Vol. 8, Issue 1 October 2025

TN VOICES
Support Services From Firsthand Experiences

READY. SET. GROW!

Pyramid Model Quarterly Newsletter

a framework for promoting the social and emotional development of young children



Happy fall! It's time for football, cozy sweaters, and back to school routines!

Back to school can also mean a tricky time of transition for little ones. Setting consistent, predictable routines can help support in a child's healthy social emotional development and prevent challenging behavior during classroom or home activities. Building and teaching predictable routines for things like getting ready for school at home, or the morning routine in the classroom, can increase student success and feelings of accomplishment as children learn to move through those routines independently. Check out the Pyramid Model strategies below for supporting routines in both the home and school setting!

Pyramid Model Resource Spotlight: Using Visuals for Routines

Here are steps to utilizing visuals to support your routines in either the classroom or your home.

1. Teach the steps of the routine. During a time when the child is calm and ready to listen, teach the child the steps of the routine.
2. Incorporate visuals. You can create visuals using real pictures of the child following the routine, clip art, or drawings from the child. This supports in giving both an audio and visual reminder of the expectations of the routine. See the attached links for examples in the **classroom** and **home**!
3. Provide positive, descriptive feedback. When the child follows through with the routine, encourage them with positive and descriptive feedback. This reinforces expectations in a positive way. This could look like, "Daniel, you ate your breakfast and brushed your teeth. You are ready for school!" or, "Katie, thank for putting your backpack in its place. You are being responsible!"

Ready. Set. Train!

Ready. Set. Grow! wants to partner with you and your team, to support your school community by providing educators with engaging and effective Professional Development experiences.

Our professional development experiences are of NO COST to your school or center. You can choose from our highly diverse and impactful list of trainings, or work with our staff to design a training experience that is tailored directly to meet the needs of your staff and school.

Please click below to request a training experience:
Connect: Intake Form

*** We kindly ask that you submit your training request at least 4 weeks prior to your training date to ensure we have plenty of time plan for your training/ professional development event!

Request a Training

Ready. Set. Connect!

Are you looking for support with: Helping a child who is struggling with behavior, attachment, peer relationships or emotion regulation? Helping teachers and families with self-care, stress, and coping, but not sure what to do next?
We are here to help! Early Childhood Consultants are available by appointment to provide short-term, collaborative, problem-solving



conversations to help you discover your next steps!

Sign up today!

Partner Spotlight

At **AIMHiTN**, we advocate for the well-being of infants and young children, emphasizing the importance of **community-centered, relationship-focused** practices. Our commitment to fostering strong foundations, nurturing secure relationships, and shaping promising futures for children from prenatal to age six reflects our core belief that these elements are essential for lifelong well-being and success.

The **Infant Mental Health Endorsement® (IMH-E®)** and **Early Childhood Mental Health Endorsement® (ECMH-E®)** are rooted in a set of competencies designed to support and enhance **community-centered, relationship-focused** practices within the framework of infant and early childhood mental health. Endorsement applicants demonstrate proficiency in these competencies through education, work experience, specialized training, and reflective supervision.
Working with infants and young children requires specialized training, and **Endorsement** ensures that professionals meet established standards of expertise in supporting young children and their families. **IMH-E®** applies to professionals working with children ages **0–3** and their families, while **ECMH-E®** applies to those working with children ages **3–6** and their families. Both endorsements are relevant for professionals across disciplines, including **education, child welfare, early care, home visitation, healthcare, mental health, policy, prevention, and early intervention.**

Links: Endorsement - Endorsement — The Association of Infant Mental Health in Tennessee
AIMHITN- The Association of Infant Mental Health in Tennessee
Next Endorsement 101 Training: AIMHiTN Training & Event Registration Hub
Endorsement Support: Questions or General Support: Endorsement@aimhitn.org

Employee Spotlight

Darnecia Felix



My name is Darnecia Felix, and I am an Early Childhood Classroom Consultant with Ready. Set. Grow!

My journey in education has taken me through roles such as a preschool director, an early interventionist, and classroom teacher. Each of these experiences has given me a unique perspective on the needs of children, families, and educators. They have taught me patience, flexibility, and the importance of meeting every child where they are. These experiences have molded me into an effective Early Childhood Classroom Consultant today, because I can draw on those experiences to support classrooms and help teachers feel confident in their work, as well as provide resources they need to create optimal learning spaces.

I am truly elated to be a part of TN Voices. This organization's mission and dedication to uplifting children and families aligns perfectly with my passion and purpose. Every day, I am grateful for the opportunity to contribute, to learn, and to grow alongside such a dedicated team. Thank you for this recognition—it inspires me to continue giving my very best to the children and teachers we serve.

READY. SET. GROW!

To make a referral or learn more, visit us at **TNVoices.org** or email **early.childhood@tnvoices.org**

This project is funded under a grant contract with the State of Tennessee, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

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