

Children's Mental Health



Be A Voice

April 2019



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Please contact info@tnvoices.org
with questions regarding
The Voice of Hope

mission

Tennessee Voices for Children provides leadership, advocacy, and hope to advance the emotional and behavioral well-being of children, young adults, and families.

core values

Family-Driven Services

Access to Services

Family Member/Caregiver Education

Lived Experience/Peer Support

Statewide Presence

Leadership through Collaboration



a letter from the CEO



Dear Friends,

The first few months of 2019 have been eventful to say the least! We have added 4 new members to our team across the state and launched new programming to further our mission and serve more children, youth, and young adults statewide.

As May quickly approaches, our whole team is gearing up to host and participate in Children's Mental Health Awareness Day (CMHAD) activities, campaigns, and community events in all 3 Grand Regions of the state. Part of the celebrations will include our very first fundraising event in Knoxville – Paint the Town Green! This night of fun will feature tacos, tequila tastings and a chance to really engage with our friends in East Tennessee in the work we do to support children's mental health. We are incredibly grateful to Chivo Taqueria and Village Behavioral Health for their platinum sponsorship of this event.

Celebrations aside, I'm constantly reminded of how dedicated our staff teams are who work with young people and families in their communities every day. I can confidently say our team goes above and beyond to meet families enrolled in services where they are. Recently, I learned about a family that we were serving in rural TN that had extreme barriers to accessing the care they needed. It literally took my breath away when I heard about the great lengths my staff were willing to go to meet the family's needs. It's this kind of dedication that makes TVC such a unique and committed organization.

Sincerely,

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Leadership

TVC Board Leadership Past and Present



Molly Rollins
Immediate Past President

Molly Rollins currently serves as Immediate Past President of the TVC Board of Directors. She has been a member of the Board since 2011. During her tenure, she has been a member of the Finance, Marketing, and Gala Planning Committees. She served as President on the TVC Board of Directors in 2017-18. Molly was honored with a Leadership Award in December 2018 at the end of her term as Board President.

Molly is a Nashville native, growing up in the Brentwood area. She is a graduate of Elon University, with a B.A. degree in History and Political Science. She is also a graduate of the Nashville School of Law. She and her husband, Steven, have three sons. Molly currently serves on the Board of Trustees at Currey Ingram Academy where her boys

attend school. Her interests include traveling and hiking with her family and volunteering with the Special Needs and Children's Ministry at her church.

TVC is grateful for the leadership and support Molly has provided for the past several years. Her commitment to the organization means a great deal to our staff, youth, and families across Tennessee.



Patrick Sims
Board President

Current Board President Patrick Sims will serve the organization from January 2019 to June 2020. Patrick is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones, a financial investment company. A graduate of Bellarmine University, Patrick earned his Bachelor's degree in Computer Information Systems with a minor in Business. For 13 years, he has served the finance and banking industry including previous roles as District Manager and Vice President of Private Banking.

Patrick is also Owner and Board Member of a long-term care facility in his home town of Paducah, Kentucky, a company owned and operated for 47 years by his family. His early life exposure to a culture of caring for others when they are in need has led him to many roles in service to his community. He has previously served as a Junior Achievement

Board Member, an Oasis volunteer, and past Kiwanis member. For the last three years, he has served TVC as a volunteer, donor, and board member. From chairing our very first Green Ribbon Gala in 2016, Board Member in 2017, President-Elect in 2018, and currently 2019/2020 President, Patrick has been an anchor in our success. Previous board president, Bill Kirby, honored Patrick with TVC's 2017 President's Award for his outstanding level of involvement with TVC events, fundraising, and growth.

In his free time, he enjoys playing on his community kickball team in Germantown, and spending time on the lake with his partner, Chad James.

We are confident that Patrick's leadership and guidance will continue to shape a successful future for TVC.

Making strides

32nd Annual Research & Policy Conference



In early March, Tennessee Voices for Children (TVC) staff were able to travel to Tampa, FL to attend the 32nd Annual Research & Policy Conference of Child, Adolescent and Youth Adult Behavioral Health – also known as the “Tampa Conference”. This opportunity aims to encourage researchers, evaluators, policymakers, those

running family organizations, as well as community and family groups interested in, and stimulated to, creatively solve the issues facing the country’s most challenged children and their families. At this year’s conference, TVC staff attended a variety of sessions that were part of specialty tracks including Behavioral Health Equity, Child Welfare, Evidence-Based Practice in Systems of Care, Family Engagement, Institute for



Transitional Research Education in Adolescent Drug Abuse, Innovations in Wraparound, and Youth and Young Adults.

