
From Then to Now:
Decades of Growth, Innovation, and Investment
1950s
1960s
1970s
1980s
1990s
2000s
2010s
2020s
2026 & Beyond
Keeping the Promise
tamho
tennessee association of mental health organizations
TAMHO Annual Conference
December 10–11, 2026
Franklin Cool Springs Marriott Hotel | Franklin, TN
Together We're Shaping a Healthier Future for Tennessee

TAMHO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

December 10–11, 2026

Be Part of What's Next *for Behavioral Health* IN TENNESSEE

From Then to Now:
Decades of Growth, Innovation, and Investment

Fresh perspectives. Meaningful connections. A shared vision for the future of behavioral healthcare.

Join colleagues and partners for two days of learning, inspiration, and connection.

Franklin Cool Springs Marriott
Franklin, Tennessee

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

REGISTER NOW

To register, scan the QR Code above or visit
https://tamhoconference2026.eventbrite.com/

AGENDA

Join TAMHO for our 2026 annual conference, ***From Then to Now: Decades of Growth, Innovation, and Investment***, as we explore the evolution of behavioral healthcare, celebrate Tennessee's progress, and look ahead to the opportunities shaping our future. Through national and state perspectives, emerging technologies, innovative treatments, and thought-provoking discussions, we'll connect leaders and partners committed to strengthening behavioral healthcare across Tennessee.

Wednesday, December 9th

Specific access times will be shared at a later date
Expo Hall Move-In & Booth Set-Up

Thursday, December 10th

7:00AM-9:00AM
Expo Hall Booth Set-Up

8:00AM-4:00PM
Registration | Expo Hall | Networking/Refreshments

9:00AM-10:15AM
OPENING General Session - From Then to Now: A National Perspective on Behavioral Healthcare

10:15AM-10:30AM
Expo Hall | Networking/Refreshments

10:30AM-11:30AM
General Session - From Then to Now: A Decade of Progress in Tennessee Behavioral Healthcare

11:30AM-11:45AM
Transition to Awards Ceremony

11:30AM-12:45PM
TAMHO Awards Luncheon and Ceremony

12:45PM-1:00PM
Transition to General Session

1:00PM-2:15PM
General Session - Putting AI to Work Responsibly in Behavioral Health
BONUS - AI Stage-Side Conversation

2:15PM-2:30PM
EXPO HALL | NETWORKING/REFRESHMENTS

2:30PM-3:30PM
General Session - Game Changers: Emerging Treatments Transforming Behavioral Healthcare

3:30PM-4:00PM
EXPO HALL

4:00PM
DAY 1 ADJOURNS

Friday, December 11th

8:30AM-10:00AM
Registration | Expo Hall | Networking / Refreshments

9:00AM-10:30AM
Closing General Session - What Gets Lost When Leaders Get Busy? Making Space for What Matters in How We Lead

10:00AM
Expo Hall Move-Out & Booth Dismantling

10:30AM
Conference Adjourns

Titanium Conference Sponsors

ACADIA HEALTHCARE

eleos

HB STRATEGIES Tennessee

TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Opening General Session

From Then to Now: A National Perspective on Behavioral Healthcare

9:00AM – 10:15AM • Thursday, December 10, 2026



WELCOME REMARKS

Alysia Smith Knight

Executive Director • **Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO)**



OPENING REMARKS

Jimmie Jackson

TAMHO President • Chief Executive Officer • **Professional Care Services of West TN**



GUEST SPEAKER

Chuck Ingoglia, MSW

President & CEO
National Council for Mental Wellbeing

About This Session

Behavioral healthcare continues to evolve in response to changing public policy, advances in treatment, workforce challenges, and growing demand for services. Drawing on the National Council for Mental Wellbeing's national leadership and expertise, this session will explore key milestones that have shaped the field, emerging trends, and opportunities to strengthen community-based behavioral health services.

Participants will gain insight into how national advocacy, research, technical assistance, and innovative practices are helping providers navigate change and prepare for the future. The session will also highlight the value of TAMHO's 100% member benefit through the National Council, connecting Tennessee's behavioral health providers to national resources, expertise, and advocacy that support their organizations and the communities they serve.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Examine historical milestones and policy developments that have shaped behavioral healthcare in the United States.
- Identify emerging national trends and challenges affecting behavioral health providers, including federal policy changes, workforce capacity, access to care, and financial sustainability.
- Recognize how national advocacy, technical assistance, research, and provider collaboration can help organizations navigate change and strengthen services.
- Identify opportunities to leverage TAMHO's 100% member benefit through the National Council for Mental Wellbeing to access resources, expertise, and advocacy that support their organizations.

