



### Introduction

The Children's Policy Council Needs Assessment is an opportunity for local communities to inform state policy-makers of the unmet needs of children throughout the state. The growing demand for evidence-based practice requires using metrics. As policy-makers rely more and more on data to drive decisions, we ask CPCs to provide objective data to support their identified needs.

We appreciate your willingness to dig deeply into what is happening at the local level to inform state leaders and ultimately guide policy and funding decisions.

### About Your CPC

Please provide the requested information regarding your County's Children's Policy Council.

#### County \*

Blount

#### Honorable Judge \*

Please provide the name of the Judge who leads the county's Children's Policy Council.

Judge Sherry C. Burns

#### Name of CPC Coordinator \*

Please provide the name of the contact person who coordinates the CPC activities.

Carol Anne Jordan

#### CPC Coordinator Email \*

Enter the email of the contact person who coordinates the CPC activities.

carol.jordan@alacourt.gov

#### Address \*

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

##### Street Address

1000 Lincoln Ave Suite 100

##### Address Line 2

##### City

Oneonta

##### State / Province / Region

AL

##### Postal / Zip Code

35121

##### Country

USA

#### School System/LEA Representation \*

Are the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) all represented on the CPC?

- Yes, all are represented and active
- Yes, all are represented but not all are active
- Some are represented, but not all
- Only 1 school system is represented

#### Number of School Systems \*

Indicate the number of school systems or Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in your county.

2

Does your county currently conduct a youth survey? \*

- Yes  
 No

## CPC Members

Use the fields below to list the names of all CPC Members, with each name in a separate field. Use the "Add" link to create more fields as needed.

CPC Member

CPC Member

CPC Member

Does your CPC currently have 501(c)3 status? \*

- Yes  
 No

### Needs Identification

The questions below relate to the needs of children ages birth to 19 and their families in your county. The sections represent umbrella categories of needs which have been identified over the past several years through local CPC Needs Assessments. The data requested in each section aims to help identify root causes, risk factors and/or specifics within each category.

Please rank your county's top three needs and provide the requested data regarding those needs.

Links to several data sources and local organizations are listed below as a resource to assist CPCs in completing the needs assessment and locating the requested information.

Kids Count Data:

<https://alavoices.org/2021-alabama-kids-count/>

<https://datacenter.kidscount.org/data#AL/2/0/char/0>

CPC Website for AOC County Data: [www.alcpc.org](http://www.alcpc.org)

Local Mental Health Center that serves county

Local County Department of Human Resources (DHR)

### Three Most Urgent Needs \*

Select the three needs below that are the most urgent. These are the ones you will provide more information about.

- Substance Abuse  
 Parental Involvement and Family Engagement  
 School Success  
 Early Care and Education  
 Mental Health  
 Juvenile Crime and Safety  
 Poverty  
 Health and Well Being  
 Neighborhoods and Housing  
 Transportation

### Substance Abuse

Substance abuse affects youth, families and all parts of society and is manifested through underage drinking, prescription drug abuse, as well as illegal substance manufacturing, access, and use.

### Substance Abuse Rank \*

Rank this need in order of its importance with 1 being the most important, 2 as second most important, and 3 as the least important of your top three urgent needs.

- 1  
 2  
 3

### Number of juvenile delinquency cases filed for drug and substance violations. \*

37

### Have substance abuse violations and delinquency cases increased or decreased over the past year? \*

- Increased significantly  
 Increased somewhat  
 About the same  
 Decreased slightly  
 Decreased significantly

### How many children have been removed from their home due to parent drug use in your county? \*

284

### Characterize the trend of children removed from homes due to parent drug use year over year. \*

- Each year, significantly more children are being removed from their homes due to parent drug use.  
 We are seeing a leveling off of this trend.  
 We have seen a significant decline in children being removed from their homes due to parent drug use.

### Is there a Juvenile Drug Court in your county? \*

- Yes  
 No

### Substance Abuse Characteristics

Please select all that describe characteristics of substance abuse in your county.

