



THE ADVOCATE

Advocacy in Action

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ADVOCACY IN ACTION



SEPTEMBER 2024



Welcome to the September, 2024 issue of The Advocate! In this month's newsletter we're shining a spotlight on youth mental health, a critical issue impacting many young people in Tennessee. You'll also find a comprehensive guide to effective advocacy and resources for up to date legislative updates, including TCCY's Budget Recommendations for FY2025-26! Together, we can champion the well-being of our youth and drive meaningful change!

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Children and Youth Articles



Suicide is an urgent and growing public health crisis. In 2022 more than 49,000 Americans died by suicide. That's one death every 11 minutes! Among adolescents and youth, mental health challenges are the leading cause of disability and poor life outcomes and it's especially important to protect the mental health of minority and marginalized youth. Click the link to learn why youth mental health matters and download the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention!](#)

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Knowing what to say or how to start a hard conversation with a teenager suffering with mental health challenges can be very hard. It is important to show that you love and support them, and that you can help them navigate tough times. Click the button to find four simple yet powerful tips on how to support a teen's mental health!

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It's imperative to support and advocate for policies and funding that will positively impact children and youth in Tennessee. TCCY has just released its Budget Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2025-26! Click the button below to find specific recommendations around youth justice, health, child welfare,



Advocating for children and youth is very fulfilling, but it can also be overwhelming to begin. The Agent of Change Advocacy Guide was created to provide tips and best practices on how to effectively advocate for issues you care about. Click the button to download the PDF and learn

mental health, child care and education!

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how to engage at the local, state, and federal levels of government!

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September is Suicide Prevention Month. The Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network has put together a list of resources around youth and mental health. Check out their web site to learn more and get involved!

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Parents and children are invited to discover health, wellness, safety, and other social supports and information at the Kids and Family Resource Fair hosted by the Paternity Program at the Tennessee Department of Human Services on 9/20!

[Get Involved](#)

Mental Health Resources

[TN Partners for Health](#)

[TDMHSAS Mental Health Services](#)

[988 Hotline](#)

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, September 4 - ETTCY Suicide Prevention Event - Calhoun's on the River - 400 Neyland Dr. Knoxville, TN, 9:30 a.m. - 1p.m.

Wednesday, September 11 - The Science and Power of Hope: Strategies to Nurture Hope in Children and Families - Virtual Meeting, 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, September 12 - Young Child Wellness Council - Vanderbilt University Police Dept., 115 28th Ave. South, Nashville, TN, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Thursday, September 19 - Council on Children's Mental Health Quarterly Meeting - Ed Jones Auditorium, 440 Hogan Rd. Nashville, TN



Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth | 502 Deaderick Street 9th Floor - Andrew Jackson Building | Nashville, TN 37243 US

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