General Session

From Then to Now: A Decade of Progress in Tennessee Behavioral Healthcare

10:30AM – 11:30AM • Thursday, December 10, 2026



OPENING REMARKS

Alysia Smith Knight

Executive Director • **Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO)**



SESSION MODERATOR

Matt Hardy, PsyD

Market CEO TN • **Centerstone**



PANELIST

Marie Williams, LCSW

Commissioner
Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS)



PANELIST

Mona Blanton Kitts

TAMHO Incoming President • Chief Executive Officer
McNabb Center



PANELIST

Phyllis Persinger

Chief Executive Officer
Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System



PANELIST

Laurie Powell

Chief Executive Officer
Alliance Healthcare Services

About This Session

Over the past decade, Tennessee's behavioral health system has experienced significant growth, innovation, and investment. Under the leadership of Commissioner Marie Williams, the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS) has advanced initiatives to expand access to care, strengthen community-based services, and address the evolving behavioral health needs of Tennesseans. This session will highlight accomplishments and findings from the Tennessee Behavioral Health Commission's report, examining the progress made, lessons learned, and opportunities to build on this foundation. Commissioner Williams will be joined by TAMHO provider leaders representing East, Middle, and West Tennessee, who will share regional perspectives on the impact of these efforts, the challenges their organizations continue to navigate, and priorities for the future. Together, these perspectives will celebrate Tennessee's progress while exploring opportunities to strengthen the state's behavioral health system for the next decade.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify accomplishments and innovations in Tennessee's behavioral health system over the past decade.
- Summarize significant findings and recommendations from the Tennessee Behavioral Health Commission's report and their implications for behavioral health services.
- Examine regional perspectives on progress, challenges, and emerging needs across East, Middle, and West Tennessee.
- Identify opportunities to build on Tennessee's progress through continued state-provider collaboration, strategic investment, and innovation.

General Session

Putting AI to Work Responsibly in Behavioral Health

1:00PM – 2:15PM • Thursday, December 10, 2026



WELCOME REMARKS

Alysia Smith Knight

Executive Director • **Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO)**

Bonus!

2:00PM – 2:15PM • Thursday, December 10, 2026

AI Stage-Side Conversation

Your Questions. Real Challenges. Meaningful Dialogue.

Stay with us following the AI session for an engaging, informal conversation exploring your most pressing questions, challenges, and opportunities surrounding AI in behavioral health.

Bring your curiosity, share your perspectives, and join the dialogue!



SPEAKER

Trent Gillespie

Operational AI™ Strategist | CEO, Stellis AI | Creator of The AI SPRINT™ | Former Amazon executive helping organizations operationalize AI to drive measurable results – and create jobs, not just eliminate them.

About This Session

AI is changing what the people you serve expect, what new competitors can offer, and how care organizations operate. In this session, AI strategist, former Amazon leader, and Stellis AI CEO Trent Gillespie shows what these shifts mean for Tennessee's community behavioral health providers and how to make responsible progress with AI. Drawing on his work across industries and his Future Customer™ and AI SPRINT™ frameworks, he covers where AI is reducing administrative burden and improving workflows today, how to get started within existing resources, and what responsible governance looks like in practice. The session directly addresses the concerns leaders and clinicians raise most: protecting patient information, managing risk, staying within changing regulations, and preserving the human relationship at the center of care.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Describe AI's current and emerging capabilities and how they are changing care delivery, client expectations, and the competitive landscape for community behavioral health.
- Use the AI SPRINT™ framework to identify practical, lower-risk opportunities to apply AI to administrative and operational workflows, and define first steps.
- Describe the core elements of responsible AI governance, including organizational policy and data protection, and how to address common staff and clinician concerns.

General Session

GAME CHANGERS
Emerging Treatments Transforming Behavioral Healthcare

2:30PM – 3:30PM • Thursday, December 10, 2026



SESSION MODERATOR

Jimmie Jackson

TAMHO President • Chief Executive Officer
Professional Care Services of West TN

About This Session

Behavioral health treatment is evolving at an unprecedented pace. Advances in neuroscience, pharmacology, technology, and personalized medicine are creating new possibilities for treating mental health and substance use conditions, challenging traditional approaches and expanding what is possible for individuals with complex behavioral health needs.

From long-acting injectable medications and rapid-acting treatments to psychedelic-assisted approaches, neuromodulation, precision medicine, digital therapeutics, and other technology-enabled interventions, the next generation of behavioral health treatment is already beginning to take shape. Some innovations are changing clinical practice today, while others are still emerging and prompting important questions about their evidence base, regulatory pathways, accessibility, and potential application.

