



Treatment Advocacy Center

Celebrating 25 years of impact.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR *Mission*

Treatment Advocacy Center is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated exclusively to eliminating barriers to the treatment of severe mental illness. We promote laws, policies, and practices for the delivery of quality psychiatric care. We also support the development of innovative treatments for and research into the causes of severe and persistent psychiatric illnesses, such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the founding of Treatment Advocacy Center by the visionary Dr. E. Fuller Torrey. What began as the determined effort of one man to change the landscape for individuals with severe mental illness (SMI) has grown into a powerful movement of research, advocacy, and support.



The significance of this milestone cannot be overstated. Over the past quarter-century, we have witnessed remarkable progress in our mission to eliminate barriers to treatment and promote policies that ensure the best outcomes for those with SMI. Our commitment to advancing this cause has never wavered, and our impact has never been greater.

2023 was a landmark year not just in time but also in the breadth and depth of our influence. Our research initiatives provided consistent critical insights into the needs of those we serve, including the latest breakthroughs in treatment. Our advocacy team's grassroots networks expanded exponentially, and our Helpline has become the go-to resource for family members and care partners in desperate need of answers and support.

Anyone with lived experience or a loved one with SMI can attest to the fact that "success" in our community is both hard won and ill-defined. Since 1988, TAC has been the only organization willing to continue the fight, against all odds and in spite of systemic barriers and biases, to ensure that the most vulnerable members of our society are neither forgotten nor forsaken.

Every success story – whether it be obtaining treatment, achieving stability, maintaining a job, or even just having a safe place to sleep – is not only a small miracle, but a testament to the power of our collective efforts and the unwavering support of our donors, volunteers, and partners.

As we celebrate this monumental year, we are reminded of the vision that Dr. Torrey set forth 25 years ago and the remarkable journey that has brought us to where we are today. None of this would be possible without your support and dedication. Together, we have made a profound difference in the lives of many individuals and families; together, we will continue to strive for a future where everyone with SMI receives the care and support they deserve.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Here's to the next 25 years of transforming lives and making effective treatment and quality of care accessible for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Dailey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "L" and "D" being particularly prominent.

Lisa Dailey
TAC Executive Director

TAC Advocacy



TAC GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY

groups started in Maryland (91 members) and California (216 members). Each state appointed ambassadors to lead advocacy efforts.



We released the podcast
MAKE THEM HEAR YOU,

examining the particular experiences of Black Americans struggling with severe mental illness and the broken mental health system.



SHOW

Make Them Hear You

LISTEN ON Spotify



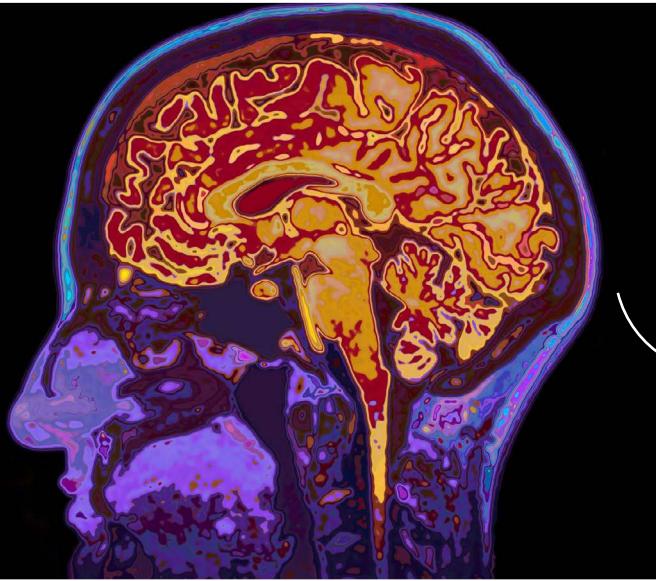
A package of
SIGNIFICANT REFORM BILLS,
SB 43, AB 531, and SB 326 passed the
California legislature and were signed into
law by Governor Gavin Newsom.

TAC HELPLINE

hired an additional full time staff
person and served approximately
65 HELP SEEKERS
each month.

We launched an online
TAC FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
which has
80+ MEMBERS.

