

THE RECOVERY VOICE



TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION
OF RECOVERY COURT
PROFESSIONALS

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Latest TARCP Recovery Podcast



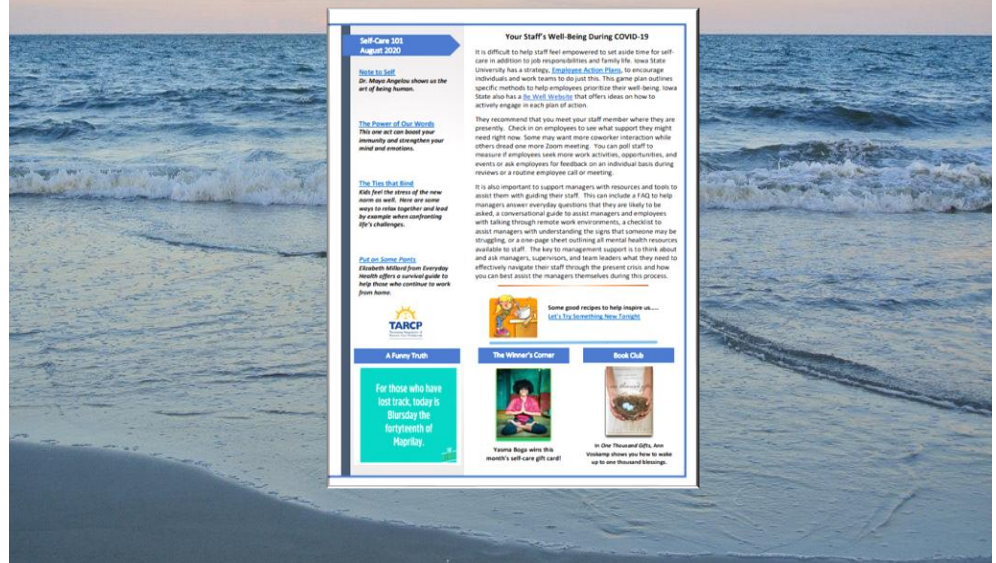
Please go to the below link to listen to the second podcast of the Director Series from Marie Crosson and Lauren Berens. Lauren and Marie cohost as they chat with Trish Breeding, Director of the Rutherford County Recovery Court Programs, about providing in-house services, and the blessings and challenges of doing so. Lauren Berens is the Director of the Davidson County General Sessions Treatment Court in Nashville, Tennessee, and is co-hosting this special series, specifically for directors and coordinators.

[Marie and Lauren Chat with Trish Breeding](#)

You can find all podcasts at [TARCP Podcasts](#). If you have an idea for a podcast topic, please reach out to Marie Crosson at marie.crosson@tarcp.org.

Self-Care Series

To view TARCP's Self-Care Series, please go to our website
<https://tarcp.org/resource-center#43-self-care-series>





Circuit Judge Don Elledge Steps Down

Seventh Judicial District Circuit Judge Don Elledge retired this past June. He established the 7th Judicial Drug court in 2007 and was elected president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference in 2019. Below is an article written by Marie Crosson on Judge Elledge, offering insight on his accomplishments and why he is so respected and loved by many. We are most grateful for his service and for the lives changed during his years on the bench.

Not too far outside of Knoxville, Tennessee, there's a recovery court that may or may not have a new judge yet. The judge who presided over the Anderson County Recovery Court, Judge Don Elledge, retired at the end of June, leaving a legacy that would make any person proud. Judge Elledge served as a judge in the 7th judicial district for 16 years, and for most of those years, he also presided over the recovery court. When asked, he also stepped up and supported the Morgan County program by presiding over that docket as well. In honor of Judge Elledge and his legacy, I wanted to share my own story and impressions of him, which go back a long, ahem, somewhat long time ago when I worked for the State of Tennessee.

Recovery courts, which are more commonly called drug courts (so I may use those terms interchangeably), were beginning to pop up all over the Tennessee map in the mid-2000s. There were already a handful of them, like Shelby County out of Memphis, DC4 in Nashville, the 27th and 5th judicial districts, to name a few. If I remember correctly, Anderson County came along around 2007, which means I was still working for the state and was working with the drug courts on their grants.

That would be the first year we had state appropriated dollars for drug courts too, so Judge Elledge and the stakeholders in the 7th judicial district took the opportunity to build something better than what they had. It was no small matter for judges during this time to make a decision to do something as bold as starting a drug court. I still remember we weren't sure if drug courts would gain footing and become permanent fixtures in the judicial landscape. The decision by early judges, like Judge Elledge, to do this was heftier than perhaps it is today, given the universal support and outcome data we now have on their effectiveness. So one thing I know is that Judge Elledge is bold.