This forward-looking panel will bring together experts across multiple areas of treatment innovation to examine the science, clinical applications, and potential impact of these developments. Panelists will offer perspectives on breakthrough approaches, where the field is headed, and what behavioral health leaders and providers should understand as the treatment landscape continues to evolve.

Participants will leave with a broader understanding of the innovations shaping the future of behavioral health treatment, a clearer perspective on what is ready for implementation versus what remains on the horizon, and insight into how organizations can begin preparing for the next generation of care.



PANELIST

Timothy Adegoke, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of General Psychiatry
Vanderbilt University Medical Center



PANELIST

Christabel Okegbe, MD

Medical Science Liaison, Schizophrenia, Medical Affairs
Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, Neuroscience



PANELIST

Karen Derefinko, PhD

Professor of Preventive Medicine
The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Department of Preventive Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, Addiction Science, and Toxicology

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify significant advances in behavioral health treatment, including long-acting injectable medications, rapid-acting treatments, psychedelic-assisted approaches, neuromodulation, and precision medicine.
- Evaluate the current evidence, clinical applications, regulatory considerations, and implementation readiness of emerging treatment approaches.
- Examine the organizational and system-level considerations involved in integrating innovative treatments into community behavioral health settings, including workforce readiness, clinical infrastructure, reimbursement, access, and organizational capacity.
- Recognize emerging opportunities and developments that may shape the future of behavioral health care and inform organizational planning, partnerships, and investment.

Opening General Session

What Gets Lost When Leaders Get Busy?
Making Space for What Matters in How We Lead

9:00AM – 10:30AM • Friday, December 11, 2026



WELCOME REMARKS

Chloe Ligon-Smith

Director of Policy and Advocacy • **Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO)**



OPENING REMARKS & INTRODUCTIONS

Mona Blanton Kitts

TAMHO Incoming President • *Chief Executive Officer* • **McNabb Center**



CLOSING REMARKS

Alysia Smith Knight

Executive Director • **Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations (TAMHO)**



GUEST SPEAKER

Judge Steven C. Hornsby, JD, CLC

Leadership Coach, Consultant, and Former Tennessee Judge
Inner Leadership Institute



GUEST SPEAKER

Heather Taylor Griffith, LCSW, CPC

Leadership Coach, Consultant, and Licensed Social Worker
Inner Leadership Institute

About This Session

The demands of leadership require constant attention to decisions, challenges, and organizational priorities. It can become harder to stay connected to the values, strengths, and sense of purpose that guide how we want to lead.

This interactive, 90-minute session invites behavioral health leaders to pause, gain perspective, and consider what deserves renewed attention. Grounded in self-awareness and reflective practice, the experience combines brief teaching, guided individual reflection, and structured conversation with peers. Participants will explore what has shaped their leadership, recognize qualities they want to carry forward, and examine how those qualities find expression in everyday actions.

Through intentional listening and dialogue, participants will gain perspective on their own leadership journey and learn from the experiences of others. They will leave with a clearer sense of what matters to them, a reflection process they can revisit, and a specific intention for putting that awareness into practice in an everyday leadership moment.

Learning Objectives

At the conclusion of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify how formative experiences, values, and strengths have shaped who they are as leaders.
- Use structured reflection to examine alignment between how they currently lead and the leader they want to become.
- Practice intentional listening and dialogue to learn from peers and consider different perspectives.
- Identify a specific way to practice becoming the leader they want to be in their day-to-day interactions.

Speaker & Panelist Biographical Sketches

Timothy Adegoke, MD

Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Division of General Psychiatry, Vanderbilt University Medical Center



Timothy Adegoke, MD, is an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, specializing in consultation-liaison and interventional psychiatry. He provides psychiatric consultation services to hospitalized medical and surgical patients and serves on Vanderbilt's neuromodulation team, delivering treatments including electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS). Dr. Adegoke completed his psychiatry residency at Carilion Clinic–Virginia Tech and a fellowship in consultation-liaison psychiatry at Vanderbilt. His professional interests include innovative treatments for complex and treatment-resistant psychiatric conditions, psychosomatic medicine, and clinical education.

