

## Office of Statewide System of Care Initiatives

*Congratulations!*

*Kristy and Kisha*

Ms. Kristy Leach is TDMHSAS' new Director of Children and Youth Mental Health and Ms. Kisha Ledlow has transitioned from Federal Grants Manager to Project Director for Tennessee's Healthy Transitions Initiative. As Director of Children and Youth Mental Health, Ms.

Leach has oversight of a continuum of state and mental health block grant funded children and youth programs in addition to the Nashville Regional Intervention Program (RIP) and RIP expansion programs. In addition, she has oversight of the K-Town Youth Empowerment Network as well as three additional system of care grants and the Tennessee Healthy Transitions Initiative. Ms. Leach has over 21 years of experience in mental health management and service provider roles, including the following: therapist, case manager, day treatment provider, and a director of a team of 62 staff. Through her experience as the Director of Children and Youth Services at a community mental health center for 10 years in Jackson, Mississippi, she gained valuable system of care experience. She supervised staff from a system of care grant titled COMPASS (Children of Mississippi and their Parents Accessing Strength-based Services) and assisted in obtaining a Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) grant awarded to the Jackson Public School District in 2009 and subsequently participated as the local mental health expert on required SS/HS community councils.

Ms. Ledlow has begun as Project Director for Tennessee's Healthy Transitions Initiative (a 5 year \$5 million grant awarded to TDMHSAS by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). In her former role, Ms. Ledlow served as the Statewide System of Care Technical Assistance Coordinator and Grants Manager of federal grants for TDMHSAS. As Grants Manager, she was responsible for the oversight of contractual, operational, programmatic, and fiscal procedures for multiple SAMHSA system of care grants. Ms. Ledlow has valuable experience working within a system of care for children's mental health, as well as administration over several systems of care grants, including an extensive involvement with a system of care for transition-age youth and young adults. We are excited about Kristy and Kisha's accomplishments and ask that you join us in welcoming them to their new roles with TDMHSAS.

### Coming SOC Events

#### **Council on Children's Mental Health (CCMH)**

*June 18, 2015*

**10:00 am—3:00 pm**

**Goodwill Industries**

**1015 Herman Street**

**Nashville, TN 37208**



**THE TANETWORK**  
the technical assistance network for children's behavioral health

### Want Webinars?

The TA Network through SAMHSA has published a document with *all SOC related webinars, office hours and learning exchange series dates.*

Find more details [HERE](#).

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## Trainings & Events

**NAMI Basics**—is a free, 6-week education program for parents and family caregivers of children and teens whom are experiencing symptoms of a mental illness or whom have already been diagnosed. NAMI Basics is offered in a group setting so caregivers can connect with other people face-to-face. Basics' students learn the facts about mental health conditions and how best to support their child at home, at school and when they're getting medical care. Last year, 99% of participants told us they would recommend the program to other parents. The course is taught by a trained team with lived experience—they know what caregivers are going through because they've been there. The 6-session program provides critical strategies for taking care of our children and learning the ropes of recovery. **Basics classes are currently being formed in Shelby, Greenville, Rutherford, and Madison Counties.** Call 800-467-3589 ext.313 for more information.



