



Fall 2024 Virtual Foster Parent Conference

September 20-21, 2024

Presented by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services
Office of Training and Professional Development

Registration Brochure



General Information

The Fall 2024 Foster Parent Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, September 20-21, 2024. This year's conference is a **FREE** virtual event. Pre-registration is required.

Registration Information

The deadline for registration is **Friday, September 13, 2024**. Visit the [Foster Parent Conference webpage](#) to register.

Only foster parents who have registered by the deadline will be permitted to attend the conference or join any of the workshop sessions.

1. Complete the registration form and include all requested information. If multiple people within your household will be attending the same conference workshops together, you only need to submit one form. Include the other household members in the provided field and be sure to provide your full LEGAL names. **It is critical that you are able to access the email address you provide with your registration information, or you will not be able to attend the conference.**
2. Select the classes you wish to attend from the dropdown menu provided for each session.
3. When you are satisfied with your selections, submit the form to receive a copy of your registration. **Check your promotions, spam, junk, or clutter folders regularly if a confirmation email does not appear in your inbox within 24 hours of submitting your registration.**
4. **Access to workshops:** The week of the conference, you will receive an email from messenger@webex.com for each training you have selected. **Check your promotions, spam, junk, or clutter folders if these emails do not appear in your inbox.** Save these links so that you will be able to join the trainings. If you lose your registration links or your WebEx confirmation links before training, contact the registration helpline for assistance.
Course materials will be available in DCS Brightspace. Participants who do not already have a Brightspace account will receive one using the information provided on the registration form. Communication from Brightspace will appear from system-noreply@tndcs.brightspace.com.

If you have not received links to join trainings by **Wednesday, September 18, 2024**, contact the Conference Help Desk at <https://forms.gle/6ThtcajqRYa4TfN17> or call or text **(615) 669-2545** for assistance.

Use the images on the following pages as a guide when registering.

The first section of the registration form asks for your role (foster parent, agency staff, or other community partner) and agency affiliation (DCS or provider agency), as well as basic demographic information. This information is used to identify you to ensure that you receive your workshop links and materials, as well as credit for the trainings you attend during the conference. At the top of this form, you will also indicate whether this is a new registration or an update to a previous submission.

2024 Fall Foster Parent Conference Registration



Thank you for registering for the 2024 Fall Foster Parent Conference. This is a FREE virtual event and will take place September 20-21, 2024. To find a complete list of workshops and descriptions, visit the [conference webpage](#) and download the conference brochure. Participants are able to earn up to 12 hours of training credit throughout the conference weekend.

Foster parents are encouraged to discuss their selections with their Foster Parent Support Workers prior to registration.

This is a:*

- NEW registration
- UPDATE or CORRECTION to a previously submitted registration

Role*

- Foster/Adoptive/Kinship Parent
- DCS Staff/Provider Agency Staff
- Other Community Partner

Agency or Organization*

TN DCS

Participant (enter your full LEGAL name)*

Daniel
First Name

Tanner
Last Name

Enter the FULL LEGAL NAME of any other participants who will be viewing the selected trainings with you.

Jesse Katsopolis

If other members of your household will be participating in the conference but NOT in the same trainings, please submit a separate registration form.

If multiple members of your household are attending the same workshop sessions together, you may complete a single registration form and list additional participants in the space provided. If members of your household are attending different workshop sessions, please submit a separate form for each attendee.

The email address you provide for your registration will be the address used to contact you for the conference. Please ensure that you have access to this email so that you can receive communication from the Department of Children’s Services about the conference.

If you have a Brightspace account, you will also be asked to provide your username. Accounts will be created for conference attendees as needed using the information provided in this registration.

Email *

everywhereyoulook@fullhouse.com

Confirm Email *

everywhereyoulook@fullhouse.com

Phone *

615-888-0000

May we text you at this number? *

- Yes
 No

County *

Davidson

Do you have a DCS Brightspace account? *

- Yes
 No
 I am not sure.

Enter your Brightspace username(s) (example, John.Doe; Jane.Doe) *

Danny.Tanner; Jesse.Katsopolis

The second part of the registration form asks for your workshop selections.