Mona Blanton Kitts

TAMHO Incoming President / President and Chief Executive Officer, McNabb Center



Mona Blanton-Kitts serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of the McNabb Center, a leading nonprofit provider of behavioral health and social services in East Tennessee. With 40 years of experience at the Center, she began her career in 1986 as an adult case manager and advanced through numerous clinical and executive leadership roles before being named CEO in 2022. Throughout her career, she has played an instrumental role in expanding behavioral health services, strengthening community-based care, and advancing innovative programs across East Tennessee. Recognized for her visionary leadership and commitment to improving lives, she is a recipient of the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations' (TAMHO) prestigious Dorothea Dix Professional Service Award.

Karen Derefinko, PhD

Professor of Preventive Medicine, The University of Tennessee Health Science Center, Department of Preventive Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, Addiction Science, and Toxicology



Karen Derefinko, PhD, is a Professor of Preventive Medicine at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, where her research focuses on substance use prevention, addiction treatment, and behavioral health interventions. A clinical psychologist, she has led numerous studies examining opioid use disorder, treatment engagement, behavioral interventions, and innovative approaches to improving recovery outcomes. Her work increasingly incorporates technology-based assessments and interventions to advance substance use research and treatment. Dr. Derefinko earned her doctorate in clinical psychology from the University of Kentucky and has received recognition for her research and academic leadership.

Trent Gillespie

AI Keynote Speaker, CEO of Stellis AI, Former Amazon Executive



Trent Gillespie is a seasoned technology leader with over 25 years of expertise in driving innovation and growth across the tech industry. His illustrious career includes nearly a decade as a Senior Technology Executive at Amazon, where he played a pivotal role in spearheading the company's global expansion efforts across various business units and geographies. Trent led the Amazon's Alexa Privacy, Risk, and Compliance function, ensuring the Alexa AI was private and secure globally, and he revolutionized Amazon's delivery capabilities with AI, while leading it's Last Mile Technology Innovation team. Currently, as the CEO of Stellis AI, Trent collaborates with business leaders across industries to unlock growth potential through AI. His deep understanding of AI and technology, coupled with his ethical stewardship, positions him as a prominent figure in the AI landscape. Based in Seattle, Trent is not only an influential AI keynote speaker but also an active participant in the local tech community, offering consultancy and transformative training sessions that empower businesses to harness AI for sustainable success.

Heather Taylor Griffith, LCSW, CPC

Leadership Coach, Consultant, and Licensed Clinical Social Worker



Heather Taylor Griffith is a licensed clinical social worker and certified professional coach with more than 20 years of experience spanning clinical practice, nonprofit leadership, and statewide executive leadership roles with the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Heather believes how we show up as leaders creates a ripple effect, shaping our relationships, the people we work alongside, and the communities we serve. Today, Heather works as an executive coach, leadership facilitator, and consultant. Drawing on her Safety & Stretch Leadership® framework, she helps individuals and teams deepen self-awareness, strengthen relationships, and turn insight into intentional action. Heather lives in Davidson, North Carolina, with her husband, Andrew, and enjoys spending time around Lake Norman.

Judge Steven C. Hornsby, JD, CLC

Inner Leadership Institute, Leadership Coach, Consultant, and Former Tennessee Judge



Judge Steven C. Hornsby (Ret.), JD, CLC spent more than four decades in the courtroom and executive leadership—as a trial lawyer, elected judge, senior state government official, and healthcare executive. Throughout his career, his work has centered on helping people and improving systems by strengthening the human dimension of leadership. Today, Steve serves as an executive coach, leadership trainer, and consultant, developing the Inner Leader—cultivating self-awareness, emotional intelligence, growth, and wise action in executives, lawyers, and other professionals. He partners with senior leaders, as well as leadership teams, to deepen their capacity to lead themselves and create a positive ripple effect across the organization. Through coaching, retreats, and experiential workshops, he guides leaders in turning insight into sustainable personal growth. He integrates neuroscience, positive psychology, adult development, and wisdom traditions to support leaders in living and leading at their highest potential. He lives in Nashville and spends time with family and friends, often in Nature. He enjoys collecting waterfalls.

Chuck Ingoglia, MSW

President & CEO, National Council for Mental Wellbeing



Chuck Ingoglia, MSW, is President and CEO of the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, where he leads national efforts to expand access to high-quality mental health and substance use care. His extensive background spans behavioral health policy, advocacy, workforce development, and service system improvement. Before becoming CEO, he led the National Council's policy and practice improvement initiatives. A dedicated advocate for community-based care, Ingoglia holds bachelor's and master's degrees in social work from The Catholic University of America.