(Continued on Next Page)



Circuit Judge Don Elledge Steps Down

In 2007, I was the drug court administrator for Tennessee, housed in the Office of Criminal Justice Programs, where the drug court funding resided, and occasionally I would get to visit those programs to see how they operated. I had the opportunity to visit the Anderson County Drug Court, or ACDC (always loved that acronym), and mentioned that my husband's side of the family has some connections to Clinton, TN, where the court resides. My husband's great uncle was Reverend Paul Turner, a Baptist Minister who walked with a group of 12 black children to school on December 4, 1956, in the midst of violence and protest at the desegregation of their schools. If you don't know about these brave children, the Clinton 12, please go to [The Clinton 12](#) and read their story. I mentioned this to Judge Elledge, and on my visit to see the recovery court, he personally took me to the memorial in Clinton, TN., where there are 12 life sized bronze statues of the twelve students and a few memorialized quotes, one of which is Reverend Turner's. So another thing I know is that Judge Elledge is magnanimous.

Not only has Judge Elledge been a judge, he has been a teacher, a coach, and has served in the armed forces. When there was a need to find a judge to preside over the Morgan County Residential Recovery Court, he stepped up, routinely traveling to Morgan County over several years to monitor and support not one, but two, programs. The families he has touched are in the hundreds upon hundreds, if not thousands. Judge Elledge is a servant to his community.

As I reflect on my interactions with Judge Elledge, I can say I am humbled and honored to know him. He has never once missed an opportunity to say a kind word to me when we are in the same room. More than that, he is one of Tennessee's pioneers. We should all be so humbled and honored that Judge Elledge and those like him have made the bold choice to help those who need help even when it's not easy. From the bottom of my heart, Judge Elledge, thank you for your service.





LEARN. ACHIEVE. SUCCEED.

Free Financial Empowerment Initiative Program

April Dagley Bozeman, Financial Empowerment Specialist, Community Health of East Tennessee, updates our members and courts on the new access to their free Financial Empowerment Initiative Program.

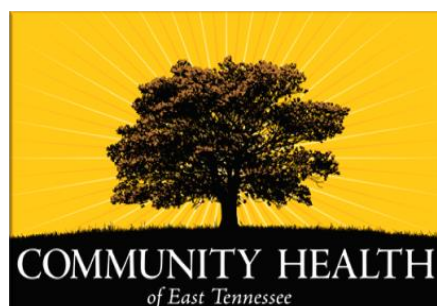
Community Health of East Tennessee (CHET) in LaFollette, Tennessee, partnered with the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence to bring the free Financial Empowerment Initiative Program to Campbell County and surrounding areas. CHET is currently working with Judge Shayne Sexton in the 8th Judicial District Recovery Court and developed an online course that is open to ALL Tennessee residents, no matter their location. CHET is now continuing to move forward with this financial resource tool, offering these services to other recovery court programs in Tennessee.

Many recovery court participants experience barriers to good financial health. The CHET program provides the financial knowledge to assist in the long-term success of these individuals and their families. Being able to reduce the triggers of anxiety and stress that come from worrying about money during recovery can be a game changer. This program aims to assist those in recovery, helping to lead them to a brighter future.

Along with gaining some great financial knowledge, there is even more incentive to attend the course! Completing the course comes with the opportunity to earn up to \$80 of Walmart Gift Cards!

CHET is utilizing the Allstate Foundation's Moving Ahead Through Financial Management Curriculum to increase financial skills. The course is a financial literacy program designed to prevent a primary risk factor of financial abuse, lack of financial knowledge and stability. Financial abuse is a common form of abuse, yet is rarely recognized. Although CHET's program is a domestic violence prevention tool, it is a traditional financial literacy course for all genders, consisting of financial fundamentals, savings, budgeting, credit, banking, further education, long-term planning, and retirement.

The online course is conducted over Zoom. It is a total of 4 sessions, with each session being about one-hour long. Participants can easily register online and sign-up for CHET's already scheduled weekly sessions, every Wednesday and Friday at various times of the day. Or they can request a day and time that better fits their schedule and CHET will do their best to accommodate. Please go to [CHET Financial Empowerment Initiative](#) for additional details.





