relative caregiver) program. As an independent and neutral reviewer, the ombudsman is a public servant who advocates for the well-being of children, adequate family support, and appropriate delivery of services. The ombudsman program does not seek problem resolution or mediate 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 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 for FY 2003-2004 is included at the end of this summary.

Upon initial contact, the ombudsman will determine if the referent has sufficiently attempted to resolve his or her problem through normal administrative channels. The ombudsman program is not designed or intended to supersede any existing complaint and grievance mechanisms established within the custodial department or other agencies providing 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 valid reasons to depart



from normal administrative systems or have been reasonably dissatisfied with the outcome of their query, the ombudsman may accept the referral as an open 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.

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 in 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.

Referrals related to the referent's misunderstanding or mistrust of the 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.

Upon resolution of the referral, the ombudsman conducts, if necessary, follow-up interviews. The intent of these follow-up contacts is to determine satisfaction with Ombudsman services, answer additional or remaining questions, and confirm adherence to or compliance with the agreed-upon resolution of the original problem(s) or issue(s).

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, since 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 ensuring unconditional, thorough and expeditious service delivery. 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

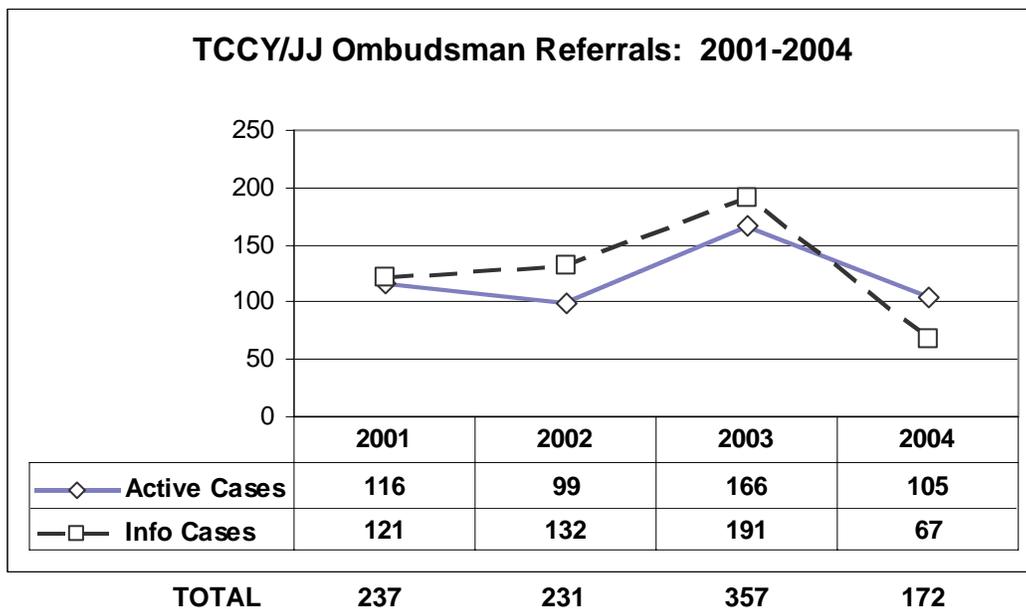
concerned with the plight of a child in the foster care system or relative caregiver program. Referrals must involve conditions or situations that may adversely affect the health, safety, welfare, or rights of children and youth. The ombudsman assumes various roles that include:

- ✓ 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; and
- ✓ An arbiter or facilitator expediting timely delivery of services.

During fiscal year 2003-04, the ombudsman office recorded 172 referrals. From this figure, 105 referrals were regarded as Active Cases while 67 referrals were categorized as Information-Only Cases. To date, a total of 157 referrals were closed, and 15 referrals (Active Cases) remained opened.

The breakdown of Active Cases (N=105) are as follows:

1) Gender	Male	58		
	Female	47		
2) Referral Source	Mother	35	Foster Parent	14
	Father	4	Service Provider	4
	Grandparent	14	Legislator	6
	Relative	10	Nonprofit/public Agency	10
	Child/Youth/Friend	8		



How to find an Ombudsman:

www.state.tn.us/tccy/ombuds.html
 1-800-264-0904 ☎

Title VI

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 states:

No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance. (Public Law 88-352, Title VI, § 601, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 252.)

As an administrator and recipient of federal funds, it is the intent of 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, 2003, to June 30, 2004, there was one complaint reported to TCCY regarding alleged discrimination on the grounds laid out in Title VI implementation plan. The agency's Title VI coordinator is investigating the complaint. A report of the results of the investigation will be submitted upon completion of the investigation.

Specific Title VI-related activities during fiscal year 2003-04 included the following:

- ✓ 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, 2004.
- ✓ The 2004 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 Chattanooga, Knoxville, Memphis, and 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.
- ✓ Updated the Title VI Self Survey.
- ✓ Investigating Title VI complaint filed by a Tennessee citizen. 🏠