Speaker & Panelist Biographical Sketches

Christabel Okegbe, MD

Medical Science Liaison, Schizophrenia, Medical Affairs, Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, Neuroscience



Christabel Okegbe, MD, is a Medical Science Liaison (MSL) supporting schizophrenia for Johnson & Johnson Innovative Medicine, across the state of Florida. Her work focuses on scientific exchange, medical education, evidence generation, and collaboration with healthcare professionals and health systems. She earned her Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree from McGovern Medical School in Houston, TX, and holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from The University of the South in Sewanee, TN. Originally from the eastern region of Nigeria, Christabel has a passion for exploring diverse cultures through culinary experiences, travel, and music. Her warm, open-minded approach to life reflects her dedication to learning and connecting with people from all walks of life.

Phyllis Persinger

Chief Executive Officer, Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System



Phyllis is a true leader and advocate for mental health in Tennessee. She is the President and CEO of Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System, the largest community mental health agency in the state. With over 35 years of experience, she has dedicated her career to ensuring that individuals and families across Tennessee have access to the care and support they need. Under her leadership, Volunteer Behavioral Health serves over 50 counties through 21 locations, including the Chattanooga Campus, home to the state's first Crisis Stabilization Unit, built over 20 years ago. Volunteer Behavioral Health provides life-changing services to children, youth, adults, and families—helping those experiencing crisis with mobile crisis response teams, substance use disorders with detox and IOP groups, mental health challenges with medication management and therapy, and homelessness with several grant-funded programs. Phyllis has spearheaded innovative programs like 'No Wrong Door' and 'Same Day Access,' ensuring that anyone in need can find help when they need it most. She's also led the organization through major advancements, including the expansion of telehealth services, the formation of the Volunteer Leadership Academy, and embedding behavioral health liaisons with hospitals, police departments, and health departments to truly meet people when and where they needed help. Guided by the principle of 'One Team, One Dream,' Phyllis and her team live out Volunteer Behavioral Health's mission every day: 'Help today for a better tomorrow.'

Laurie Powell, MSSW

Chief Executive Officer, Alliance Healthcare Services



Laurie Powell serves as CEO of Alliance Healthcare Services (AHS), which provides behavioral health and addiction services to over 22,000 individuals and families at 20 locations throughout Shelby County, Tennessee. 2025 marks 32 years of employment at Alliance where Ms. Powell has previously served in the roles of Vice President of Clinical Services, Deputy Director, and Clinical Director. Ms. Powell is a member of the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations and currently serves on their Board of Directors and Legislative Committees. She has also served on Mayor Strickland's Community Health Steering Committee, Shelby County Covid-19 task force representing behavioral health, the Shelby County non-profit committee, the Healing Center's Wellness Clinic Board of Directors, and Children's Ballet Board of Directors. She recently spearheaded the opening of the Adult Crisis Center, a 34-million-dollar facility in 2025 and the Children's Wellness center on the same "Wellness Campus" as the adult facility in June 2026. She won CEO of the year in 2025 from Memphis Magazine, Superwoman in Business from Memphis Business Journal in 2026, and the Community Partner Award from the Memphis Police Department, Clergy Collaborative. She is dedicated to partnering with the community to "promote wellness", the mission of Alliance Healthcare Services. Ms. Powell received a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Memphis, a master's degree in sociology from the University of Memphis, and an MSSW from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Marie Williams, LCSW

Commissioner, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS)



Marie Williams, LCSW, serves as Commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (TDMHSAS), leading statewide efforts to strengthen prevention, treatment, and recovery services. Appointed commissioner in 2016, she has championed community-based care, supportive housing, and partnerships that expand access to behavioral health services. Her leadership includes creating Tennessee's award-winning Creating Homes Initiative. A licensed clinical social worker, Williams holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Austin Peay State University.





Honoring Our Past. Investing in Our Future.

With gratitude to the partners who help make our continued progress possible.

TITANIUM SPONSORS

ACADIA HEALTHCARE

eleos

HB STRATEGIES Tennessee

TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Johnson&Johnson

GOLD SPONSORS

CENTERSTONE

SILVER SPONSORS

alliance HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Definium THERAPEUTICS

