



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
COUNCIL ON CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH**

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Council on Children's Mental Health  
February 22, 2018  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Midtown Hills Police Precinct  
1443 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37208

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Attendees:**

Anna Arts	Rachel Hauber	Pragati Singh
Sheila Barrera	Cheri Holzbacher	Julie Smith
Whitney Barrett	Brittney Jackson	Sara Smith
Justine Bass	Cheryl Johnson	Natasha Smith
Carole Beltz	Sumita Keller	Garrett Sparlin
Kathy Benedetto	Richard Kennedy	Denise Stewart
Amy Blackwell	Toni Lawal	Roger Stewart
Hope Bond	Kisha Ledlow	Noelle Suarez-Murias
Cory Bradfield	Melissa McGee	Wendy Sullivan
Jeremy Breithaupt	Elizabeth McInerney	Justin Sweatman-Weaver
Quan Burkeen	Terra Miller	Heather Taylor-Griffith
Amy Campbell	Latasha Mitchell	Vicki Taylor
Sarah Cooper	Jerri Moore	Jerresha Tinker
Carl Counts	Kelli Mott	Shannon Tolliver
Susan Dominick	Jessica Mullins	Eric Valinor
Brenda Donaldson	Jill Murphy	Joseph Valinor
Cathy Dyer	Ashley Newton	Keri Virgo
Anjanette Eash	Frank Ogilvie	Will Voss
Nikki Edney	Amy Olson	Don Walker
Kendall Elsass	Linda O'Neal	Zanira Whitfield
Stephanie Etheridge	Matthew Parriott	Alysia Williams
Cory Farley	Julie Pearce	Briana Williams
Brittany Farrar	Steve Petty	Lygia Williams
Laritha Fentress	Taylor Phipps	Marie Williams
Chelsea Fite	Lisa Ragan	Jules Wilson
Deanna French	Kathy Rogers	Tammy Wilson
Kim Fyke-Vane	Mary Rolando	TeShena Woods
Debra Grange	Kara Rymar	Matt Yancey
Rikki Harris	Jan Schneider	Kinika Young

**I. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements – Linda O’Neal, Executive Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TCCY) and Marie Williams, Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS)**

- O’Neal called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. She welcomed everyone and thanked McGee for her work with CCMH, Commissioner Williams and TDMHSAS for the wonderful partnership. O’Neal gave a brief background on the Council and thanked everyone for making attendance a priority.
- O’Neal addressed housekeeping matters for the meeting before moving through the agenda. She thanked SGT. Jones and the staff at the Midtown Hills Police Precinct. O’Neal reminded attendees to sign in as the sign-in sheet is essential for reporting requirements related to the federal System of Care grant. She also asked attendees to complete a Conflict of Interest form if they have not already done so. O’Neal then asked for participants to introduce themselves.
- Kinika Young announced Insure Our Kids! Campaign to raise public awareness of TennCare and CoverKids and connect families to enrollment assistance. Contact Anna Walton at [awalton@tnjustice.org](mailto:awalton@tnjustice.org) to get involved or to register for the first training webinar on March 8<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.
- Virgo announced Brenda Donaldson has been named the Program Manager for Family Engagement with TDMHSAS.
- Alysia Williams announced the National Adoption Competency Mental Health Training Initiative will conduct a free 25-hour web-based training from March to September. She said Tennessee was one of nine pilot sites selected to be trained on 10 core competencies to address the complex mental health needs of children experiencing adoption and guardianship. They are seeking to enroll 500 mental health professionals who work with adopted children and adoptive and guardianship families. Go to [www.adoptionsupport.org/nti](http://www.adoptionsupport.org/nti) to enroll.
- Heather Taylor-Griffith reported in January 2018, AIMHiTN assembled a team that included state agencies to submit a proposal to the Zero to Three in an effort to receive technical assistance and identify strategies to improve mental health assessment and treatment of very young children. Tennessee was selected, along with 9 other states and the District of Columbia, to go to Minnesota in May to talk about strategies to align healthcare finance policy with infant and early childhood mental health services. Tennessee will receive ongoing technical assistance to tackle barriers and explore innovative strategies for expanding financing opportunities for mental health services for infants, toddlers, and their families.
- Will Voss announced the Fourth Annual SpeakUp5K race to be in Nashville at Warner Park on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The event is in honor of Cameron K. Gallagher, a teenager who struggled with depression and anxiety and wanted to give a voice to youth quietly battling mental health challenges.
- O’Neal announced the 30th Annual Children's Advocacy Days, including a gubernatorial candidates forum on children's issues, will be held March 13-14, 2018 at War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. The event is free, but you must register at

<https://cad2018.eventbrite.com>. The theme is “Children’s Advocacy in Concert.” Dr. Matt Timm will be the recipient of the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award.