All conference attendees will be registered for the Conference Welcome Session and the keynote sessions on Friday and Saturday morning. Use the dropdown menus to select your afternoon workshops for each day.

If your afternoon workshop selections end on or before 2:30 PM Central/3:30 PM Eastern, you will have the opportunity to register for additional afternoon workshops.

If you do not wish to attend a workshop during any of the session times, select “I do not wish to attend a training at this time.” at the bottom of each list.

Course Selection

Conference Welcome Session *

- Conference Welcome Session (9:00 AM-9:30 AM Central/10:00 AM-10:30 AM Eastern)

Friday Morning Keynote *

- 1A: TBRI Next Level (9:30 AM-12:00 PM Central/10:30 AM-1:00 PM Eastern)

Friday Afternoon Workshops *

2B: BlueCare Overview and Resources (1:00 PM-2:00 PM Central/2:00 PM-3:00 PM Eastern)

Late Friday Afternoon Workshops *

1C: When and How to Turn a Crisis Into A Learning Event (2:30 PM-4:00 PM Central/3:30 PM-5:00 PM Eastern)

Saturday Morning Keynote *

- 1D: Lying, Stealing, and Raging (9:00 AM-12:00 PM Central/10:00 AM-1:00 PM Eastern)

Saturday Afternoon Workshops *

1E: Rebuilding a Shattered Foster Care System (1:00 PM-2:00 PM Central/2:00 PM-3:00 PM Eastern)

Late Saturday Afternoon Workshops *

1F: Health Advocacy Representatives (2:30 PM-3:30 PM Central/3:30 PM-4:30 PM Eastern)

Click the **Submit Form** button beneath the workshop selections to complete your registration.

Submit Form

When you complete the registration form, you will be taken to a confirmation screen with a list of your workshop selections.

This information will also be sent to the email provided in your registration form.

Participants will receive the links for each workshop during the week of the conference.

When recording your conference attendance, be sure to enter the same name(s) and email address you used when registering to ensure you receive proper training credit. The workshop presenter or technical assistant will instruct participants how to receive credit during the session.



Thank you for registering for the 2024 Fall Foster Parent Conference, September 20-21, 2024. During the week of the conference you will receive workshop materials and links to join your conference sessions.

Be sure to use everywhereyoulook@fullhouse.com when logging into your sessions the day of training, and enter the full legal names of all participants when requested to ensure you receive training credit.

Your schedule is below.

**Schedule for:
Daniel Tanner**

Jesse Katsopolis

Schedule:

Friday, September 20:

Conference Welcome Session (9:00 AM-9:30 AM Central/10:00 AM-10:30 AM Eastern)

1A: TBRI Next Level (9:30 AM-12:00 PM Central/10:30 AM-1:00 PM Eastern)

2B: BlueCare Overview and Resources (1:00 PM-2:00 PM Central/2:00 PM-3:00 PM Eastern)

1C: When and How to Turn a Crisis Into A Learning Event (2:30 PM-4:00 PM Central/3:30 PM-5:00 PM Eastern)

Saturday, September 21:

1D: Lying, Stealing, and Raging (9:00 AM-12:00 PM Central/10:00 AM-1:00 PM Eastern)

1E: Rebuilding a Shattered Foster Care System (1:00 PM-2:00 PM Central/2:00 PM-3:00 PM Eastern)

1F: Health Advocacy Representatives (2:30 PM-3:30 PM Central/3:30 PM-4:30 PM Eastern)

[Click here to submit another registration form.](#)

Virtual Conference Agenda

Conference attendees can earn up to 12 hours of training by attending workshops scheduled during all sessions.

Conference Agenda	
Friday, September 20, 2024	
9:00 am-9:30 am Central 10:00 am-10:30 am Eastern	Welcome Session Conference attendees receive 0.5 hour training credit.
9:30 am-12:00 pm Central 10:30 am-1:00 pm Eastern	TBRI Next Level 2.5 hours training credit
12:00 pm-1:00 pm Central 1:00 pm-2:00 pm Eastern	Break for Lunch
1:00 pm-4:00 pm Central 2:00 pm-5:00 pm Eastern	Afternoon Workshops Attendees can earn 1 to 3 hours depending on selections.
Saturday, September 21, 2024	
9:00 am-12:00 pm Central 10:00 am-1:00 pm Eastern	Lying, Stealing, and Raging 3 hours training credit
12:00 pm-1:00 pm Central 1:00 pm-2:00 pm Eastern	Break for Lunch
1:00 pm-4:00 pm Central 2:00 pm-5:00 pm Eastern	Afternoon Workshops Attendees can earn 1 to 3 hours depending on selections.

