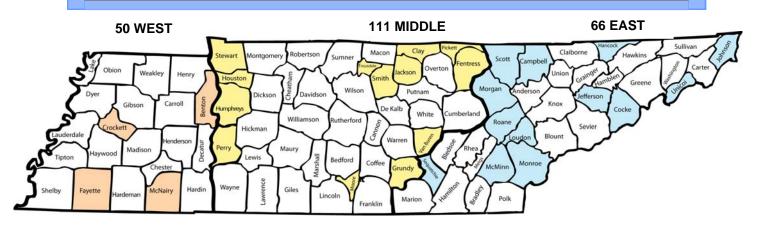
#### Division of Developmental Medicine and the Center for Child Development



# **Did You Know:**

- 80-95% of information that we receive about the world in which we live comes through our vision and hearing
- Deafblind doesn't mean totally deaf and totally blind. Most children have some use of hearing and vision
- Hereditary/Genetic Syndromes are the leading cause of combined hearing and vision loss nationwide
- Complications of prematurity is the leading cause for combined hearing and vision loss in Tennessee
- We work with agencies and a variety of programs across the state to identify individuals with dual sensory loss (deafblind)
- We currently serve 227 children from birth through age 21 on the Tennessee Deafblind Census
- We provide Infant Massage instruction for parents and caregivers
- Every state has a Deafblind Project funded by the Office of Special Education Programs in Washington, DC making it possible for these projects to offer services free of charge

## **December 1, 2011 Deafblind Census** 227 Children and Young Adults



No children were reported in the counties which appear in color on the map

### **Uniqueness of Deafblindness**

#### Combined hearing and vision loss affects learning in many different ways

- Communication and mobility challenges
- Feelings of isolation
- Individuals with deafblindness need to be taught skills that children who hear • and see learn incidentally
- Supports needed by family and service provider may be significant

### Leading Causes of Deafblindness

#### **Hereditary/Genetic**

- CHARGE Syndrome
- Stickler Syndrome
- **Usher Syndrome**

### Maternal Infection during pregnancy Cytomegalovirus (CMV)

### Non-genetic acquired hearing & vision loss

Asphyxia

Severe Head Injury

Meningitis

Division of Developmental Medicine and Center for Child Development

3401 West End Avenue, Suite 460W Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Phone: 1-800-288-2266 Fax: 615-322-1277





**Complications of Prematurity** 

### Contact Us...

Donna Consacro, BA, CEIM Project Coordinator

Danna Conn, MS Technical Assistance Coordinator and Family Information and Resource Specialist Danna.Conn@vanderbilt.edu

TIFFANY N. IVENS. MS. CRC Educational Consultant Donna.Consacro@vanderbilt.edu Tiffany.N.lvens@vanderbilt.edu

> Jennifer Miller, BA, CCLS, CEIM Technical Assistance and Training Coordinator Jennifer.L.Miller@vanderbilt.edu