Kingsway Group
Keeping People Safe

United Healthcare Community Plan

Wellpoint

BRONZE SPONSORS

Allied Behavioral Health Solutions

Altruix

BlueCare Tennessee

Cantata Health Solutions

Clinically AI

genoa healthcare

HOLON HEALTH

Netsmart

openbots COORDIO HEALTH

Streamline HEALTHCARE

Team Mobile Health Care

The University of Tennessee Knoxville College of Social Work

COPPER SPONSORS

Covenant Health Peninsula

Rural Health Association of Tennessee

TN VOICES

Volunteer Behavioral Health

SUPPORTING SPONSORS

AIMHiTN

Mental Health Association of east tennessee

MHA Mental Health America of the MidSouth

NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness Tennessee

nasw Tennessee Chapter

TAADAS

TARCP Tennessee Association of Recovery Court Professionals

Tennessee Co-Occurring Disorders Collaborative www.tncodc.com

Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth

Tennessee Disability Coalition

Tennessee Collegiate Recovery Initiative

TN-NADD

Peer Wellness Initiative

Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network

TAMHO
The voice of behavioral healthcare in Tennessee for nearly 70 years



Continuing Professional Development

A certificate of continuing professional development for up to 6.00 contact/clock hours will be made available by TAMHO to all participants upon request for documentation of clock/contact hours earned during this conference.

National Association of Social Workers - Tennessee Chapter
This program has been submitted to the National Association of Social Workers – Tennessee Chapter for consideration of continuing education units. **APPROVAL IS PENDING.**

Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists, and Clinical Pastoral Therapists
As stated within the rules and regulations of the State of Tennessee Board for Professional Counselors (0450-01-.12-(5)-(a)-1-vi and vii), Marital and Family Therapists (0450-02-.12-(5)-(a)-1-vi and vii), and Clinical Pastoral Therapists (0450-03-.12-(5)-(a)-1-vi and vii), the hours approved for this conference by APA and/or NASW are considered pre-approved hours acceptable for submission of documentation for continuing professional development for individuals licensed by this Board. **APPROVAL IS PENDING**.

State of Tennessee - Health Related Boards - Board of Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (LADAC)
As stated within the rules and regulations of the State of Tennessee Board of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (1200-30-01-.12), TAMHO is considered an authorized entity for continuing education courses, events, and activities related to the practice of alcohol and drug abuse counseling. Individuals are responsible for assessing and determining the appropriateness of session content as relates to LADAC continuing professional development requirements.

Tennessee Certified Family Support Specialist (CFSS)
This program has been submitted to the Tennessee Certified Family Support Specialists for consideration of continuing education units. **APPROVAL IS PENDING.**

Tennessee Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS)
This program has been submitted to the Tennessee Certified Peer Recovery Specialists for consideration of continuing education units. **APPROVAL IS PENDING.**

Tennessee Certified Young Adult Peer Support Specialist (CYAPSS)
This program has been submitted to the Tennessee Certified Young Adult Peer Support Specialists for consideration of continuing education units. **APPROVAL IS PENDING.**

tamho
tennessee association of mental health organizations

It is the responsibility of the event attendee to use their professional judgment, to justify the continuing educational programs attended or electronic or digital media viewed meet the guidelines of their respective licensure or certification boards/agencies and is relevant to their professional practice.

Registration and Attendee Information

Registration Category	Fee
Staff of TAMHO Member Agencies *refer to the member listing on the final page of this document to determine if you qualify for this rate*	**$420.00 per person**
Non-Member Attendees	**$470.00 per person**
Awards Luncheon Only	**$100.00 per person**

The Awards Luncheon is included with full conference registration.

The luncheon-only option is available for individuals attending only the Awards Luncheon and Ceremony on December 10, 2026.

Sponsors requiring additional registrations beyond their complimentary allotment may select the TAMHO member registration fee for their additional registration needs.

Registration rates are fixed; no early bird discount is offered. Overnight accommodations must be reserved separately.



Sponsor & Exhibitor Registration

All sponsor representatives and exhibit booth personnel are required to register individually, including those eligible for complimentary registration. Sponsors may utilize the complimentary registrations included with their respective sponsorship level. Additional representatives exceeding the allotted complimentary registrations may register at the TAMHO member rate of $420 per person. Please coordinate registrations within your organization to ensure complimentary registrations are appropriately allocated and do not exceed the number included with your sponsorship package.

Cancellations, Substitutions, and Refunds

Cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to tamho@tamho.org. Cancellations received before November 25, 2026, are eligible for **a refund**, less any registration platform assessed fees. **No refunds** will be issued for cancellations received on or after November 25, 2026. **Substitutions are welcome** at any time with no additional charge.

Conference Location & Parking

Franklin Cool Springs Marriott Hotel
700 Cool Springs Boulevard
Franklin, Tennessee

Parking is complimentary.

Hotel reservations

Visit **https://www.tamho.org/TAMHO-Annual-Conference** to access the link to reserve overnight accommodations at the Franklin Cool Springs Marriott Hotel. **Discounted rate expires November 18, 2026.**

Accessibility & Dietary Requests

Please indicate accessibility accommodations or dietary needs during online registration.

