

TN

Department of

Children's Services

Register NOW!

**FOSTER
PARENT
SPRING
CONFERENCE**

APRIL 27, 2024

Click [HERE](#) for
Full Brochure



APRIL

2024

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| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

Spring Conference!



- 3/21/24 [Understanding the Basics of FASD for Parents](#)
- 3/26/24 [Sexual Development: Ages 0 - 18 w/ the Sexual Assault Center](#)
- 3/26/24 [Brightspace Orientation for Provider Foster Parents](#)
- 3/28/24 [Raising a Child with ADHD](#)
- 3/28/24 [Trafficked Youth: Needs and Vulnerabilities](#)
- 4/2/24 [Foster Parents Nervous System and Social Engagement Seminar](#)
- 4/5/24 [Special Considerations: Substance Use](#)
- 4/9/24 [Foster Parents Nervous System and Social Engagement Seminar](#)
- 4/16/24 [Info about TN WIC Program](#)
- 4/25/24 [Building Strong Brains](#)
- 4/27/24 [2024 SPRING CONFERENCE](#)

**CALENDAR OF
LIVE TRAININGS**

CLICK HERE

CLICK HERE

**Foster
Parent
Training
Resources**

CLICK HERE

**Online
Trainings**

Court Appointed Special Advocates: Being a Voice for Children in Courts



A D V O C A T E

Friday, March 22, 2024
10:00 to 11:30 AM CST

AIMHiTN
Association of Infant Mental Health in Tennessee



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

March 26, 2024

Time: 5:30 - 7:00 pm CST / 6:30 - 8:00 pm EST

Child Sexual Development

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



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[Click here to register!](#)



Brightspace Orientation for Provider Foster Parents Training Announcement

About this Training

Brightspace is the new learning management system (LMS) for foster parents. With Brightspace, foster parents will be able to register for and access trainings, view training completion awards, and keep track of their training history. During this orientation to Brightspace, participants will learn how to:

- Access Brightspace from a web browser or Pulse app
- Reset passwords
- Manage profile and notification settings
- Locate and complete courses
- Participants will be given the opportunity to log into their Brightspace account

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Start Time (CST/EST)</u> | <u>Click below to join training</u> |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Tuesday, March 26 th | 6:00pm CST / 7:00pm EST | <u>Join Training</u> |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Audience:</u> Provider Foster Parents that will be using Brightspace. | <u>Training Credit:</u> 1.5 Hours |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|



Spotlight on Youth

Join program leaders from the DCS Independent Living program as they talk with youth who participate in the Independent Living program about their perspective and story! This is a unique opportunity for these young adults to share insight on what was helpful in their experiences with DCS, what some of their most challenging barriers were and how we as a community, can best support our youth. Please note: The intention of this session is to honor the story and perspective of the presenters, so the chat box will be closed.

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March 27, 2024 1-2PM CT or 2-3PM ET
April 18, 2024 10-11AM CT or 11-12AM ET

Date & Time

Link

March 27, 2024

1:00 - 2:00 pm CST

2:00 - 3:00 pm EST

[HERE](#)

April 18, 2024

10:00 - 11:00 am CST

11:00 - Noon EST

[HERE](#)



Raising a Child with ADHD

March 28, 2024

5:30-7:30pm CST

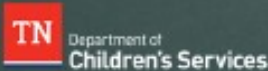
6:30-8:30pm EST

CLICK HERE



You're
Invited

Human Trafficking Education for Foster Parents



DCS has partnered with the Tennessee Counter-Trafficking Alliance (TCTA) to offer a series of training opportunities for foster parents who want to learn more about the impact of trafficking on our foster youth. These 2-Hour classes will fulfill your Human Trafficking Course Requirements.



Human Trafficking Overview

Objective: Provide an overview of human trafficking, vulnerabilities, identification, and local and state resources.

Thursday, March 28th

5:30pm-7:30pm CST

6:30pm-8:30pm EST

[Click Here To Register](#)

Coming!
Soon!

March 28th

Trafficked
Youth: Needs &
Vulnerabilities

April 27th

Crisis
Intervention &
Safety Planning

May 4th

Self-Care &
Building a
Network of
Support

June 22nd

Trauma
Bonding &
Trafficked
Youth



For more information contact:
bethany.henderson@tn.gov



Boost your engagement skills with a deeper understanding of the nervous system and the vagus nerve with Laurie Ellington!

