

Tennessee

SMOKY MOUNTAIN ASSESSMENT AND RESOURCE TEAM, (SMART) CHARTER

Child welfare quality improvement

Background:	<p>The Tennessee Department of Children’s Services’ Field Focus Team and the Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) unit began investigating the effectiveness of chartering CQI teams in January 2010 after a restructuring of the CQI system. The SMART team was the first Quality Team to adopt the charter approach. The SMART team charter was developed then adopted on July 2, 2010. The charter is renewed annually in July. The SMART team meets on a monthly basis. The SMART team charter has been adopted by numerous other CQI Quality Circles and Quality Practice Teams within DCS.</p>
Purpose/Scope:	<p>The mission of the Smoky Mountain Assessment and Resource Team is to utilize data, both qualitative and quantitative, to identify and close gaps in quality practices and offer professional development opportunities that are beneficial to the continued growth of the staff in Smoky Mountain. Responsibilities include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circle members are expected to assess the need for, identify and recruit new members.• The team will promote courageous conversations among the members. <p>Responsible for planning processes for the Smoky Mountain region to include reviewing regional protocols, approving pilot programs, and assisting with coordinating regional events.</p>
Stakeholders Involved:	<p>Tennessee is a state-administered child welfare system. In this system, the State is divided into regions. This is a charter of one of Tennessee’s regions, the Smoky Mountain Region.</p> <p>The Smoky Mountain Assessment and Resource Team is comprised of the Regional Administrator, Deputy Regional Administrator, Team Coordinators, Team Leaders and front line staff from a variety of program areas. This team will also consist of stakeholders including consortium employees, resource parents, private provider agency staff, Community Advisory Board members, consultants and possibly birth parents and custodial and post-custodial youth.</p>
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