



Advocate

[Calendar](#)

[In the News](#)

[KIDS COUNT Facts](#)

[Research](#)

[TCCY Home](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[TCCY Newsroom](#)

[TCCY Regional Councils](#)

Another Successful Children’s Advocacy Days

Children’s Advocacy Days 2014 is a memory now. Although the official theme was “The Sport of Advocacy,” prevention and addressing problems at their origin was a thread linking many presentations, from First Lady Crissy Haslam’s focus on parental involvement in education and Mary Nell Bryan’s report on Home Visiting programs, through DCS Commissioner Jim Henry’s focus on poverty, Jamie Woodson’s presentation about the importance of improved standards of the Common Core, and Dr. Rob Anda’s presentation on the lifelong effects of adverse childhood experiences. As Dr. Anda said, “What is predictable is preventable.”



CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY DAYS 2014
The Sport of Advocacy

Other highlights included presentations by Supreme Court Justice Connie Clark, commissioners of other child-serving departments, motivational speaker Bobby Petrocelli and panels featuring early childhood education experts and leaders of successful local programs.

Thanks to Commission Chair Brenda Davis for her great job as moderator. PowerPoint presentations from both days are on TCCY’s website at <http://www.tn.gov/tccy/pres.shtml>.

Sen. Douglas Henry Outstanding Public Official Award

Retiring state Sen. Douglas Henry, at right, was the first recipient of the new TCCY award named for him. The Senator Douglas Henry Outstanding Public Official Award honors an elected official or government employee who has made a difference for children. Sen. Henry has served 44 years in the state Senate and for one term as a representative sponsoring important legislation for children. TCCY Executive Director Linda O’Neal called Sen. Henry the General Assembly’s “Patron Saint of Children.” Sen. Henry shared practical advocacy tips with participants in his acceptance speech.



John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media Award

For more than 10 years, TCCY has recognized members of the media who have brought children’s issues to the public’s attention. This year, the award was renamed the John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media Award to honor the former editor and publisher of *The (Nashville) Tennessean*, John Seigenthaler Sr. The first award was bestowed upon its namesake for his continuing career, which included devoting the paper’s resources to improving circumstances for children and removing them from adult jails. Tony Gonzalez, the family issues reporter for *The (Nashville) Tennessean*, also received a John Seigenthaler Making KIDS COUNT Media Award.



Seigenthaler



Gonzalez

Memphian Receives Youth Excellence Award

This year the Youth Excellence Award was presented to Edward Johnson of Memphis. During his teen years, Johnson, at right, was repeatedly in juvenile court and out of school – suspended or expelled. However, working through the Just Care Family Network, the mental health System of Care initiative in Memphis, he is now studying social work at Lemoyne Owen College. Johnson serves as a mentor and spokesperson for Just Care and is also a youth leader.



TVC's Martin Recognized with Child Advocacy Award



James Martin, at left, statewide youth engagement specialist with Tennessee Voices for Children (TVC), was awarded the Jim Pryor Child Advocacy Award. Martin, who is from Columbia, was nominated because, “When (the youth he works with) do well, he ensures they are the ones who receive recognition and acknowledgement; when they are challenged, he stands with them to find solutions and ensures they have a voice in what is happening to them.”

Mark Your Calendar

March 20, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Transitioning into Employment Training for youth with disabilities, Tennessee Career Center, Cookeville. Megan Hart at (615) 875-5082 or megan.hart@vanderbilt.edu. Register at <http://bit.ly/1cfRMNF>.

March 20, 7:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m., 2014 Frank M. Norfleet Forum for the Advancement of Health: “Early Brain Development and Function: Impact on Social and Health Outcomes,” FedEx Institute of Technology, University of Memphis, Memphis. Registration fee \$25. Information: <http://bit.ly/1kVuMmZ>. Register at <http://bit.ly/1f3ai6y>.

March 20, 5 p.m., Brain Awareness Night, Urban Child Institute, 600 Jefferson Ave., Suite 200, Memphis. Free.

March 24-26, Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Spring Statewide Conference, Sheraton Music City, Nashville. Register at <http://bit.ly/1dwj8cp>. Contact tlawson@tcsww.org for more information.

March 25-26, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network co-hosts Psychological Autopsy Certification Training, Non-Profit Conference Center, Building B, 295 Plus Park Boulevard, Suite 201, Nashville. Registration fees. Register at <http://bit.ly/1AAm27>. More information: (615) 297-1077 or sridgway@tspn.org.

April 2, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., “Saving Lives in South Central Tennessee,” a regional suicide prevention conference, Rain Teen Center, Decherd. Register at <https://slsct.eventbrite.com>

April 4-5, “Setting Captives Free”: Human Trafficking Awareness Conference, Clarion Hotel, 2227 Old Fort Parkway, Murfreesboro. CEUs and POST certification available. Registration \$70. Information: <http://bit.ly/1n8m4TJ>. Registration: <http://bit.ly/1mTfzaG>.