## II. Approval of Meeting Summary

- O’Neal thanked Natasha Smith of TCCY for preparing the meeting summary for the CCMH meetings.
- **Motion to accept the October 19, 2017 meeting summary for CCMH (DYER) MOTIONED (HARRIS) SECONDED, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## III. Tennessee Together: Ending the Opioid Crisis – Marie Williams, Commissioner, Matthew Parriott, Director of Communication and Noelle Suarez-Murias, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

- Williams said she was honored to be at the meeting and asked if anyone watched the town hall meeting about the recent school shooting with the parents, teachers and students. Those who had watched commented on the passion and unyielding will to make a difference. Williams said these students came with facts, support from others, and financial backing.
- She reminded the audience of Margaret Mead’s quote, “*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.*” Williams share a story about the man who survived jumping off of a bridge in San Francisco. The man shared in an interview afterwards that there were missed opportunities throughout the day to simply ask him if he was okay.
- On January 22, 2018, Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam announced the TN Together plan to address opioid addiction. TN Together is a multi-faceted plan, comprised of legislation, \$30 million of state and federal funding through Governor Haslam’s proposed 2018-19 budget, and other executive actions to attack the state’s opioid epidemic through three major components: Prevention, Treatment and Law Enforcement. Williams reported Speaker Beth Harwell, Deputy Governor Jim Henry, Commissioner Dreyzehner, and other Commissioners were on the Governor’s special commission charged with creating a plan.
- Williams reported that TDMHSAS clients are the uninsured, not the insured. She also shared there are three Tennesseans a day dying from opioid’s addiction, while 317,647 Tennesseans, ages 12 and over, were estimated to use heroin and/or misuse opioid pain relievers in 2016.
- In an effort to prevent opioid addiction, the Governor’s plan uses reasonable limits, decreases supply and dosage of prescription opioids with emphasis placed on new patients - initial prescriptions will be limited to a five-day supply, with daily dosage amounts also limited.
- Williams said most people who have been prescribed a 30-day supply of opioids usually do not finish the bottle and research reported from Commissioner Dreyzehner, Tennessee

Department of Health, after five days, the probability of becoming addicted to opioids goes up.

- The plan also increases prevention education for elementary and secondary schools through revisions to the state's health education academic standards, implements a public awareness campaign to raise awareness about the potential dangers of opioid use, and provides resources and support to those struggling with addiction.
- The plan also establishes a special commission to formulate current, evidenced-based pain and addiction medicine competencies for adoption at medical and health practitioner schools of education and creates a collaborative of health care stakeholders to study, formulate and implement best practices around pain management.
- The treatment and recovery strategy provides a significant investment in treatment and recovery services for individuals with opioid use disorder, expands staffing of peer recovery specialists in targeted, high-need emergency departments, supplies naltrexone in the state's recovery courts and through a voluntary county jail treatment pilot, improves data access and sharing to better and more timely identify critical hotspots for targeting resources and to increase information about patient and community risks, creates a statewide public/private treatment collaborative to collectively and collaboratively serve Tennesseans who are struggling with opioid addiction and expands residential treatment and services for opioid dependence within the criminal justice system. The strategy also provides incentives to non-violent offenders to complete intensive substance use treatment programs while incarcerated and establishes three recovery compliance courts (one in each grand division) to facilitate accountability in recovery support services for offenders.
- Williams shared a *Seeing the Beauty of Recovery* video with Jason Goodman, Lifeline Region 2, Knoxville/East Tennessee where he shares his success story about the program.
- Williams stated state funding will be added to attack the illicit sale and trafficking of opioids through additional law enforcement agents and training. There will also be updates to the controlled substance schedules to better track, monitor and penalize the unlawful distribution and use of dangerous and addictive drugs while providing every Tennessee state trooper with naloxone for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose prior to paramedic arrival.
- Parriott reported on the media campaign for TN Together, including a statewide campaign on television, digital and social media to reduce the stigma, elicit collective action, inspire innovative approaches, increase access to treatment and prevent further opioid misuse. The target date is March 1<sup>st</sup>. The national takeback date for unused opioids is April 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Parriott shared another TN Together video from YouTube. He then talked about the Teen PSA Contest that began Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. They want teens to learn more about the issue, talk about it with their peers, develop messages that will resonate with teen audience, produce short videos (about 30 seconds), and submit them to [TNtogetherContest.com](http://TNtogetherContest.com).
- Teens age 13-19 and enrolled in school or home schooled are eligible to participate. There will be four winners chosen and they will be featured in the media and go viral in paid Facebook ads. TN Together PSA Contest Promo link is

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0Wnbb4GotI>. The contest ends April 11<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at [tntogether.com](http://tntogether.com).

- Tennessee REDLINE for alcohol, drug, problem gambling, and other addiction information and referrals to all citizens of Tennessee is 800-889-9789.

#### **IV. Legislative Update – Steve Petty, Youth Policy Advocate, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth**

- Petty praised Commissioner Williams for the work she has done to date to help the children and families of Tennessee. He reviewed bills from this session, highlighted the ones TCCY supports and fielded any questions requiring further explanation.

