

TALLADEGA COUNTY CHILDREN'S POLICY COUNCIL NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2020

ABOUT THE CPC

CPC Members

Judge Ryan Rumsey (Juvenile Judge)

Nicole Parker (DHR)

Dr. Suzanne Lacey (Talladega County Schools)

Dr. Jon Segars (Sylacauga City Schools)

Tony Ball (Talladega City Schools)

Shauntae Sims (Talladega County JPO)

Kelli Cobb (Talladega County JPO)

Michael Beals (Talladega County JPO)

Sedrick Wilson (Talladega County JPO)

Patricia Self (Altapointe Health)

Glenn Sisk (Coosa Valley Medical Center)

Heather Bennett (Coosa Valley Medical Center)

Frank Thomas (Baptist Citizens Medical Center)

Betsy Curlee (FIRST Family Services Center)

Margaret Morton (SAFE Family Services Center)

Nancy Dickson (SAFE Family Services Center)

Denise Haskins (SAFE Family Services Center)

Patsy Jones (SAFE Family Services Center)

Debbie Adair (SAFE Family Services Center)

Lecia Whiteside (SAFE Family Services Center)

Bill Roberts (SAFE Family Services Center)

Linda Burton (SAFE Family Services Center)

Mary Love Hendrickson (SAFE Family Services Center)

Linda Thompson (ADPH)

Jim/Linda Jones (Alabama Childhood Food Solutions)

Lori Corley (East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission)

See the comprehensive listing of membership in the uploaded spreadsheet

CPC Contacts

Ryan Rumsey District Judge
Margret Morton
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501(c)3 Status	Talladega County
Is this CPC a 501(c)3?	No

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The sections below relate to the needs of children ages birth to 19 in your community as well as the families of those children.

Please find below your identified top needs for your new (2020) assessment and the information about those needs.

Ranking of Needs and Corresponding Data for 2020	
Parental Involvement and Family Engagement Rank: 1	
Number of children in foster care:	78

Are there enough available placements for foster children in your county?	No
Substance Abuse Rank: 2	
Number of juvenile arrests for drug and substance abuse violations	15
How many children have been removed from their home due to parent drug use?	15
School Success Rank: 3	
Graduation rate:	93
Chronic absenteeism:	24
4 th Grade Reading Proficiency:	41
4 th Grade Math Proficiency:	40
Home Visiting access:	Our county's home visiting programs meet the needs of nearly all families who choose to participate.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Below, is a list of your CPC's top accomplishments.

<p>Accomplishment</p>	<p>In March of 2019, the Department of Human Resources Director, Nicole Parker, brought to the CPC the need for foster parents in Talladega County. She implored the council to take on this initiative and the CPC agreed. Through these discussions, the following plans were created and implemented:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Through Talladega County Schools, FBLA students created a PSA to address the needs for foster parents 2) Through the Southern Dance and Performing Arts Company in Sylacauga, a Christmas Ballet was created called "Wrapped in Love." The proceeds of the ballet provided coats for every foster child in Talladega County. 3) Additional DHR staff were trained in TIPPS 4) Through a partnership with SAFE, a class was made available in Sylacauga for those interested in becoming foster parents in the southern part of Talladega county 5) 2 pastor luncheons were held in January 2020 (1 in Sylacauga and 1 in Talladega) to ask pastors to take on these efforts within the church in order to provide more stable parents/families for foster children 6) Lifeline Children's Services participated in addressing the need of more foster parents from a biblical perspective within local churches 7) Through these efforts, the number of foster parents almost doubled in less than 1 year.
<p>Who benefited from this accomplishment?</p>	<p>foster children and families in Talladega County</p>
<p>Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?</p>	
<p>Source of funds for this accomplishment?</p>	<p>Partners from across the county worked together so that the funding needs were spread across agencies.</p>
<p>Accomplishment</p>	<p>Through another partnership with DHR and SAFE, non-custodial fathers were referred to Workforce Ready! which implemented a "pay to learn" incentive model providing career access and training to fathers and some mothers who had never been involved in the workforce. Additionally, child support payment increased at a significant level. Training included financial literacy, Ready to Work Certification, customer support training, apprenticeships, and job attainment. Through the outcomes of this opportunity SAFE was awarded the Chick-fil-A Foundation's True Inspiration Award as well as the Alabama Works! Innovator Award. Through these workforce ready efforts for the first time ever, family resource centers (2 in Talladega County) have been awarded funds through the Governor's budget.</p>
<p>Who benefited from this accomplishment?</p>	<p>Families throughout Talladega County</p>

Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	DHR, Alabama Dept. of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention, Department of Commerce, CACC, Department of Transportation, Children's Trust Fund, Auburn University, Department of Transportation, EARPDC
Accomplishment	The Sylacauga Housing Authority has hired a Lease Enforcement Officer and provides for extra police patrols in public housing in order to maintain safe conditions for resident families and children. SHA currently provides decent, safe, sanitary housing for 321 children ages 0-18 in Sylacauga and employs a Resident Programs Manager who is striving to bring programs such as Resident Opportunities and Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) to the SHA.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Sylacauga housing authority residents
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	Department of Youth Services and Talladega County Commission
Accomplishment	Through the juvenile diversion program, Pathways, there has been a 52% decrease in DYS referrals for the past 4 years.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Children involved in the court system and their families
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	Department of Youth Services and Talladega County Commission
Accomplishment	The expansion of in-home intervention services in Talladega County, The expansion of the juvenile court liaison services (peer parent, youth peer, therapeutic mentoring), The expansion of school based therapy to include all schools in talladega county.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Families and children
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	

Accomplishment	Through a partnership with all 3 school systems in Talladega County as well as Coosa Valley Medical Center, SAFE Family Services Center, Altapointe Mental Health, Sylacauga Transportation, and Alabama Childhood Food Solutions, children who are at risk for food insecurity have access to healthy foods before, during and afterschool as well as weekends.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	children 18 and under
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	Alabama Department of Education, United Way and other donations.

Accomplishment	After the completion of the 2019-2020 HIPPY year, Talladega County HIPPY celebrated 22 years of success for its children and families. Talladega County HIPPY was established in 1998 in partnership with the Sylacauga City Schools, the Talladega County Scho
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Talladega county children and families
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education

Accomplishment	0
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Talladega City school children
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	21st Century - Alabama Department of Education

Accomplishment	We continue to have a high graduation rate. Our district earned a "B" on the state report card and all of the schools scored higher than the previous year. We serve as a Dyslexia Learning Lab site for our region.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	Sylacauga City School ChildrenChildren, families, schools and law enforcement

Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	Alabama Department of Education, City of Sylacauga, other

Accomplishment	The FOCUS prevention program has 4 registered schools in Talladega County and continues to increase awareness of the importance of prevention throughout middle and high schools throughout Talladega County.
Who benefited from this accomplishment?	children across the county and the communities.
Amount of funds dedicated to this accomplishment?	
Source of funds for this accomplishment?	