April 10-11, Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence 12th Annual Conference, Music City Center, 201 Fifth Ave., S., Nashville. Early registration discounts available. Register at <http://bit.ly/1bvPSPj>.

In the News

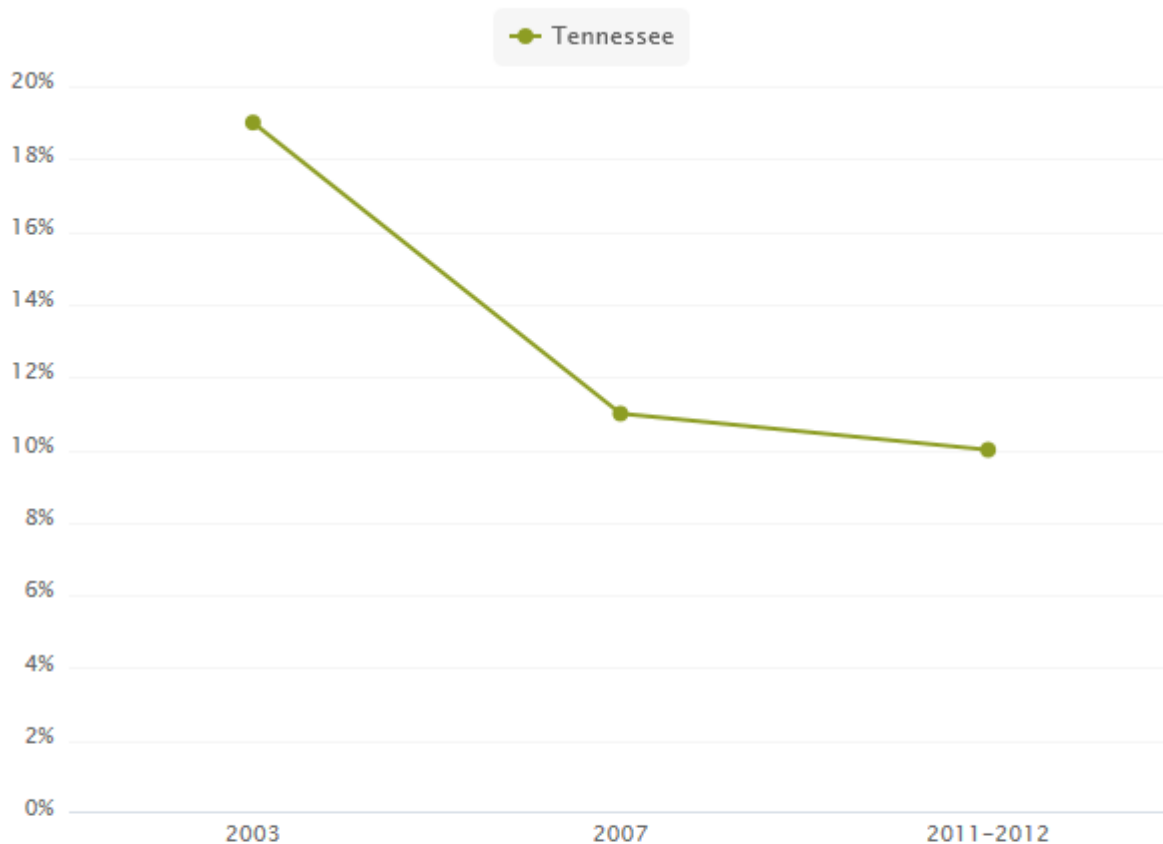
Comptroller report says Tennessee is fiscally sound, State Sen. Steve Southerland, *Newport Plain Talk*, <http://bit.ly/1co4vZ5>

Research Information

The Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury released an issue brief on the value of **Extended Learning Time** in traditional schools: <http://1.usa.gov/1fLVEVH>

The Rand Corp. released a study of the **effectiveness of correctional education**. The report included a review of programs for incarcerated juveniles, including reading packages and computer-assisted training: <http://bit.ly/1ex8wdw>

Tennessee KIDS COUNT Facts: Preschool Children Whose Parents Read to Them Fewer than Three Days per Week



CHILDREN AGES 1 TO 5 WHOSE FAMILY MEMBERS READ TO THEM LESS THAN 3 DAYS PER WEEK (PERCENT)

National KIDS COUNT

KIDS COUNT Data Center, datacenter.kidscount.org

A project of the Annie E. Casey Foundation

More data on Tennessee child well-being is available at <http://bit.ly/15alkVu>.

To suggest content or manage subscriptions to *The Advocate*, contact fay.delk@tn.gov.
If you would like to receive this email through the TCCY ListServe, email listserv@listserv.tn.gov, leave the subject blank and type **Subscribe TCCY Your First Name Your Last Name**. Information on other address changes is available at <http://www.tn.gov/tccy/listserv.shtml>.