September is National Recovery Month

September is National Recovery Month, bringing awareness and education on substance use treatment and behavioral health services. National Recovery Month establishes the importance of good mental health to our overall health and gives the courts another opportunity to show individuals and families that prevention and treatment work.

Recovery Month is a means we can use to reflect on the work of our courts, offering examples of the hard work we see from our participants each day, the fruits of their labor in real time. Through these life stories we can give those in need of treatment hope to try, or maybe to try again. We can do this through direct and indirect actions of the court, by example of self, and by reflection of court participants who came before those who stand in front of us.

In June of 2020 the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) announced they will no longer convene Recovery Month stakeholders or continue to develop themes, assets, or the events calendar. Fortunately, Faces & Voices of Recovery stepped in, developing a new Recovery Month website to host all Recovery Month events and assets. The theme for this year's recovery month is "Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community." The theme was selected to remind everyone recovery is not a journey taken alone. For more information go to [National Recovery Month 2021](https://www.nationalrecoverymonth.org). Share your stories on your social media to show individuals and families across the state that treatment is effective and recovery is a community. Don't forget to use **#recoverymonth!**

National Addiction Professionals Day was started by NAADAC in 1992 and it will be celebrated on September 20th this year as part of National Recovery Month. On this day we can recognize the diligent work of addiction professionals. Go to [2021 Addiction Professionals Day Outreach Toolkit](https://www.naadac.org/2021-addiction-professionals-day-outreach-toolkit) for more information. This toolkit offers tips on acknowledging the professionals we work with by using newsletters, social media, websites, blogs, etc. It also encourages professionals to share their own stories, what your work means to you, and how important your work is to the communities and courts you serve. Don't forget to use **#AddictionProfessionalsDay!**



September 20, 2021
Happy National Addiction
Professionals Day!

**ADDICTION
PROFESSIONALS
ARE AMAZING!**

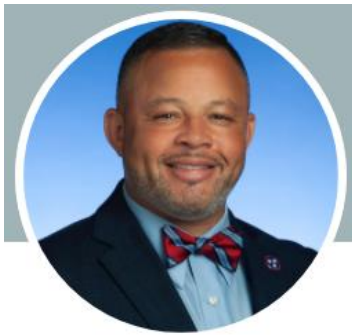


Important Dates and Reflection



International Overdose Awareness Day was started by Sally J. Flynn in Melbourne, Australia in 2001 to raise overdose awareness and remember those we've lost. To mark International Overdose Awareness Day, Commissioner Marie Williams posted a message that you can listen to by going to [Commissioner Marie Williams on International Overdose Awareness Day](#).

You can share this link [Tennessee Together](#) to help individuals learn more about preventing overdose.



Become a Collegiate Recovery Ally

The TDMHSAS Collegiate Recovery Initiative is taking off! We're proud to be partnering with Lipscomb University to host our first-ever Collegiate Recovery Academy. Our main man Monty Burks is going to be delivering a keynote you know can't be missed. It'll be a morning of education, energy, and excitement for creating recovery resources on campuses across this great state. Mark your calendar for September 15th and hit up this link to register:

[Tennessee Collegiate Recovery Academy Lipscomb University Event Registration](#)

Go to [Collegiate Recovery Ally](#) to learn more about Lipscomb University choosing this path.



Since September is National Recovery Month, We have a project that we want to put together. We are asking anyone in Recovery to send a short video to us with your story. You can have 30 days or 30 years plus of sobriety. We want to hear and share as many stories as we can about Recovery. It can be as simple as a short video on your phone. Include name, county/state that you live, and how long you've been in Recovery. You may email this to clanerops3n@gmail.com. We can't wait to hear your story! Message or email us with questions.

Davidson County Drug Court



In May, Davidson County Drug Court residents performed community service work, assisting with preparation of the new Davidson County Women's Residential Recovery Court Facility. Morgan County Residential Recovery Court residents constructed the beds in September of 2020. You can see the preview of the residential facility by going to [Women's Residential Recovery Court Preview](#).



Davidson County Drug Court had a recent women's outing, with participants enjoying the sun with an outdoor meeting, picnic, and volleyball.