#### **V. System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) Evaluation – Don Walker, Lead Evaluator and Keri Virgo, SOCAT Director, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services**

- Walker mentioned at the last meeting in October, SOCAT had not enrolled anyone, but is excited to report progress with enrollments and service implementation.
- Virgo reported seven new sites have come on board for year two:
  - Clay County – Tennessee Voices for Children
  - Cocke County – Tennessee Voices for Children
  - Decatur County – Tennessee Voices for Children
  - DeKalb Count – Mental Health Cooperative
  - Johnson County – Frontier Health
  - Meigs County – Volunteer Behavioral
  - Tipton County – Professional Care Services
- Virgo also announced upcoming Intro to Wraparound training with 50 slots available, including SOCAT sites and community partners.
- Walker said SOCAT is in the process of building infrastructure through policy changes, workforce development and initiation and participation in community partnerships and collaborations.
- To date, SOCAT has served 23 children, youth and young adults in the four pilot county sites – Madison, Coffee, Putnam and Sevier.
- Virgo shared the website – [www.SOCacrossTN.org](http://www.SOCacrossTN.org).
- Matt Yancey, Deputy Commissioner – TDMHSAS, asked Virgo to share the benefit of SOCAT. Virgo said SOCAT currently offers care coordination using a wraparound approach for young children, children, youth, and young adults and their families. SOCAT providers serve children and youth between ages 0-21 years with the highest needs and who are experiencing emotional or behavioral concerns that affect their daily life, like having trouble in school, with their family, with peers or adults, with law enforcement, or children's services and/or having difficulty or is at-risk of being kicked out of pre-school,

child care, school, home, etc., through a high fidelity wraparound process. Most of their clients served have been, are currently, or are at-risk of psychiatric hospitalization, residential placement, or DCS custody.

- Parriott encouraged those who are working with SOCAT to find families willing to film their success stories for the website.

## **VI. System of Care Across Tennessee (SOCAT) Evaluation – Lessons Learned – Amy Campbell, Nikki Edney and Beth McInerney, Centerstone Research Institute**

- Campbell explained the purpose of the SOCAT evaluation is to support local communities in the development of strong systems of care that meet the needs of families in their communities, learn about the experiences of children and caregivers who participate in systems of care, and assist the State in understanding what is happening in local communities, and with families, children, youth, and young adults receiving services.
- The objectives of the SOCAT evaluations are to assess quality of services to improve outcomes, provide data for statewide SOCAT reform, data-driven decision-making, develop systems to ensure quality data, share best practices and lessons learned, ensure accountability and monitoring at state level, support these efforts at local levels and document infrastructure changes associated with SOCAT.
- Campbell provided an overview of the findings at the national level. Leadership characteristics included multiple system and family leaders, collaboration across key systems, understanding of finance systems, cultural awareness, competence, and respect. The responsibilities were shared vision, common values and principles, simultaneous “bottom up” and “top down” strategies for change, and timely and appropriate training and technical assistance.
- She reported partnerships, collaboration, and stakeholder engagement at the national level focused on cultivating meaningful partnerships across systems, at multiple levels, and with diverse stakeholders. Campbell also highlighted families, youth, and young adults as being key partners and the importance of communication, conflict management, and healthy group dynamics.
- Infrastructure and sustainability at the national level established governance structure, recognized families and youth as full partners and utilized scientific evidence base. The importance of building a quality workforce, maximizing financing strategies like use of Medicaid, leveraging federal/state and philanthropic dollars, blending from multiple child-serving agencies and focusing on lower-cost services that meet clinical needs was also highlighted.
- Campbell stated we must focus on sustainability early and often.
- The next steps will be to add specific examples of other states and their successes aligned with these findings, finalize analysis of interviews with local Tennessee SOCAT experts, determine similarities and differences between national and state-level lessons learned, work with SOCAT Divisional Coordinators in local communities and develop a toolkit.

- Edney and McInerney led an activity with small group discussions on the characteristics of SOC leadership, infrastructure and stakeholder engagement and the critical components needed to be successful.

**VII. Council on Children’s Mental Health Financing and Community Engagement – Melissa McGee, CCMH Director, Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth**

- McGee led a community conversation about sustainability to continue the work being conducted and community engagement.
- There will be a financing workgroup interest teleconference will be Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. The local number for those in Middle Tennessee is 615-253-1557 or 888-741-7144.

**VIII. Future Meetings and Topics**

**2018 CCMH Meeting Dates:**

Thursday, April 5, 2018 – Midtown Hills Police Precinct

Thursday, June 21, 2018 – Midtown Hills Police Precinct

Thursday, August 16, 2018 -- TBD

Thursday, October 18, 2018 – Midtown Hills Police Precinct

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.

**Council on Children’s Mental Health Purpose Statement**

*Design a comprehensive plan for a statewide System of Care for children and families that is family-driven, youth-guided, community-based, and culturally and linguistically competent.*