In partnership with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS), TVC staff presented Enhancing Young Adult Leadership and Parent Leadership Abilities at the conference poster session. This presentation focused on how a two-day Peer Leadership Academy hosted by TVC and TDMHSAS successfully empowered young adults and Family Support Specialists (FSS) by strengthening leadership and advocacy skills. The poster displayed the positive outcomes reported by the Peer Leadership Academy’s attendees and highlighted the historical strides to foster the value of peer support made by the state of Tennessee.



Speaking out

Children's Advocacy Days

On March 12th and 13th, TVC staff and board members were honored to be surrounded by over 600 individuals interested in children and family issues at the 2019 Children's Advocacy Days (CAD). This year's theme focused on ideas worth sharing and was kicked off by opening remarks from Governor Bill Lee and Tennessee's First Lady, Maria Lee.



TVC strongly believes in making sure the voices of Tennessee's children and families are heard at the state level. We are very grateful for Governor Lee's push to prioritize behavioral health as part of the state's legislative agenda. Through his proposed budget, Tennesseans have the potential to see an additional \$15 million allocated towards mental health treatment and suicide prevention initiatives.

"As the President of the TVC Board of Directors I find it important to witness and be a part of Children's Advocacy Days in TN. It was an honor to meet those individuals within our organization that make an impact on the youth and families across our state we serve on a daily basis. The sharing of best practices, the opportunity to network with their peers, & the ability to get in front of lawmakers who can effect changes to our laws in a face to face setting was truly inspiring." -Patrick Sims, President, TVC Board of Directors

Behavioral Health Day on Capitol Hill



On March 20th, TVC staff, board members, and interns gathered with mental health advocates from across the state to participate in Behavioral Health Day on the Hill at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville, TN. This annual event focuses on the importance of mental health and this year's theme was making mental health a priority in the state of Tennessee.

Ben Harrington, Chairman of the Tennessee Coalition for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, presented the opening remarks, and was followed by Governor Bill Lee and Commissioner Marie Williams from the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Attendees were encouraged to visit their legislators to discuss important issues regarding mental health.

Attendees were encouraged to visit their legislators to discuss important issues regarding mental health.



Commissioner Marie Williams,
TDMHSAS

06 the Voice of Hope



(L to R) Jasmine Taylor-McHaney,
Governor Bill Lee, and
Christal Wilson



Governor Bill Lee

Enhancing skills

TVC Staff Attend Middle Management Academy to Strengthen Leadership Skills

On March 19th – 22nd, several members of Tennessee Voices for Children's Management Team participated in the National Council for Behavioral Health's Middle Management Academy (MMA).



The Middle Management Academy is the only program of its kind for future health care leaders. It has graduated more than 2,000 managers to the leadership fast track and has earned the appreciation of participants, as well as their CEOs. As management is a hands-on, brain-engaged activity, so was the training. Our program managers were prepared to learn by doing, collaborating, networking, and exploring what works.

The Middle Management Academy gives managers the skills they need to manage work and people, but it also connects them to the bigger vision of their organizations.

They become stronger links in the management chain and are able to help improve productivity by motivating staff, communicating effectively, and fulfilling their role as influential front-line leaders.

TVC staff left with a better sense of their own personal leadership styles and those of their peers.

“...that the Middle Management Academy provided an opportunity to learn about my own personality/ management along with the learning experience of interacting with behavioral health middle management colleagues from across the country.” -Paul Highfill



Willie Voss II, Paul Highfill, Kimberly Fyke-Vance, Daniel Haile

“It was interesting to be surrounded by Program Managers and Supervisors from Behavioral Health agencies from all over the country and discuss many of the similarities in successes and challenges that we are all facing in middle management. I found the most informative day to be the discussion around personality styles after taking the Myers-Briggs. It gave me insight in not only myself, but in those I work with, and how to successfully navigate these differences.” -Kimberly Fyke-Vance

**No person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, color or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefit of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.*

Launching new services

TVC Introduces New Programs to Serve More Families

Tennessee Voices for Children (TVC) is excited to launch new services through the Juvenile Justice Reform (JJR) and School-Based Behavioral Health Liaison programs.