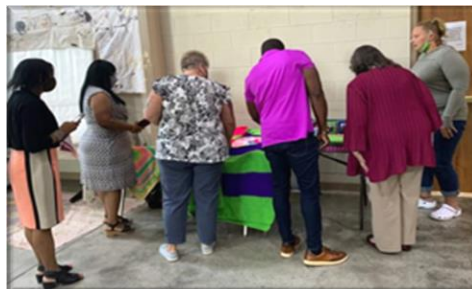
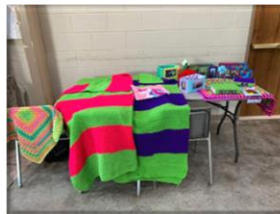
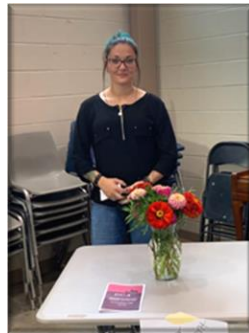


Davidson County Drug Court



The Residential Participants had a ceremony to honor International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st. "The ceremony helped recognize loved ones who have died of overdose. They created a safe, respectful place to mourn losses. The board has ribbons that has names of those lost to overdose. The ceremonies and those like it around the world bring awareness of the epidemic of overdose deaths, shares information on the risks of overdose and how to prevent overdose. We recognized that those who suffer addiction, MATTER, and the ones we've lost, MATTERED." ~Nancy Dabbs, DC4 Treatment Supervisor

DC-4 Serenitypalooza Talent Showcase September 2, 2021



Serenitypalooza is an event to showcase court participants talents. We congratulate all performers as they worked as a team and overcame "nerves" to be vulnerable enough to perform or display their art for the audience.

Participants sang both cover and original songs, taught us that crocheting and floral design can be therapeutic, with one participant creating emotional art for us, painting to music.



Grundy County Safe Baby Court



The Grundy County Safe Baby Court was honored to have the Nashville Predators Foundation visit and present a \$10,000 check on June 18th. This money will go towards a playground at their office to be utilized by the community for young children and their families. The Board of Directors review grant applications, which are awarded from \$500 to \$10,000, with the average grant award being \$3,000. Congratulations to Deanna French and Judge Trey Anderson and everyone and Grundy County Safe Baby Court! To see the presentation go to [GCTV6 News Grundy County Baby Court](#).



21st District Recovery Court

Congratulations to Claire Chesnutt, Treatment Director for the 21st District Recovery Court! She is now a Licensed Clinical Social Worker!! The Court appreciates all that you do for our participants and our program!



The 21st District Recovery Court Annual Picnic was held on June 6th at Pinkerton Park in Franklin, Tennessee. Participants, graduates, and their families and friends came together for a wonderful time of great food, fun and fellowship. We were especially happy to see the children of our participants who were able to attend! A great shout out to Claire Chesnutt, Taz Farmer, and Sherill Gilliam for pulling this together and to all of the folks who cooked and helped to set up and tear down after the picnic.

Lincoln County Recovery Court



The Lincoln County Recovery Court hosted a graduation ceremony on May 6th at the First United Methodist Church in Fayetteville, Tennessee. Congratulations to all those who graduated!



One of our recovery court participants recently celebrated one year of sobriety. His family brought in inflatable bounce houses, a water slide, and cooked hot dogs and hamburgers for everyone. It made Lucas' day that Judge Myrick was able to help him celebrate!

From left to right: Catina Fox, 17th Judicial Recovery Court Coordinator, Lucas Garrett, Lincoln County Recovery Court participant, and Judge Andrew Myrick, Lincoln County Recovery Court. Not pictured: Tony Patterson, Lincoln County Recovery Court Coordinator.



LINCOLN COUNTY
RECOVERY COURT

ACCOUNTABLE - RESPONSIBLE - ACHIEVABLE
EST. 2017

DeKalb County Recovery Court



Incredibly grateful to be with these team members at the national conference RISE21 at National Harbor! We have been inspired and filled with information we can't wait to bring home to our community!



NADCP RISE21 Conference
August 15-18, 2021
National Harbor, Maryland



31st Judicial Adult Recovery Court

On July 27th we held a graduation ceremony for 41 graduates at Park Theater in McMinnville, Tennessee. We would like to congratulate our newest recovery court graduates!! 🎓🎓🎓



Overton County Recovery Court



Judge Colson created the Overton County Recovery Court 6 years ago. He was attending the National Association of Drug Court Professionals' Annual Conference in Washington D.C. He is pictured here with fellow Tennessee Judges in attendance. Judge Colson and colleagues discussed substance abuse as well as Recovery Court best practices. Recovery Courts have proven to be the most successful and powerful tool available within the judicial system to assist individuals and communities in ending the cycle of addiction. We are very proud of the work we do and the impact it has on our community.