Conference Welcome Session

This session kicks off our conference and includes important information and updates. Please plan to attend this session just as you would attend the Opening Ceremony at an in-person conference.

Virtual Training Etiquette

- All participants must be able to view the training presentation. Participants who call in only will not be able to receive credit for these trainings.
- Participants may not attend training while operating a motor vehicle or other heavy machinery.
- Participants must be clothed in appropriate classroom attire and may not be in bed.
- All participants must be physically present with the device being used to view training (i.e., participants may not participate via FaceTime, phone, etc. with another participant who is viewing the training)
- Participants may not smoke, use tobacco products, or consume alcohol during training.

Friday Keynote: TBRI Next Level

Trust-Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) is holistic, evidence-based, and has been used for more than 20 years to equip caregivers to meet the needs of vulnerable children and youth.

In this session, we will discuss the model TBRI, how it helps us understand trauma-behavior, and how to respond in a healing way that actually changes behavior. We will briefly cover its three principles of Empowering and Correcting, while taking a deep dive into its most central principle of Connection. We will first cover the attachment cycle and how it is harmed, explore patterns of attachment to understand ourselves better as caregivers, and then discuss practical ways that safe, healthy adults can rebuilt and reconnect with both children and teenagers.

Katie Duarte Rinaudo is a Regional Training and Consultation Specialist with the KPICD. She has a Master's Degree in Holistic Child Development. She spent several years working in a children's home in Latin America, where she served as director of the home, a house parent and an English teacher for middle school and high school. Since becoming a TBRI Practitioner in 2018, Katie has focused on bringing TBRI to Latin America and the southeast United States in English and Spanish. She currently lives in east Tennessee and is a proud aunt to six of her favorite kids.



This session will be held on Friday, September 20, from 9:30am C/10:30am E to 12:00pm C/1:00pm E. Foster parents who attend this session will receive 2.5 hours of training credit, which can be applied toward trauma and therapeutic training requirements.

Saturday Keynote: Lying, Stealing, and Raging

Children and adolescents who have experienced trauma have unique brain wiring and are often at a mixture of developmental ages. Typical consequence-based behavioral strategies are often not effective and can lead to further trauma and impact the relationship between the adults and children/adolescents. Participants will learn new approaches to use with children and adolescents who have trauma histories which will help you to understand them better and improve communication and relationships. The strategies we will cover are recommended for in-utero trauma such as FASD and also for trauma they may have experienced after birth. We will specifically cover the Big 3; lying, stealing and raging.

- Explore why consequence/punitive based approaches are not effective with youth who have trauma histories
- Identify trauma responsive approaches which promote connection and relationships
- Understand the neurobehavioral aspect of challenging behaviors
- Learn concrete ideas for responding to challenging behaviors



Barb Clark is the Director of Training at Families Rising (FKA NACAC) and is a parent to five adult children. She is passionate about learning from her many mistakes and sharing them with others so they can avoid the same mistakes. She uses humor and real-life experiences to help professionals and caregivers challenge the use of traditional strategies and push them to think outside of the box. She graduated from the University of Minnesota in Youth Development but has learned more from her kids than she ever did in college. She is committed to improving the education and lives of individuals who were prenatally exposed to drugs.

This session will be held on Saturday, September 21, from 9:00am C/10:00am E to 12:00pm C/1:00pm E.

Foster parents who attend this session will receive 3 hours of training credit, which can be applied toward trauma and therapeutic training requirements.