About Juvenile Justice Reform (JJR)

This program is a collaborative effort to divert families from further court and DCS involvement between Tennessee Voices for Children, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the Montgomery, Robertson and Sumner County Juvenile Courts. The JJR program is a strength-based and family-driven program that supports children, youth and families involved in the Juvenile Justice system. JJR will use an evidence-based model Trauma Affect Regulation: Guide For Education & Therapy (TARGET). We are thrilled to introduce this service model to youth involved in juvenile justice services in Tennessee.

If you would like to learn more or are interested in making a referral, please contact Paul Highfill, FSS Program Manager, at phighfill@tnvoices.org.

About School-Based Behavioral Health Liaisons (SBBHL)

The School Based Behavioral Health Liaison Program is a trauma-informed program that provides services to teachers and students in Macon, Trousdale, Houston and Wayne County schools. A School Based Behavioral Health Liaison (SBBHL) from our staff provides trauma informed trainings and interventions in each of the following four schools; Fairlane Elementary (Macon county), Trousdale Elementary (Trousdale county), Erin Elementary (Houston county) and Wayne County High School (Wayne county.)

To learn more about the important work TVC staff are doing with students through the School-Based Behavioral Health Liaison program, email Paul Highfill, FSS Program Manager, at phighfill@tnvoices.org.

we provide...

Support, Training, Advocacy, Information, Prevention,
Early Intervention, Public Policy, Referral & Hope for...

Children, Youth, Young Adults, Families, Caregivers,
Educators & Professionals

Upcoming events

Paint the Town Green for Children's Mental Health Awareness!

Tennessee Voices for Children's is excited to host our 1st annual Paint the Town Green fundraising event in Knoxville at 7:00 PM on May 23rd, 2019 at Chivo Taqueria.

This cocktail dining event will bring together some of East Tennessee's most prominent philanthropists and champions for children's mental health awareness. The evening will include a tequila tasting, a seated dinner, tequila and whiskey grab, and short film presentation. We will also honor several

individuals with a Community Champion award, which recognizes those who embody the mission and values of Tennessee Voices for Children and act as an advocate for children's mental health.



Individual tickets are \$100/each. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Come walk the green carpet and join us for this night of fun and entertainment! For more information, please contact Taylor Phipps, Director of Marketing & Development at tphippis@tnvoices.org.

Thank You to
Our Current
2019 Sponsors!



Purity Moosic City DairyPure Dash to Benefit TVC in 2020!

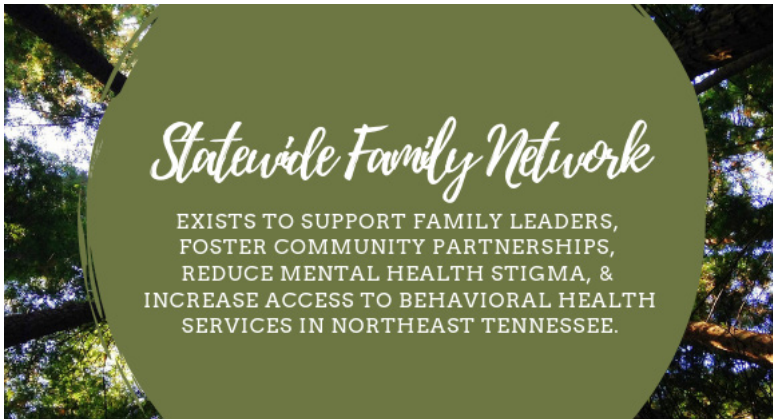


Tennessee Voices for Children is honored and grateful to be chosen as the 2020 recipient of proceeds generated by Purity Dairy's Moosic City DairyPure Dash. With close to 3,000 participants, the Purity Moosic City DairyPure Dash has become one of Nashville's largest 5/10/15K races that is held in April, two weeks before the St. Jude Nashville Rock 'n' Roll Marathon & 1/2 Marathon.

Purity Dairies has been sponsoring this popular event for 19 years. This year, all proceeds will benefit our friends at The Jason Foundation.

TVC staff and Board Members have been participating in this year's event planning committee to support The Jason Foundation, and to prepare for our 2020 year.

Northeast TN corner



TVC was awarded a federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration grant for a Statewide Family Network that will respond to children, youth, and young adults with SED and their families in NE TN Appalachian area. The grant provides funds for a three-year period to develop a model for replication in other rural areas by increasing the capacity to implement, expand, and improve effective family-driven mental health services with respect to their culture, traditions, and beliefs.

Program Goals

Goal 1: Develop a strong network of family and organizational leaders with management capacity that reflects the culture, traditions, and beliefs of NE TN and replicate in other rural areas.