- Youth Substance Abuse  
 Underage Alcohol Sales  
 Family Prescription Abuse  
 Family Illegal Substance Abuse  
 Drugs in Schools  
 Lack of space to refer individuals with addiction issues

### Recidivism Rate \*

Provide the recidivism rate and any additional relevant information such as length of time drug court has been in existence and contributing factors to recidivism.

We do not have a juvenile drug court

### Additional information About Substance Abuse \*

Provide additional information and data regarding why you believe substance abuse is a significant problem in your county.

The overwhelming majority of children that have been removed from their families has been due to drug abuse.

### Mental Health

Mental Health is important at every stage of life from childhood, through adolescence, to adulthood. Mental Health is an essential component of overall health and well-being for children and their families. Children need to have any mental health conditions identified early so they can receive proper treatment through outpatient or inpatient services that meet their needs.

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### Mental Health Rank \*

Rank this need in order of its importance with 1 being the most important, 2 as second most important, and 3 as the least important of your top three urgent needs.

- 1  
 2  
 3

### Needs Related to Mental Health \*

Select all statements that apply to your county.

- We have a dire need for inpatient mental health facilities.  
 We have a dire need for outpatient mental health facilities and care.  
 Our need and the demand for mental health services match pretty well.  
 We do not have enough counselors to fill the needs in our county.  
 Children with mental health issues is a growing problem in our county.  
 We do not have a need for mental health services and care in our county.  
 Services are only available for those with ability to pay.

### How many facilities in your community maintain inpatient beds for mental health issues? \*

0

### How many inpatient beds are available in your county for children? \*

0

### Does this number meet the demand? \*

- Yes, demand is almost always met.  
 Demand is mostly met. Occasionally, there are not enough beds.  
 Demand almost always exceeds the supply of available beds.

### How many inpatient beds are available in your county for adults? \*

0

### Does this number meet the demand? \*

- Yes, demand is almost always met.  
 Demand is mostly met. Occasionally, there are not enough beds.  
 Demand almost always exceeds the supply of available beds.

### If the demand for services is unmet, what are some actions taken? \*

Describe how the unmet needs are currently addressed.

They remain unmet

### Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. \*

outpatient services and inpatient beds.

### Which population has the greatest mental health need in your county? \*

9 to 17 years old

### Top 3 Mental Health Resources \*

List the top 3 mental health resources in your county.

New Pathways  
Eastside Mental Health  
Hope House

### Juvenile Crime and Safety

The future growth and success of a county depends on the productivity and well-being of youth. Juvenile violent crime and a population of teens not working or going to school can defer dreams and can place limits on access to opportunities.

### Juvenile Crime and Safety Rank \*

Rank this need in order of its importance with 1 being the most important, 2 as second most important, and 3 as the least important of your top three urgent needs.

- 1
- 2
- 3

### Mark the answer that best fits juvenile property crime that includes burglary, theft, or arson. \*

- Has risen significantly over the past year
- Seems to have stabilized and remains virtually the same
- Has seen a decline over the past year

### Mark the answer that best fits related to juvenile violent crime that includes murder, non-negligent manslaughter, rape, robbery, or aggravated assault. \*

- Has risen significantly over the past year
- Seems to have stabilized and remains virtually unchanged
- Has seen a decline

### Reasons for Juvenile Crime Trends \*

Describe factors that have influenced trends in juvenile crime.

The availability of drugs and vaping.

### Causes of Teen Accidents or Deaths \*

Mark the top 2.

- Distracted driving
- Inexperienced drivers
- Violent crime
- Poor health/obesity
- Suicide
- Accidental discharge of firearm
- Drowning
- Overdose of drugs or alcohol
- Other

### Teen Safety Challenges \*

What are the biggest challenges to teen safety?

The availability of drugs

### Gang Activity \*

Are gangs a significant and/or growing threat in your county?