2024 Masterclass Series



Laurie Ellington is the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Ancient Science, Inc., a leading-edge organization based on an Integrative NeuroSomatic® approach to growth and change. Laurie combines ancient wisdom teachings with findings from modern neuroscience, mind-body research, functional medicine, epigenetics, and quantum physics to help individuals, leaders, and organizations elevate the way they think, feel, and show up in the world.



| <u>Date/Time</u> | Click below to Register! |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| April 2, 2024 5:30 - 7:30 pm CST 6:30 - 8:30 pm EST | https://tn.webex.com/webex/register/r991df764f722caf526af6d20b73e1a5e |
| April 9, 2024 5:30 - 7:30 pm CST 6:30 - 8:30 pm EST | https://tn.webex.com/webex/register/rac0e1f34c2f4e13a91a0248ec548fe7a |

DCS PARENT REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Register as an Individual/Household for the conference.
2. Once registered, you will receive access to the conference resources page where you can find the participant guide, slides, attendance certificate, and more.
3. Following the conference, parents will complete and submit a short quiz to receive training credit:

Explore the principles of TBRI Connecting, TBRI Empowering, and TBRI Correcting.

This training meets TBRI and therapeutic training hours.

Parents will receive 6 hours of training credit for the first four modules. Module 5 is optional for parents.

Viewing Period
April 5 - June 30
2024

CLICK HERE

CHECK IT OUT



LOOK!



SHOW HOPE

HOPE
for the Journey
 CONFERENCE

Simulcast Launch:
Friday, April 5, 2024
8:00 am CST

CLICK HERE

AGENCY REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Show Hope has provided a 50% discount for private providers using code DCSSAVE on either organization size registration. You can register here.
2. Depending on your registration type, providers will receive one link to share with 15 or 30 families/households.
3. Following the Conference, parents will complete and submit a short quiz to receive training credit.

SPECIAL OFFER: FREE Access (\$199 Value) for Foster Parents



SAFE & SUPPORTIVE FAMILIES EXPO

40+ COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS
WILL BE ON HAND TO SUPPORT
YOU & YOUR FAMILY.

SATURDAY
APRIL 6
11AM - 1PM

American Way Middle School
3805 American Way Rd

Activities

- ✓ Door Prizes
- ✓ Giveaways
- ✓ Yoga
- ✓ Entertainment
- ✓ Grand Prizes

**April is National Child
Abuse Prevention Month**

**For more information, contact
(901) 416-6348**





Applying Infant Mental Health in Child Welfare Practice

Presented by Karisa Johns Smith, Psy.D. and Mindy Kronenberg, Ph.D., IECMH-E®

Training Dates and Topics: All times are 10:00 – 11:00 Central

April 5, 2024

Special Considerations: Substance Use

[CLICK HERE](#)

May 3, 2024

Special Considerations: Domestic Violence

[CLICK HERE](#)

June 7, 2024

Special Considerations: Neglect

[CLICK HERE](#)

ADDITUDE

Identifying Depression and Anxiety in Teens with ADHD



[CLICK HERE](#)

April 9, 2024

12:00 pm CST

1:00 pm EST

DCS CHILD WELFARE LEGAL SEMINAR WITH SUSAN KOVAC



Susan Kovac General Counsel Emerita

2024 VIRTUAL LUNCH AND LEARN SERIES

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Learn More about Legal Terminology in Child Welfare Cases</p> | <p>April 11, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT or 12:00 to 1:30 PM ET</p> | <p>Click here to register for April 11!</p> |
| <p>Child Welfare History in Tennessee</p> | <p>May 9, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM CT or 12:00 to 1:30 PM ET</p> | <p>Click here to register for May 9!</p> |



AUTISM AWARENESS IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM WITH VANDERBILT TRIAD SERVICES

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL CENTER

April is Autism Awareness Month! In order to raise awareness, DCS will host a webinar with Dr. Alexa Dixon and of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center's Treatment & Research Institute for Autism Spectrum Disorder (TRIAD) who will provide an overview about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), shed light on why children and youth with autism could be at risk for adversity, and will share ways to serve and engage children who are on the autism spectrum. Participants also can ask Dr. Dixon questions about ASD as well as learn about the services TRIAD offers.