Goal 2: Increase family and organization partnerships and collaboration within and across the system with policy makers and service providers that will result in responsive support to the needs of children and youth with SED and ensure their participation and input into state and local mental health services planning and policy development.

Goal 3: Reduce stigma, bias, and superstition of mental illness and associated services that interfere with the utilization of networks of services and supports to families and their children.

Goal 4: Increase family capacity to access mental health services and utilize supports in their community making informed decisions on behalf of their children and youth within rural areas.

Goals Address Four Areas of Need

Leadership: Address inconsistent and weak leadership across the NE TN and rural TN through a stronger network of family and organizational leaders with management capacity that reflects the culture, traditions, and beliefs of the target population.

Partnership/collaboration: Align with the need for enhanced opportunities and stronger partnerships and collaboration within and across the system with policy makers and service providers.

Stigma reduction: Focus on the stigma and superstitions from culture, traditions, and beliefs encountered by rural TN families and their children and will facilitate more inclusive approaches to service delivery and family support.

Access: Address the need for navigation skills for families to ensure they can access necessary services across the system of care and make informed decisions on behalf of their children and youth through improved access and support.

For more information, please contact Conni Wells, Regional Director at cwells@tnvoices.org.

New team members



Alden Gray

Youth and Family Therapist,
Juvenile Justice Reform

Alden received her Bachelors in Social Work from Murray State University. She decided to continue her education and graduated with her Masters in Social Work in 2018 from Austin Peay State University.

The many roles that stem

from social work are where her passion lies. Her heart opened when she started serving at her church, in the community, and through mission work. Her involvement in these various groups opened her eyes to needs of children and youth in our society. Alden enjoys spending time with family and friends, DIY projects, and watching/playing sports (especially Kentucky). Go Cats!



Nikki Hentz

Behavioral Health Liaison,
School Based Behavioral Health

Nikki is originally from Batesville, Mississippi. She has two children and one granddaughter. She served ten years in the United States Army and separated with an honorable discharge which is what led her to her present

residence in Tennessee. She received her a Bachelors in Social Work from Austin Peay State University and a Masters in Social Work from the University of New England. For the last three years, she has been serving the children of Tennessee. She enjoys reading, working out and running.

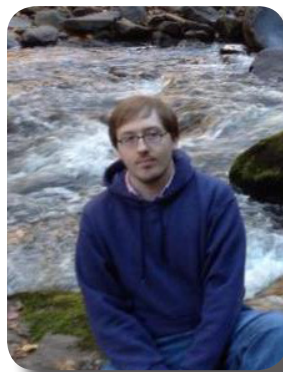


Ali Miller

Youth and Family Therapist,
Juvenile Justice Reform

Ali is a Licensed Master Social Worker who has worked with children and families in a variety of settings. She received her Bachelors in Social Work from James Madison University and completed her field placement

in foster care. After undergrad, Ali served in AmeriCorps City Year with 8th grade boys in a Philadelphia school. She then completed her MSW at University of Pennsylvania where her field placement was in the neonatal intensive care nursery at Pennsylvania Hospital. For the last two and a half years, Ali has worked as a crisis counselor for youth under age 18. Ali spends her free time playing board games, planning her wedding with her fiancé, and playing with their cat, Jasper.



Dr. Bryon Pickens

Director of Special Projects

Originally from the Memphis, TN area, Dr. Bryon Pickens completed his graduate work at the University of Memphis. In 2008, he completed his Masters of Science degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, and in 2013 he

obtained his doctorate in Counselor Education & Supervision. Dr. Pickens specializes in the areas of Family Counseling, Crisis Intervention Counseling, and the diagnosis of complex illness presentation. He has also published original research on the mental health needs of adolescents and young adults. His research can be found in various journals. He has extensive experience in grant writing and program evaluation as well, having secured multiple grant awards and managed the CACREP accreditation process for his previous faculty positions. Bryon currently resides with his family in La Vergne, TN.



Our Mission
Tennessee Voices for Children provides leadership, advocacy, and hope to advance the emotional and behavioral well-being of children, young adults, and families.

Join Us!

Children's Mental Health Awareness Events

Young Adult Leadership Council Block Party & Community Resource Fair
May 18, 1:00-4:00PM
McCabe Park, Nashville, TN

Paint the Town Green 2019
May 23, 7:00-10:00 PM
Chivo Taqueria, 314 South Gay Street, Knoxville, TN



Mental health challenges are real and treatable. And we're here to help.

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