Training Requirements

Training Requirements can be found on the DCS website at:
<https://files.dcs.tn.gov/policies/chap16/ReqTrainChtFP.pdf>

Updated Training Requirements Effective March 1, 2024:

Each **foster parent or caregiver** must complete the following post approval trainings during the specified time frames below:

First Year:

- Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting (3 hours)
- Any approved exploitation/trafficking course (varies)
- One trauma-informed training
- Preventing Suicide among Foster Care Youth (3 hours)
 - This training fulfills the trauma requirement.
- Each **foster parent or caregiver** must complete additional training to total 8 hours with above requirements

Second Year and thereafter:

- CPR & First Aid every 2 years (minimum of 6 hours)
- Medical Resources and Information Refresher every 2 years (2.5 hours)
- One trauma-informed training required annually
- Additional training hours to meet 8-hour annual requirement (read below for additional information)

New Requirement:

Preventing Suicide among Foster Care Youth

This training is required of all foster parents in the state of Tennessee and must be completed by September 30, 2024. Thereafter, all new foster parents must complete this training during the first year after approval. This training counts fulfills the trauma requirement and counts toward therapeutic training hours for therapeutic foster homes.

All **foster parents and caregivers** in the home must complete CPR & First Aid (minimum 6 hours) and Medical Resources and Information Refresher (2.5 hours) every two years. The remaining hours may be chosen from other trainings offered or approved by the Department.

If you have questions or would like additional information about training, please contact your Foster Parent Support Worker.

Workshop Detail

Friday, September 20, 2024

9:00 am-9:30 am Central/10:00 am-10:30 am Eastern

Conference Welcome Session

9:30 am to 12:00 pm Central/10:30 am to 1:00 pm Eastern

- 1A **TBRI Next Level**
**9:30am-12:00pm Central/
10:30am-1:00pm Eastern**
- Presented by Katie Rinaudo, Karyn Purvis
Institute of Child
Development**
- 2.5 hr
- In this session, we will discuss the model TBRI, how it helps us understand trauma-behavior, and how to respond in a healing way that actually changes behavior. We will briefly cover its three principles of Empowering and Correcting, while taking a deep dive into its most central principle of Connection. We will first cover the attachment cycle and how it is harmed, explore patterns of attachment to understand ourselves better as caregivers, and then discuss practical ways that safe, healthy adults can rebuilt and reconnect with both children and teenagers.

Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours

12:00 pm-1:00 pm Central/1:00 pm-2:00 pm Eastern – Break for Lunch

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Central/2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Eastern

- 1B **Emergency Response
Toolkit An Early Relational
Approach: Child Welfare
Edition**
**1:00pm-2:00pm Central/
2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern**
- Presented by Katie
Woodard, Association of
Infant Mental Health in
Tennessee**
- 1 hr
- AIMHiTN's Child Welfare Edition of the Emergency Response Toolkit is an innovative approach to early relational care during times of crisis. This toolkit is crafted to empower child welfare workers and foster parents with insights into the profound impact disasters have on families in their early relational stages. Moreover, it equips you with invaluable early relational techniques, enabling them to facilitate the creation of comprehensive emergency response plans with the children and families they work with.
- During this presentation, we will offer expert guidance on how to effectively employ this toolkit while working with children and families, guiding them through the processes of preparation, response, and recovery in the face of various emergency events. This encompasses not only natural disasters but also encompasses tools for addressing events such as gun violence or navigating the complexities of grief.

Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours

- 2B **BlueCare Overview and
Resources**
**1:00pm-2:00pm Central/
2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern**

**Presented by Jeremiah
Hughes, BlueCare**

1 hr

This workshop will be an overview of BlueCare including essential benefits, services, and supports for both Foster Parents and Foster Children.

