



PRESS RELEASE FROM: Tennessee Family Solutions

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Tennessee Family Solutions Programs Recognized as Evidence-based by NREPP
Highly Selective Registry of Programs Taps Teaching-Family Model as Evidence-based

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Nashville, TN The recent publication of results from a large National Institute of Mental Health-funded research study prompted Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices (NREPP) to include the comprehensive model of care accredited for use by Tennessee Family Solutions, the Teaching-Family Model (TFM), as a promising evidence-based practice.

As of December 5, 2016, NREPP, a highly selective registry of evidence-based practices in mental health services, officially recognizes the Teaching-Family Model as a promising evidence-based practice for the treatment of “Non-specific Mental Health Disorders and Symptoms.”

The study published in the Journal of Emotional and Behavioral Disorders found that the Teaching-Family Model to “produce significantly better outcomes” for youth post-discharge. “Short-term gains are relatively common, but for developing youth, shifts in long-term trajectories form the springboard for improved development, socialization, functioning and flourishing,” write the study authors.

Teaching-Family Model programs at Tennessee Family Solutions that springboard for adults with developmentally disabilities.

The Teaching-Family Model has been recognized as a promising evidence-based practice since 2008 by the California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare (CEBC), a similar and oft-cited registry of evidence-based programs. The American Psychological Association has recognized the Model as an evidence-based practice since 2003, prior to the creation of NREPP or CEBC.

The American Psychological Association's profile of the Teaching-Family Model suggests that the Model has “given hope” that youth and adults with developmental disabilities “with even the most difficult problems or behaviors can improve the quality of their lives and make contributions to society.”

“The Teaching-Family Model provides comprehensive care as a program model for children, youth and families focused on building relationships and services that are client-centered, strengths-based, trauma-informed and outcome-driven,” reads a release from the Teaching-Family Association, an international community of care providers using the Model in a wide range of contexts.

The Teaching-Family Model has been successfully adapted to use in many different service deliveries and for many different populations, from children in the child welfare or juvenile justice systems to at-risk youth and families and even adults with developmental disabilities. Tennessee Family Solutions uses the Teaching-Family Model in Supported Living, Medical residential, and Immediate Care facilities homes.



“The mission of Tennessee Family Solutions, Inc. (TFS) is to help people with severe developmental disabilities lead safe, stable and personally fulfilling lifestyles in Tennessee communities.”

Tennessee Family Solutions is the first private agency in Tennessee founded by families/guardians specifically to meet the special needs of people in transition from living in a state Developmental Center, and people with similar needs.

TFS has:

- A proven track record of serving people with high levels of need in the community (initially, nearly all of the people we served had transitioned from Clover Bottom Developmental Center);
- A strong commitment to high quality, innovation, use of best practices, comprehensive and ongoing quality evaluation, and program improvement;
- The initial support of professional consultants from the University of Kansas who have conducted applied research in the field of developmental disabilities for decades, with 25-plus years of experience serving people with severe disabilities in community settings;
- Utilization of the Teaching Family Model;
- A “family matters” philosophy.

TFS was founded in 1999, is organized as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, and is licensed by the state of Tennessee’s Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to provide comprehensive services in Middle Tennessee.

For the latest information on the research and evidence base of the Teaching-Family Model, refer to www.teaching-family.org/bibliography/

Find NREPP's program profile of the Teaching-Family Model, here: <http://nrepp.samhsa.gov/ProgramProfile.aspx?id=143>

Find the American Psychological Association's profile of the Teaching-Family Model, here: <http://www.apa.org/research/action/family.aspx>