

## WHAT ELSE DOES THE UTHSC COE DO?

---

**TRAINING:** The UTHSC COE is coordinating statewide efforts to advance the implementation of Best Practices in the treatment of behavioral, cognitive, and emotional difficulties associated with child maltreatment and parent-child attachment problems. Current dissemination projects include Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT); Attachment, Self-Regulation, & Competency (ARC); and Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT). Training on other topics related to working with children and families can be provided to DCS workers, foster parents, and health services providers upon request.

**ON SITE CONSULTATION** at each of the regional DCS offices in West Tennessee is available on a monthly basis upon request.

---



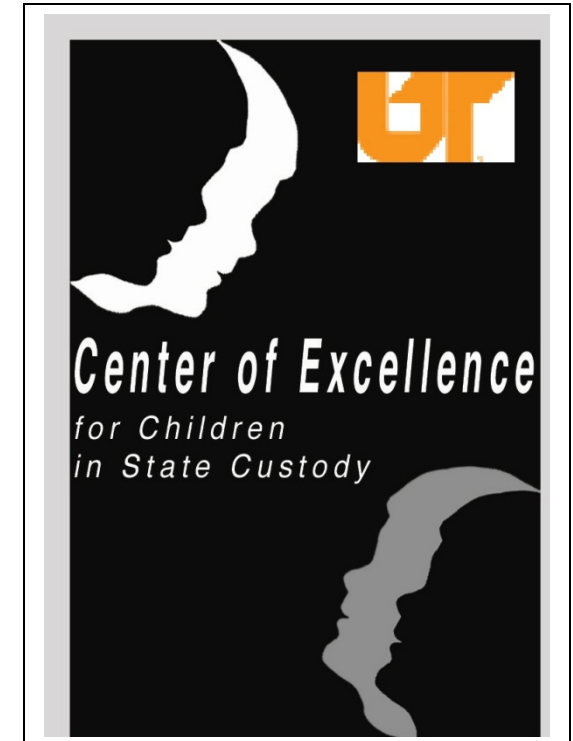
### **UTHSC Center of Excellence for Children in State Custody**

920 Madison Avenue, Suite 939  
Memphis, TN 38163  
Phone (901) 448-3420  
Fax (901) 448-3740

<https://www.uthsc.edu/bcdd/services/demonstration/coe/index.php>

## **UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER**

---



**THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED UNDER AN  
AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF  
TENNESSEE.**

---

## WHAT IS THE UTHSC CENTER OF EXCELLENCE?

The UTHSC Center of Excellence (COE) was established to serve as a referral center for children in or at risk of state custody in West Tennessee. The UTHSC COE is part of a statewide system of referral centers dedicated to increasing behavioral and physical health services to children in or at risk of state custody by providing both consultative and direct services.

## WHO ARE UTHSC COE STAFF MEMBERS?

The UTHSC COE is comprised of an inter-disciplinary clinical staff, including

**PSYCHOLOGISTS**  
**CHILD PSYCHIATRISTS**  
**PEDIATRICIANS**  
**SOCIAL WORKERS**  
**SPEECH PATHOLOGIST**

## WHAT DOES THE UTHSC COE DO?

Referral questions may include mental health, physical health, developmental, medication, or placement issues. The development of an individualized Care Plan for each child is a key part of what the COE has to offer. Following a thorough case review, clinical interview, medical exam, and/or more comprehensive evaluation, a Care Plan is developed by an inter-disciplinary team. The Care Plan includes specific treatment and placement recommendations. The COE provides ongoing support to DCS via case review while the Care Plan is implemented.

## WHAT ARE PSYCHIATRIC/PSYCHOLOGICAL/CLINICAL EVALUATIONS?

These evaluations are done to determine diagnoses and treatment needs. Evaluations involve reviewing records, interviewing the child or adolescent, and interviewing an adult who knows the child well (usually a caretaker) to obtain the child's history and current stressors, symptoms, and behaviors. A psychiatrist is a medical doctor and, therefore, can also review medications. A psychologist often uses formal testing procedures to assist in determining educational (most common use) and/or specific treatment needs. Clinical evaluations can also be completed by a licensed clinical social worker. After completing an evaluation, the clinician makes specific recommendations for treatment and/or placement.

## WHEN SHOULD A REFERRAL BE MADE?

- When the case is complex and there are diagnostic and mental health concerns
- When there are conflicting diagnoses among providers
- When a comprehensive review of the child's history (behavior, treatment, placement) would assist in determining the child's current needs

- When an evaluation or examination would add information needed for placement or treatment recommendations
- When there is concern about a developmental delay
- When there is concern about medications

## WHO CAN MAKE REFERRALS TO THE UTHSC COE?

Referrals are made primarily through the Regional Mental Health Consultants of the Department of Children's Services (DCS), although referrals can be initiated through other sources. All referrals must have DCS involvement.

## HOW ARE REFERRALS MADE?

Call the UTHSC COE: 901-448-3420

Or FAX or EMAIL a completed Intake/Data Sheet (provided on request or download at <https://www.uthsc.edu/bcdd/services/demonstration/coe/index.php>)

A staff member will contact the referrer to clarify the specific questions that need to be answered and to obtain additional formation.

**Call 901-448-3420**