3B	<p>Early Intervention in Tennessee 1:00pm-2:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Angie Haynes, Tennessee Early Intervention System</p>	<p>This overview of the Tennessee Early Intervention System (TEIS) will cover referral, eligibility, and Individualized Family Service Plan writing processes. Participants will learn about the services provided by TEIS and receive an introduction to the Community Resources website. Participants will also be able to ask questions following the presentation.</p> <p>Fulfills therapeutic hours</p>
4B	<p>Working with the International, Immigration, and Cultural Affairs Division 1:00pm-2:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Elizabeth Ellis and Antonia Zimmer, DCS Office of General Counsel</p>	<p>This workshop will provide an overview of the Department's International, Immigration, and Cultural Affairs Division, and how the division assists with cases that involve foreign-born youth and families.</p>
5B	<p>Drug Trends and Identification 1:00pm-2:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Thomas Farmer and Niki Crawford, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation</p>	<p>The goal of this interactive workshop will discuss the latest developments and information regarding synthetic cannabinoids, opioids, stimulants, benzodiazepines, and drugs that don't fall so neatly into classifications.</p>
6B	<p>Court Appointed Special Advocates: CASA Overview and Panel 1:00pm-2:30pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:30 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Lynne Farrar and Wendy Jill Spence, CASA</p>	<p>This workshop will cover the mission of CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) from the local level, through the state and national network. We will explore CASA's role in the child welfare system and discuss a child's journey through placement. The session will include a panel consisting of members of the Child & Family Team, i.e., CASA volunteer, foster parent, GAL, etc. Panelists will define the roles of various team members and discuss everyday scenarios to highlight the importance of communication and collaboration.</p>
	<p>1.5 hr</p>	

7B	<p>Supporting Autistic Children 1:00pm-2:30pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:30 pm Eastern</p>	<p>This presentation will focus on understanding the practical presentation of autism and how those characteristics impact behavior and learning across the age range. The remaining focus will be on concrete strategies to implement at home and in the community to help support common areas of need while using common areas of strength. At the end, resources will be provided for additional opportunities to learn more about these and other evidence-based strategies for autistic children. Time will be available to ask questions.</p>
	<p>Presented by Dr. Alexa Dixon, Vanderbilt Kennedy Center/TRIAD</p>	
	<p>1.5 hr</p>	<p>Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours</p>
8B	<p>Preventing Suicide among Foster Care Youth 1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern</p>	<p>While suicide is a significant public health crisis for the general population, the risk for suicidal ideation and behavior increases for youth in care because of the complex circumstances they often face.</p>
	<p>Presented by Brett Marciel, The Jason Foundation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At any given time, there are estimated to be approximately 400,000 youth in care. • Youth in care may have complex medical, mental, and behavioral health concerns stemming from a trauma history. • Children who are adopted wait an average of almost three years. • Youth in care may struggle with separation anxiety.
	<p>2 hr</p>	<p>This training module discusses facts, myths, and signs regarding suicide risk for youth involved with the child welfare system and specialized topics such as trauma and adverse childhood experiences. Material is presented by a professional speaker and people with lived experience (former foster youth, foster and adoptive families, and experts in the field). Suggested protective factors and recommendations are provided for caregivers.</p>
		<p>Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours. Required during first year after approval.</p>
9B	<p>Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: A Closer Look 1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern</p>	<p>Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is the leading preventable cause of developmental disabilities. The CDC reports 1 in 20 students have been prenatally exposed to alcohol. Often misdiagnosed and misunderstood, this presentation will review the research around FASD, look at common comorbidities and secondary disabilities associated with FASD, as well as discussing tools to help those who may be affected.</p>
	<p>Presented by Joshua Legg, Papillion Center</p>	
	<p>2 hr</p>	<p>Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours</p>

10B **Human Trafficking Overview**
1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern

Presented by Tennessee Counter-Trafficking Alliance

Trafficking impacts whole communities, regardless of race, socio-economic background, education, or gender. In this overview workshop, participants will learn vulnerabilities that put children and youth at risk for trafficking, learn ways to identify youth who may be victims of trafficking, and gain information on local and state resources to help individuals affected by trafficking.

Fulfills human trafficking/exploitation requirement

2 hr

11B **Success Beyond 18**
1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern

Presented by DCS Independent Living Specialist

The Office of Independent Living helps youth in foster care and young adults who age out prepare for adulthood and become empowered, confident, competent and productive individuals. Federal grants and state funds support education attainment, basic needs such as housing support and staff allocations. This presentation will provide a broad-based spectrum of services available to help youth successfully transition to adulthood and become proficient in adult living skills. This workshop will provide guidance to foster parents on how to help youth transition by supporting the youth's transition plan as well as how to encourage the youth to have an active voice in order to be empowered to make decisions about their lives, needs and abilities.