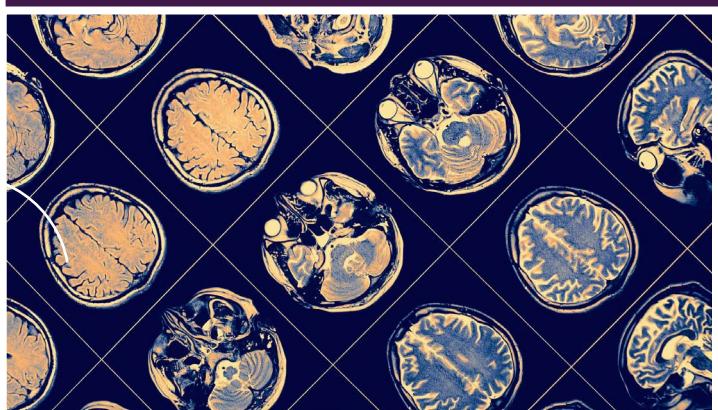
TAC Research and Public Affairs



We released research summaries about
ANOSOGNOSIA,
THE DURATION OF UNTREATED
PSYCHOSIS, and **VICTIMIZATION.**

TAC published **MEASURING EXPERIENCES:** **AN EVALUATION OF AOT** **PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION.**

This pilot study found that AOT participants had high levels of satisfaction and feelings of empowerment with regard to both their treatment team and the courts.



Publication of 45 **RESEARCH WEEKLY** blog posts that highlighted key topics related to barriers in accessing quality care for severe mental illness.

ORPA staff members contributed as subcontractors on the
MENTAL AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS
PREVALENCE STUDY,

a national epidemiological survey that was conducted by RTI International and created and funded in 2019 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



TAC AOT *Implementation*

Our implementation team developed a **PEER REVIEW TOOL** for program improvement that will meet the needs of all AOT implementers, regardless of jurisdiction. The Peer Review Tool represents the first effort to formalize program evaluation in AOT.



The **AOT LEARNING NETWORK** grew considerably this year due largely to attention to social media. We now have close to **2,000 MEMBERS**, up more than 70% from last year.

TAC IMPLEMENTATION

held focus groups with national AOT experts to identify gaps in existing AOT research. We also wrote an op-ed with the results that was later published in *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*. The paper can be read and downloaded [here](#).

TAC AOT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

hosted on-site training in Lexington, KY and Joplin, MO for AOT technical assistance clients.



We planned the next **AOT SYMPOSIUM**, to be held March 27-28, 2025 in Annapolis, MD at the Westin Hotel.

In 2023, the **AOT LEARNING NETWORK** hosted nine webinars featuring expert presenters from across the country. Topics covered included:

- The Role of Peer Support in AOT
- Measuring Participant Satisfaction in AOT
- AOT & Co-Occurring Disorders
- Trauma-Informed Responses In and Outside of the Courtroom
- The Role of AOT Monitors: A Panel Presentation
- What Families Want from AOT
- Partnering with Law Enforcement in AOT
- A Practical Approach to Inclusivity (explored cultural humility and other DEI-related topics)
- Partnering with Hospitals in AOT

TAC staff were invited to headline the **NATIONAL COLLEGE OF PROBATE JUDGES SPRING CONFERENCE**,

where they gave a three-hour presentation on AOT, including supporting research and the role of the judge.





25 TAC

Years of Impact

In September, our community gathered at the historic Hay-Adams in Washington, D.C. to celebrate a quarter century of transformative work supporting people with SMI and their loved ones.

TAC's 25th Anniversary Gala featured remarks by our founder, Dr. E. Fuller Torrey, and keynote speaker Jonathan Rosen, author of ["The Best Minds: A Story of Friendship, Madness, and the Tragedy of Good Intentions,"](#)

a Pulitzer Prize finalist and named a Top 10 Best Book of the Year by The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Atlantic, Slate, and People.

For the 25th Gala, TAC's communications team commissioned a special video [Changing Minds and Saving Lives](#), and this historical loop, which showcased [25 years of TAC Impact](#).



Donors

Individual and Foundations

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, Treatment Advocacy Center is able to continue its vital work advocating for effective treatment options and improving the lives of those affected by severe mental illness and their loved ones. Without your support, our work would be impossible. Thank you for being a beacon of compassion and making a difference for our community.

\$1,000,000+

Ellen C. Grassman Trust

\$500,000+

Stanley Family Foundation

\$100,000+

Anonymous

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\$5,000+

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Zona Kreidle

Kristine Laverty

Sheila and Thomas Rabaut

Nancy Reeve

Judge Elinor Marsh Stormer

Team Daniel Running for Recovery

\$2,500+

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1,000+

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