April 22, 2022
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM CT or 2:00 to 3:30 PM ET

April 30, 2022
5:30 to 7:00 PM CT or 6:30 to 8:30 PM ET

[CLICK HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#)





Adoption Assistance Workshop

Join us for an informative workshop led by Josh Kroll, where we'll explore adoption assistance for children adopted from foster care. Whether you're a prospective parent eager to learn about available support or a parent seeking adjustments due to changes in your child's needs, this workshop is designed to provide valuable insights.

May 16, 2024: 6:00PM - 7:30PM CST/7:00pm - 8:30PM EST

Workshop Highlights:

- **Understanding Eligibility:** Learn about the criteria for adoption assistance.
- **Benefits Overview:** Explore the financial and practical benefits available to adoptive families.
- **Navigating Support:** Discover resources and services to help you and your child thrive.



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Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Learning Opportunity

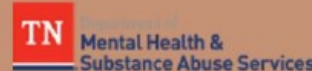
About this Learning Collaborative

The Regional Intervention Program (RIP) is a parent-implemented, professionally supported program for young children and their families who are experiencing challenging behaviors that is a program based in the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Please join members of the RIP team for this workshop about Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health! An infant, toddler and young child's mental health is every part as important as their physical health. Mental health matters for the growth and maturity of the brain and body and for the social and emotional development of a person — now and for the whole lifetime. Participants will be able to ask questions about ways to promote healthy mental health in young children!



May 21, 2024
5:30 to 7:00 PM
or 6:30 to 8:00 PM

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Healthy Outcomes from Positive Experiences (HOPE)

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



June 25, 2024
5:30 to 7:00 PM
or 6:30 to 8:00 PM

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Register Now



Respite Voucher

(Ages 0-18)

The Respite Voucher program helps caregivers whose children are diagnosed with Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) or with autism and SED pay for respite services.



Planned Respite

(Ages 2-15)

Planned Respite teaches caregivers how to find respite providers and to train those providers on how to care for their children. Planned Respite also gives caregivers some immediately-needed respite.



This specific respite care information is from the TN Dept. of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services and is not the same as DCS respite. Always speak to your FSW before planning respite.

For More Information

If you have concerns or need services for yourself, a child, or family member, contact our Helpline:

Phone: 800-560-5767

Email: OCA.TDMHSAS@tn.gov

Hours: Monday – Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (except for state holidays)

To learn more about **TDMHSAS respite programs** for children and youth, please contact:

Caty Davis

Assistant Director of School Based Initiatives

865-440-9792

Caty.Davis@tn.gov

Meet Ben!



Click [HERE](#) to see
Ben's Video

Ben is a cheerful and friendly young man. He enjoys talking with friends, being goofy, and laughing at jokes. Ben likes being outside, where he often makes up games for himself and runs around. He likes playing video games, making music, and looking at animals. Ben loves ice cream, pizza, meatball subs, and cupcakes. Ben likes having space to be himself and do his own thing, and he enjoys telling funny jokes or stories he's heard. He likes helping out and learning more about things he's interested in.

 **NAMI Tennessee**
National Alliance on Mental Illness



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

**STATE-WIDE
VIRTUAL**

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



**Federal
Communications
Commission**

Affordable Connectivity Program

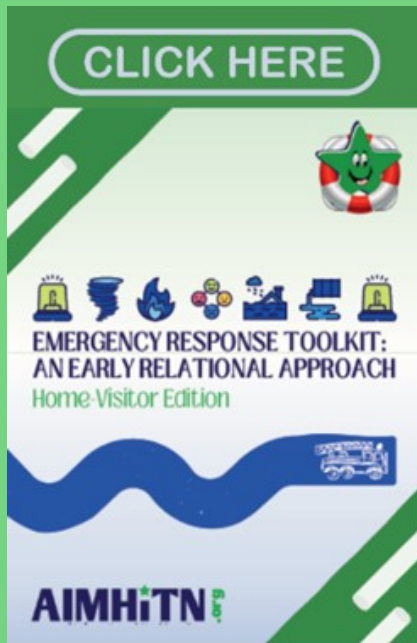
The Affordable Connectivity Program is an FCC benefit program that helps ensure that households can afford the broadband they need for work, school, healthcare and more.

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

 **Helping Households Connect**



RESOURCES



 **NAMI** | Tennessee
National Alliance on Mental Illness

**West, Middle, and
East TN Support
Groups, Affiliates,
and Additional
Resources**

Support Groups & Affiliates

CLICK HERE



Helpful Links

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