2 hr

12B **Your Money, Your Goals**
1:00pm-4:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-5:00pm Eastern

Presented by Randi Earley

This course is for foster parents and other professionals working with youth in foster care. You will receive an interactive toolkit you can use to empower young people to understand their relationship with money and how to make it work for them to help them achieve their goals. Topics include starting the money conversation; emotions, values, and culture behind money choices; paying bills and other expenses; managing cash flow; setting goals; protecting your money.

3 hr

Youth are welcome to attend this workshop.

2:30 pm to 4:00 pm Central/3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern

1C **When and How to Turn a Crisis Into A Learning Event**
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm Central/ 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern

Presented by Allison Douglas, Harmony Family Center

As parents, we want to prevent crises, and even more importantly, help our kids to learn how to appropriately handle triggers and overwhelming emotions. It's hard to remember that every parenting moment isn't a teachable moment and getting the timing right for these important conversations and subsequent learning is crucial. This webinar will focus on how we can de-escalate heated situations and when and how to move from crisis to learning by using The Life Space Interview.

Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours

1.5 hr

2C **Working with the Education System**
**2:30 pm to 4:00 pm Central/
3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern**

Presented by Martina Stump, Cyndi Chester, and Salena Buress, Department of Children's Services - Education

This workshop will provide information to equip foster parents to understand the education system and advocate for children. Participants will gain an understanding of education terms, the Best Interest Determination (BID) process and the Education Passport, the Special Education Process, and learn who to ask for assistance with education issues.

1.5 hr

Saturday, September 21, 2024

9:00 am to 12:00 pm Central/10:00 am to 1:00 pm Eastern

1D **Lying, Stealing, and Raging**
**9:00am-12:00pm Central/
10:00am-1:00pm Eastern**

Presented by Barb Clark, Families Rising

Children and adolescents who have experienced trauma have unique brain wiring and are often at a mixture of developmental ages. Typical consequence-based behavioral strategies are often not effective and can lead to further trauma and impact the relationship between the adults and children/adolescents. Participants will learn new approaches to use with children and adolescents who have trauma histories which will help you to understand them better and improve communication and relationships. The strategies we will cover are recommended for in-utero trauma such as FASD and also for trauma they may have experienced after birth. We will specifically cover the Big 3; lying, stealing and raging.

3 hrs

- Explore why consequence/punitive based approaches are not effective with youth who have trauma histories
- Identify trauma responsive approaches which promote connection and relationships
- Understand the neurobehavioral aspect of challenging behaviors
- Learn concrete ideas for responding to challenging behaviors

Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours

12:00 pm-1:00 pm Central/1:00 pm-2:00 pm Eastern - Break for Lunch

1:00 pm to 4:30 pm Central/2:00 pm to 5:30 pm Eastern

1E	Rebuilding a Shattered Foster Care System 1:00pm-2:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern Presented by Rob Scheer, Comfort Cases 1 hr	When something breaks, you fix it; when something shatters, you must rebuild it. Our foster care system is in need of complete reform in order for children in care to have a more humane experience. The first step is for our community to realize there is a problem. There are far too many people who have little to no knowledge of the struggles children in foster care face. Not only must we raise awareness of their plight, but we must come together to alleviate their suffering. We must ensure that the basic needs of children are being met as they enter into care. Despite the frightening and chaotic transition they are experiencing, these children deserve to have a sense of dignity as they are moved to another home. We must also realize that we are simply graduating foster children from the foster system to the prison system. We are not providing these children with the educational and life skills required to launch a successful future. Scheer inspires us to realize the responsibility.
2E	Nutrition 1:00pm-2:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-3:00 pm Eastern Presented by BlueCare 1 hr	We know that eating healthy will lead to better health outcomes, particularly for the growth and development of children and adolescents. Clinical experts will provide information on the numerous benefits of specific foods and dietary practices. This class will help teach how small and simple changes to your nutrition can have significant positive outcomes.
3E	Stewards of Children 1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern Presented by Julie Williams, Child Advocacy of Cannon County 2 hr	One out of ten children will be sexually abused before their 18th birthday. This means that in a school classroom of 20 children there are two children who are bearing the burden of child sexual abuse alone and need our help. For abused children, their classroom teacher may be the only safe adult in their lives. That is why it is critical for us to work together to train teachers, school personnel, professionals, and all members of our community how to recognize the abused children who are in their classrooms and report the abuse. The Darkness to Light curriculum is DHS approved for child care licensing requirements and DCS approved for foster parent training.

