

Children's Champion

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As the school year comes to a close and the weather warms up, we are excited to keep improving children's health in Tennessee.

Below you'll find significant research on the health of children in Tennessee and helpful tools to raise awareness of adverse child experiences and trauma-informed care. As informed advocates for children, we can collectively make an impact!

QUICK LINKS

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INSURE OUR KIDS UPDATES



- In April we welcomed 3 new partners to the Insure Our Kids campaign: Tennessee Voices for Children, the Office of Mayor David Briley, and the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatrists.
- Nashville Medical News published this [blog](#) about Insure Our Kids.
- Don't forget to check out insureourkids.org for more information.

ICYMI



- On May 1st TJC honored 5 lifelong advocates that have made such a huge impact on the health and well-being Tennesseans. Congratulations, Kaki Friskics-Warren, Craig Anne Heflinger, Linda O'Neal, Honorable Sheila Calloway, and Russell J Overby for all of your wonderful work! You can learn more about the honorees [here](#).
- The [2018 United Health Foundation's America Health Rankings: Health of Women and Children Report](#) was released. Tennessee ranks #43, down one spot from the last report that was released in 2016.
 - The report shows that Tennessee has had increases in maternal mortality, infant mortality, pre-term births, and teen suicide, along with ongoing challenges like obesity and smoking.
- Our most recent blogs:
 - [Medicaid work requirements and families](#)
 - [Medicaid helps lift families out of poverty](#)

THE MORE YOU KNOW



- **[Building Strong Brains: The Tennessee Story](#)**
 - WCTE produced six full episodes about Building Strong Brains Tennessee.
- For shorter informational videos about Building Strong Brains TN, please visit [the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth's Youtube channel](#).

LOOKING FORWARD



Federal level:

- The House Agriculture Committee released their version of the Farm Bill.
 - The main changes are:
 - Big cuts in SNAP benefits, particularly for low-income working families with children.
 - Sweeping, aggressive new work requirements that would likely prove unworkable and do substantially more harm than good, fueling increases in hunger and poverty.
- We fully support policies that will make meaningful investments in job training and education programs that would provide low-wage workers with

the opportunity to move up the economic ladder, but this proposed Farm Bill won't accomplish that. We need a Farm Bill that will keep SNAP focused on its core purpose: providing basic food help so that no American will know malnutrition.

State level:

- Tennessee recommends maternal depression screening to be provided as part of a well-child visit but it does not require or recommend any specific tools for maternal depression screening. Even though not required, consistent screening using evidence-based tools is critical for the well-being of children and new moms. Please share with your networks so we can work towards improving implementation of maternal depression screening as part of well-child visits in Tennessee.
 - Learn more about maternal depression screening [here](#).

JOIN US



**INSURE OUR KIDS
ENROLLMENT TRAINING**

**THURSDAY, MAY 10
11 AM CST**

Insure Our Kids Enrollment Webinar Thursday, May 10 11 AM-12 PM CDT

The Insure Our Kids Enrollment Webinar will include coverage options, eligibility, and the enrollment process. This is the same content as the last training. We are hoping to reach a new audience so if you enjoyed the training in the past, please pass it on to anyone you think could benefit from the information.

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Children's Mental Health Awareness Day May 10th

SAMHSA has released a [toolkit](#) to help with communications on May 10th. There will be a live-streamed town hall focusing on strategies for expanding collaborative trauma-informed care efforts across states, tribes, and territories.

The Faith & Health Summit: Congregations & Youth Resilience

**Saturday, May 5
8:30 AM - 12:30 PM
The Oasis Center
1704 Charlotte Ave., Suite 200
Nashville, TN 37203**

The summit is hosted by the Nashville Health Disparities Coalition and the Meharry-Vanderbilt Alliance.

[RSVP HERE](#)

As a reminder, the Tennessee Justice Center also helps with:

1. Enrollment onto TennCare and CoverKids
2. Service Issues
3. Redetermination Issues

If you ever encounter anyone who is having trouble getting health insurance or getting health services, please call TJC: (615) 255-0331.

If there is any information you would like us to share on your behalf, including events and resources, please reply to this email.

Sincerely,

Kinika Young
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STAY CONNECTED:



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