Morgan County Residential Court



Congratulations, Judge Elledge, not only on your retirement but on all of the years that you have worked towards it. You supervised the recovery and treatment of over 292 residents during your time at MCRRC, along with touching the lives of countless others across the state. We appreciate all that you have done for the State of Tennessee, and will miss you.



TARCP Training Opportunities

TARCP's September Lunchtime Learning Series: Multidisciplinary Teams BPS
National Best Practice VIII

September 29, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon (CST) Virtual Zoom

To register go to [September Lunchtime Learning Series](#)

TARCP's October Lunchtime Learning Series: Census and Caseloads
National Best Practice VIII

October 11-12, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon (CST) Virtual Zoom

To register go to [October Lunchtime Learning Series](#)

TARCP's Annual Conference

Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center

Murfreesboro, TN

December 8-10, 2021

To register go to [TARCP Annual Conference](#)

TARCP's December Lunchtime Learning Series: Monitoring and Evaluation
National Best Practice X

December 29, 2021 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon (CST) Virtual Zoom

To register go to [December Lunchtime Learning Series](#)

TAADAS Training Opportunities

Implicit Bias in Clinical Practice

Presenter: Mark Sanders, LCSW, CADC

October 7, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon (CST)

Registration info forthcoming... stay tuned!

Implicit biases are pervasive in our society. They can determine who goes to prison; who gets hired, promoted, and fired; who gets seen first in emergency rooms; and who gets the treatment mental health and substance use they need.

This presentation focuses on implicit bias in addiction and mental health treatment. Topics covered include how implicit bias can affect engagement, retention, and outcomes in clinical practice; changing demographics and the need to address implicit bias; research on how to turn implicit biases into explicit biases; implicit bias intervention strategies in the clinical relationship; a strength-based approach to addressing implicit biases in the clinical relationship.

TAADAS Training Opportunities

Trauma - A Growing Epidemic with Families

Presenter: Dr. Lucy Cannon, LCSW, LICSW, CCDP-D, MATS

October 8, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CST)

To register go to [Trauma-A Growing Epidemic with Families](#)

Once upon a time, we as society did not have to see or hear about trauma events because of a lack of technology. Today, we have the capabilities to see trauma scenes from our own personal experiences with trauma to seeing it played out in our world through television, radio, newspaper, cell phones, YouTube, and other forms of media because of the continuous advancement of technology.

We also have this need to see and hear about various events and situations that causes trauma for other people rather through natural disasters, terrorism such as the terroristic attack by ISIS on France, the Charleston Church shooting incident that left nine people dead, and police involvement in shootings of African- Americans and other minority groups to name a few. All of these victims' families are negatively impacted by these traumatic events. Victims of trauma are oftentimes mentally and emotionally devastated over various types of trauma events.

"Traumas can cause traumatic stress responses in family members with consequences that ripple through family relationships and impede optimal family functioning." (Collins, K. et.al, 2010) Mental health professionals have spent a great deal of time providing treatment for victims of trauma with limited inclusion of family members. This workshop will assist healthcare professionals in helping individuals and family members work through trauma and help them develop effective coping skills.

2-Day Motivational Interviewing Training

Presenter: Alan Lyme, LISW, MAC, CCS

October 13-14, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (CST)

To register go to [2-Day Motivational Interviewing Training](#)

Motivational Interviewing (MI) is a collaborative, goal-oriented style of communication with particular attention to the language of change. It is designed to strengthen personal motivation for and commitment to a specific goal by eliciting and exploring the person's own reasons for change within an atmosphere of acceptance and compassion

Ethics and Practical Wisdom

Presenter: James Campbell, LPC,LAC, MAC,CACII

October 29, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to Noon (CST)

To register go to [Ethics and Practical Wisdom](#)

This session will introduce addiction professionals to ethics relative to their relationships with clients, families, employers, and the profession. It will address the importance of confidentiality and the duties and responsibilities of professionals, with emphases on duty to warn, self-disclosure, dual relationships, and differing professional roles. This workshop can be foundational training for those new to the field while providing NAADAC code of ethics for seasoned professionals.

New Frontiers in Addiction 2021

November 15-16, 2021

Guest Speakers Susan Weiss, NIH and Dr. Merrel Norton

Registration info forthcoming – save the date!

Event will cover new research, treatment protocols and prevention, tools addressing Kratom, Cannabis, and vaping.

Don't Forget to Mark Your Calendars!



Register today!
23rd Annual Recovery Court Conference
December 8-10, 2021
Embassy Suites and Convention Center
Murfreesboro, Tennessee





TARCP

Tennessee Association of
Recovery Court Professionals

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