To help us coordinate arrangements, please provide notice at your earliest convenience but no later than November 25, 2026.

For assistance, contact Teresa Fuqua at tfuQua@tamho.org.

Advance Registration Encouraged

To ensure adequate preparation of registration materials, attendees are strongly encouraged to register by Friday, **December 4, 2026**. Registrations received after this date will be accepted as space permits; however, personalized name badges, printed programs, and other conference materials may not be available at onsite check-in. TAMHO will make every reasonable effort to accommodate late registrants and provide available conference materials.





- **Questions & Updates:** TAMHO@TAMHO.ORG | 615-244-2220
- **All conference times are Central Time zone.**
- **Sessions, speakers, and schedules are subject to change.**
- **Visit the conference webpage for the latest information.**

To register, scan the QR Code above or visit

https://tamhoconference2026.eventbrite.com/

Honoring the People. Celebrating the Progress.

2026 TAMHO Awards & Recognition Luncheon and Ceremony

Thursday, December 10, 2026
11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Central
Franklin Cool Springs Marriott Hotel

Behind every advance in behavioral healthcare are people whose dedication makes progress possible. Join us as we celebrate the leadership, service, courage, and innovation strengthening behavioral healthcare across Tennessee.

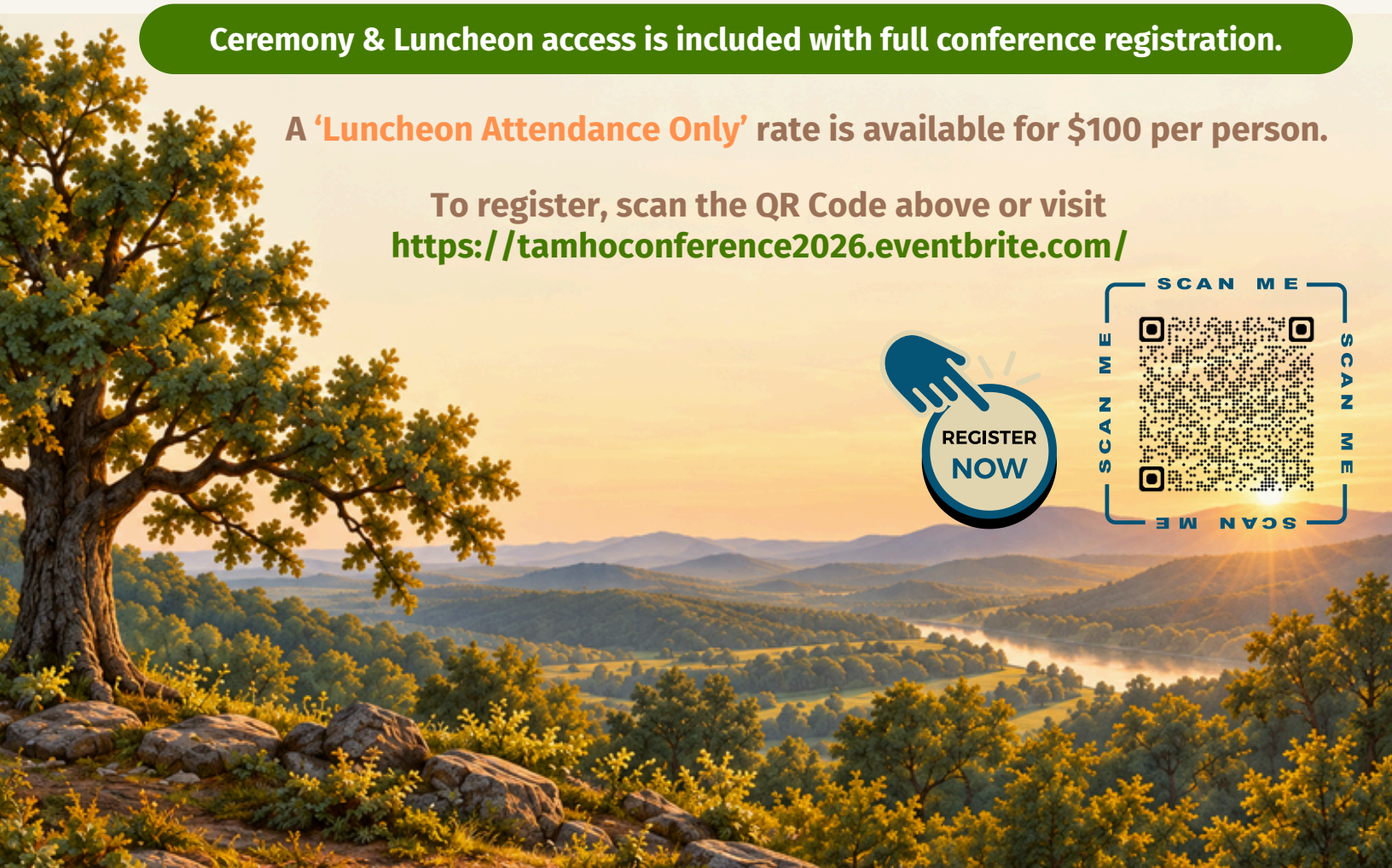
A Legacy of Recognition

For more than four decades, TAMHO has celebrated the people and organizations advancing behavioral healthcare in Tennessee. This year's celebration carries that legacy forward.

Ceremony & Luncheon access is included with full conference registration.

A 'Luncheon Attendance Only' rate is available for $100 per person.

To register, scan the QR Code above or visit
https://tamhoconference2026.eventbrite.com/



Recognizing the Many Ways We Make a Difference

Our honors celebrate the people, programs, and organizations strengthening behavioral healthcare across Tennessee.

1 LEADERS AND LONGEVITY

Frank G. Clement Community Service Award