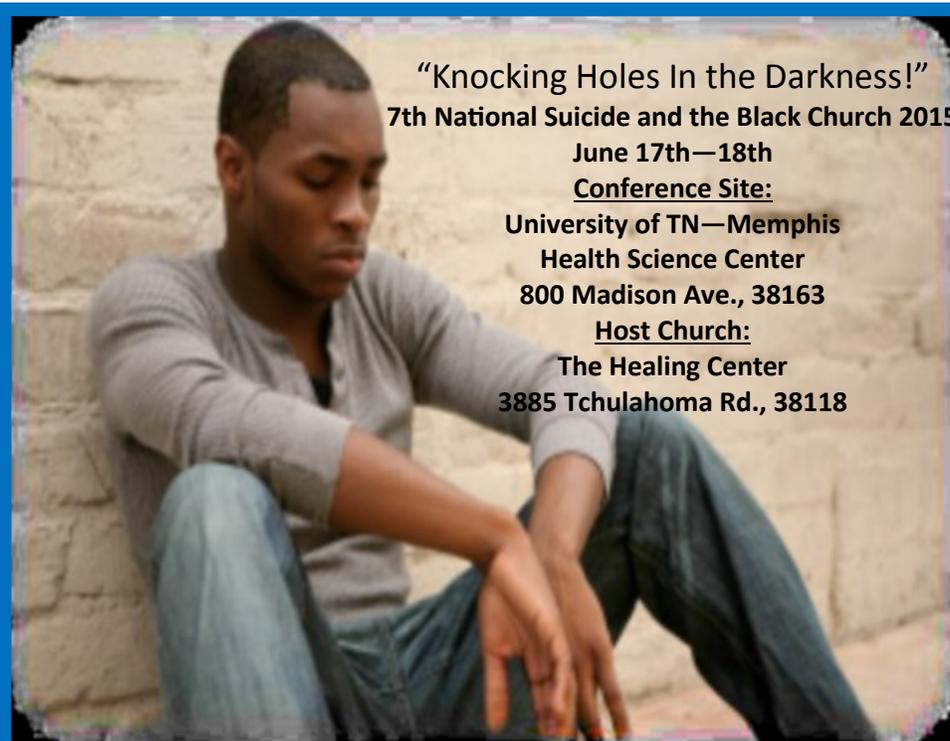
### 2015 Annual Convention

Many Voices Many Paths Mapping Your  
Journey Through the Mental Health  
System

September 24-25



2015 Statewide System of  
Care Conference  
August 28-29



**"Knocking Holes In the Darkness!"**  
**7th National Suicide and the Black Church 2015**  
**June 17th—18th**  
**Conference Site:**  
**University of TN—Memphis**  
**Health Science Center**  
**800 Madison Ave., 38163**  
**Host Church:**  
**The Healing Center**  
**3885 Tchulahoma Rd., 38118**

### Training Resources

Tennessee Voices for Children

[www.tnvoices.org](http://www.tnvoices.org)

NAMI— Tennessee

[www.namitn.org](http://www.namitn.org)

Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug  
and other Addiction Services (TAADAS)

[www.taadas.org](http://www.taadas.org)

Mental Health Association of Middle  
Tennessee

[www.mhamt.org](http://www.mhamt.org)

Tennessee Commission on  
Children and Youth

[www.tn.gov/tccy](http://www.tn.gov/tccy)

National Council on Behavioral Health

[www.thenationalcouncil.org](http://www.thenationalcouncil.org)

The National Federation of Families  
for Children's Mental Health

[www.nffcmh.org](http://www.nffcmh.org)

**The Statewide System of Care**  
**Training & TA Center**

*is up and running!*

For information please contact

Keri Virgo, SOC-EXP Project Director

[keri.virgo@tn.gov](mailto:keri.virgo@tn.gov) (615) 770-0462

Got something you would like added to the SOC Newsletter—  
Contact the Office of Statewide System of Care Initiatives:  
615-770-1788 or [Brenda.Donaldson@tn.gov](mailto:Brenda.Donaldson@tn.gov)

## Office of Statewide System of Care Initiatives

**2015 marks the 10th Anniversary** of SAMHSA's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day—more than 1,100 communities across the country and more than 145 federal programs and national organizations will participate in Awareness Day events, educational programs, and social networking activities. Notably, Creating Community Solutions, a National Dialogue on Mental Health partner, is hosting its first Text, Talk, Act event for high school students in honor of Awareness Day. On May 7, Spread the Word about the Awareness Day “[Text, Talk, Act](#)” Event for High School Students. Encourage students in your community to participate together. **Listed below are some of the exciting activities happening across the state of Tennessee:**

- ⇒ **Ridgeview and NAMI** are presenting: National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day Screening of “Hear Our Voices” – Thursday May 7, 2015 at 6:00pm Pollard Auditorium, 210 Badger Ave, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.
- ⇒ **Ridgeview partnering with DCS for Ride for Hope** to increase Mental Health Awareness with 15 mile bike ride and family fun day celebration afterwards – Friday May 29<sup>th</sup> 9-2:00 pm Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services, 240 W. Tyrone Rd, Oak Ridge, TN 37830.
- ⇒ **Tennessee Voices for Children** will be hosting a screening of the “Hear Our Voices” Documentary in Hickman, Rutherford and Williamson counties, with discussions to follow. If you are interested in participating please follow the appropriate link below: **Register for Hickman County Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day** <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/hickman-county-childrens-mental-health-awareness-day-tickets-16520041890?aff=efbevent> **Register for Rutherford County Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day** <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/rutherford-county-childrens-mental-health-awareness-day-tickets-16520117115?aff=efbevent>

**SAMHSA Approved Small Group Action Meetings for System of Care Grantees:** Policy, Finance, and Practice Innovations in Children's Behavioral Health Small Group Action Meetings (SGAM) for System of Care Grantees have officially kicked-off! - Tennessee will have teams of 5 or more members attending the following SGAM...

- ◆ Diverse Populations, May 19 – 20, Milwaukee, WI
- ◆ Growing Youth & Parent-Peer Support, July 30 – 31, Durham, NC
- ◆ Leveraging Managed Care, July 21 – 22, U of Maryland, Baltimore
- ◆ Finance Sustainable SOC, Sept 9 – 10, U of Maryland, Baltimore



*Snapshots from Family-Run Organizations—Phoenix, AZ*



# System of Care Expansion

## Family Night Across Tennessee



On April 29<sup>th</sup> the SOC Family & Youth Engagement Coordinator joined *Chattanooga Care Connection* of Volunteer Behavioral Health (VBH) Care System at their “*Family Night Kickoff*” at the Bethlehem Center. The Bethlehem Center is a nonprofit organization serving the children and families in and around inner-city Alton Park and South Chattanooga through faith, education, character, and leadership development. VBH Director, Donna Maddox and staff engaged families in activities to assist them in understanding a system of care and available services within their community.

The SOC Family & Youth Engagement Coordinator joined Professional Care Services (PCS) staff members and families at their Somerville site for their “*Family Night Kickoff*.”