4E	<p>Self Care When Parenting Harder to Parent Kids 1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Randi Earley, Department of Children’s Services</p> <p>2 hr</p>	<p>In this workshop, parents will learn why self-care is so important when parenting kids who have challenging behaviors or come to their homes with a history of trauma. Parents will learn about the realities of compassion fatigue and secondary trauma. In addition to learning how to identify the common barriers that parents face when seeking self-care, they will also learn how to form a plan for meaningful self-care. Parents who are in a significant partnership or marriage are encouraged to prioritize self-care for their relationship.</p> <p>Parents will leave the support group with a better understanding of the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why self-care is crucial and how to identify the barriers to regular self-care they face. • The definitions of “compassion fatigue, “secondary or vicarious trauma” and how respite care can help. • Why relationship care is also vital for adoptive, foster, or kinship parents who are in a marriage or partnership. • Creative ideas and practical tools for incorporating self-care into their daily lives.
5E	<p>Handle with Care: Verbal De-escalation 1:00pm-3:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:00 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Toney Horton and Shawna Baker, Department of Children’s Services</p> <p>2 hr</p>	<p>In this workshop focusing on verbal de-escalation, participants will learn the difference between inward and outward tension/expression; the tension reduction cycle; the solid object relationship model; and the use of prompt, skillful, and appropriate intervention tactics on a verbal basis.</p> <p>Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours</p>
6E	<p>Medical Resources and Information Refresher 1:00pm-3:30pm Central/ 2:00pm-4:30 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Teza Stimage</p> <p>2.5 hr</p>	<p>This course is required for all DCS foster parents every two years after approval. This refresher course includes an update on medication administration policies and procedures. The course also provides an update on the knowledge to safely and effectively administer medications to children in care. Topics included in this class range from self-storage and disposal of medication to common errors in medication administration.</p> <p>Required every 2 years</p>

7E	<p>Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting 1:00pm-4:00pm Central/ 2:00pm-5:00pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Amanda Felts, Harmony Family Center</p>	<p>This training introduces and instructs participants on how to create normalcy through reasonable prudent parenting standards which is characterized by careful, thoughtful parental decision making that is intended to maintain a child’s health, safety, and best interest, while creating a more normal life.</p> <p>Required during first year after approval.</p>
3 hr		
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm Central/3:30 pm to 5:00 pm Eastern		
1F	<p>Health Advocacy Representatives 2:30pm-3:30pm Central/ 3:30pm-4:30 pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Dr. Shayna Smith and Cherie King (HAR), Department of Children’s Services</p>	<p>This workshop will highlight the services offered by Health advocacy representatives (HARs). HARs play a crucial role in supporting foster parents by helping them navigate the complexities of health insurance and medical appointments. They assist in understanding insurance coverage and ensuring that foster children receive the necessary medical care. Additionally, they can provide information on healthcare resources to help alleviate some of the administrative burdens on foster parents.</p>
1 hr		
2F	<p>Foster Care Review Board, Permanency Plan, and Child & Family Team Meetings 2:30pm-4:00pm Central/ 3:30pm-5:00pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Shianne Newell and Misty Fraunfelter, Department of Children’s Services</p>	<p>This course was designed to help families become more familiar with the purpose of a Child and Family Meeting, Permanency Plan, and the Foster Care Review Board. This curriculum was developed for foster parents to enhance their understanding of the different components of the CFTM, the Perm Plan, and the Foster Care Review Board. This course will combine all components so that participants will be familiar with how each component correlates to the DCS Practice wheel and reaching permanency. This course will help participants be more familiar with the purpose of a CFTM and its relation to the overall well-being of the foster child and home itself, and the relevance of the Foster Care Review Board.</p>
1.5 hr		
3F	<p>TBRI Empowering 2:30pm-4:00pm Central/ 3:30pm-5:00pm Eastern</p> <p>Presented by Emily Graffius, Empowered to Connect</p>	<p>This training is designed to give participants insight into the roots of self-regulation difficulties common among children from “hard places.” We hope to give participants practical tools to facilitate learning and practicing self-regulation skills. Activities are structured so that participants will be invited to experience the world from a child’s point of view and also tailor their own learning to fit the needs of their unique home situation.</p>
1.5 hr		
Fulfills trauma and therapeutic hours		