Honors exemplary leadership or volunteer service that strengthens community behavioral healthcare and advances the work of TAMHO and its members.

Dorothea Dix Professional Service Award
Recognizes professional excellence, collaboration, and pioneering contributions that improve behavioral health services and systems of care.

Andrea R. Chase Impact Award
Celebrates the often-unsung individuals whose dedication and essential contributions create meaningful, lasting impact within TAMHO member organizations.

Distinguished Service Award
Honors extraordinary, sustained service and significant career contributions to TAMHO or a member organization.

Emerging Leader Award
Recognizes direct service professionals whose contributions, commitment to quality care, and professional growth demonstrate strong leadership potential.

2 PEERS

Personal Courage Award—Category 1
Honors individuals whose courage and lived experience with behavioral health challenges inspire advocacy, leadership, and support for others.

Personal Courage Award—Category 2
Recognizes individuals whose steadfast support and advocacy help a loved one pursue recovery and overcome behavioral health challenges.

3 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

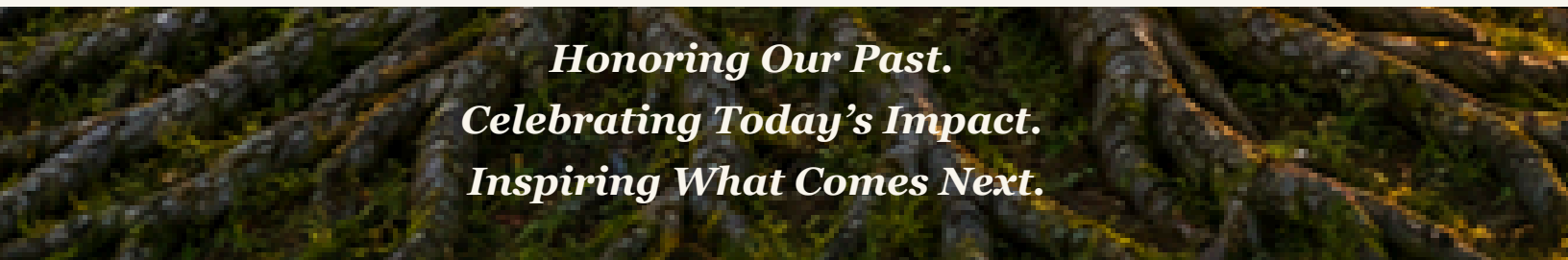
Media Award
Celebrates print and electronic media contributions that elevate behavioral health issues, challenge stigma, and encourage informed public dialogue.

Outreach and Engagement Award
Recognizes creative approaches that maintain access to services, overcome barriers, and connect individuals and families with care.

4 DIRECT SERVICE

Innovation and Creativity Award
Honors outstanding programs or services that demonstrate ingenuity, excellence, and meaningful impact in behavioral healthcare.

Awards presented vary from year to year.



KEEPING THE PROMISE

for nearly seventy years

OUR MEMBERS
OUR STRENGTH
OUR COLLECTIVE VOICE

tamho
tennessee association of mental health organizations

The Voice of behavioral healthcare in Tennessee for nearly 70 years

https://www.tamho.org

615-244-2220
toll free in TN 800-568-2642
TAMHO@TAMHO.ORG
WWW.TAMHO.ORG