Workshops Fulfilling Training Requirements

Workshop	Fulfills
1A: TBRI Next Level	Trauma, therapeutic
1B: Emergency Response Toolkit An Early Relational Approach: Child Welfare Edition	Trauma, therapeutic
3B: Early Intervention in Tennessee	Therapeutic
7B: Supporting Autistic Children	Trauma, therapeutic Fulfills specialty requirement for parents fostering children or youth on the autism spectrum or who have and intellectual developmental disability
8B: Preventing Suicide among Foster Care Youth	Trauma, therapeutic First year training requirement
9B: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders: A Closer Look	Trauma, therapeutic Fulfills specialty requirement for parents fostering children or youth on the autism spectrum or who have and intellectual developmental disability
10B: Human Trafficking Overview	Fulfills trafficking/exploitation requirement
1C: When and How to Turn a Crisis Into A Learning Event	Trauma, therapeutic
1D: Lying, Stealing, and Raging	Trauma, therapeutic
5E: Handle with Care Verbal De-escalation	Trauma, therapeutic
6E: Medical Resources and Information Refresher	Required every two years
7E: Creating Normalcy through Prudent Parenting	First year training requirement
3F: TBRI Empowering	Trauma, therapeutic

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the deadline for conference registration?

The deadline for registration is Friday, September 13, 2024. Due to the online nature of the conference and the need to communicate with participants ahead of workshops, there will be no exceptions.

How do we register if we are a couple or have other adults in the home?

Household members who will be attending the same courses can submit a single registration. Follow the prompts on the registration form to identify co-parents or additional household members in your registration.

If you do NOT intend to attend the same workshops, please submit separate registrations for each attendee.

How do I change my workshop selection?

Conference attendees may request changes to workshop selections by September 13, 2024. Please submit another registration form for any participants wishing to modify their workshop selections.

How many training credit hours are available this year?

Depending on workshop selections, participants can earn up to 12 hours if they attend workshops during each available session.

The conference is a great opportunity for DCS parents to fulfill training requirements for the year and helps provider parents fulfill additional therapeutic training requirements.

How do I access my virtual workshops?

Participants will receive individual web links for each course from messenger@webex.com. These emails will be sent the week of the conference. Please save this email address in your contacts and be sure to save the emails from the system so that you can easily access your workshops. Check spam, junk, clutter, and promotions folders if these emails do not appear in your inbox.

If you have not received these emails by September 18, 2024, contact ei_dcs.brightspace@tn.gov for assistance.

To find additional training opportunities, visit our website at

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt.html>

Live Virtual Classroom Deliveries (Webinars)

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt/calendars/post-state.html>

Self-Paced Online Training

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt/info/brightspace.html>

Podcast Series

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/cw-resources/dcs-talks.html>

Child Welfare Resources

<https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/cw-resources.html>

Introducing DCS Brightspace: A New Training Experience for Foster Parents

DCS Brightspace is a learning management system (LMS) that allows foster parents to complete trainings within a single platform, track their training progress and access completion certificates for trainings completed within the system. Our self-paced learning options are already available to complete in DCS Brightspace, and we are in the process of transitioning registration for live deliveries to this new platform as well.

If you have concerns about previous training records that are not reflected in DCS Brightspace, please speak with your Foster Parent Support Worker to ensure your completed trainings have been recorded in your file. You may also visit <https://www.tn.gov/dcs/program-areas/training/fpt/info/brightspace.html> to request a DCS Brightspace account if you do not yet have one.

Foster parents with private agencies may also request accounts for this new training platform; however please note that only trainings completed through DCS will be reflected. Provider agencies are responsible to track their own trainings and may have other systems and resources in addition to the trainings available to complete through DCS.