- Yes
- No

### Describe how any gang problem is being addressed. \*

No Gang problems

### Describe the role of Juvenile Probation Officers in schools. \*

Describe successes, challenges, initiatives, and other relevant information related to the partnership between JPO's and the school system(s) in your county.

Blount County JPO's work closely with school SRO's and work to implement safety and drug prevention seminars..

### What is your county's Juvenile Violent Crime petition rate? \*

Provide the rate of teens not attending school or not working in your county.\*

18.9%

## Accomplishments

With regard to your programs in existence from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023, consider accomplishments in those areas. Provide information about who benefited from the accomplishment and the source and amount of funds used for the accomplishment. Describe at least three of your county CPC's accomplishments for the past year. You may include up to 10.

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### Accomplishment 1\*

Describe this accomplishment.

Mr. Reese with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board presented his presentation Operation Save Teens to the CPC. He discussed the inherent dangers of alcohol and drug abuse, vaping, dabbing, edibles, synthetics and opioids.

### Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1?\*

As a result of Mr. Reese presentations all Blount County School principals received the same presentation in a CEU meeting. Also many of the schools in Blount County have invited Mr. Reese into their schools to present this important information to their middle and high school students.

### Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1\*

0

### Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1\*

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board funds Mr. Reese's program.

### Accomplishment 2\*

Describe this accomplishment.

Children's Rehabilitation Service presented the CPC with the available services they offer to the children of Blount County as well as who qualifies for the services.

### Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2?\*

Many local referrals have been made for the services of Children's Rehabilitation Service.

### Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2\*

0

### Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2\*

0

### Accomplishment 3\*

Describe this accomplishment.

None

### Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3?\*

None

### Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3\*

0

### Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3\*

None

### Accomplishment 4

Describe this accomplishment.

### Who benefitted from Accomplishment 4?

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 4**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 4**

**Accomplishment 5**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 5?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 5**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 5**

**Accomplishment 6**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 6?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 6**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 6**

**Accomplishment 7**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 7?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 7**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 7**

**Accomplishment 8**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 8?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 8**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 8**

**Accomplishment 9**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 9?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 9**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 9**

**Accomplishment 10**

Describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 10?**

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 10**

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 10**

**CPC Self-Assessment**

Self-assessment is an integral part of the County CPC development. Please provide the information below and indicate your CPC's level of development.

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**Level I CPC**

Select all that apply.

- Mandated Members (at least 8 of 15) attended at least two meetings last year
- At Large Members (at least 5 of 7) attended at least two meetings last year
- Minutes and sign in sheets were kept for all meetings
- CPC met at least quarterly
- Membership list was kept current
- Needs assessment was turned in on time and in correct format
- Annual Report submitted with needs assessment

**Level II CPC**

Select all that apply.

- At least 10 of the 15 mandated members attended 2 or more meetings last year
- At least 6 of the 7 At Large members attended 2 or more meetings last year
- At least 3 members attended the CPC conference last year
- New Member Orientation Manual was developed
- Committees met at least quarterly in addition to regularly scheduled CPC meetings
- Committees presented reports at CPC meetings
- Committees took action toward identified issues
- CPC has a mission statement
- CPC has an elected Vice-Chair
- CPC has an elected Secretary

**Level II - Committees**

Select all committees which have been established.

- Early Care and Education
- Economic Security
- Education
- Health
- Parent Involvement and Skills
- Safety



### Level III CPC

Select all that apply.

- Council has developed strong leadership
- Fiscal agent has been identified or a 501(c)3 has been established
- Bylaws have been written and approved
- Members have attended CPC Leadership Training
- Council is active in child advocacy efforts
- Council sponsors community efforts for children's issues
- Committees are active and performing specific actions
- 5 or more members attended the CPC Conference last year
- Communication line has been developed with legislators
- Communication with the media occurs
- CPC has a strategic plan in place

### Self-Rating \*

Based on the answers above, how would you characterize your current level?

- Striving for Level I
- Level I moving toward Level II
- Level II moving toward Level III
- Level III

### Annual Report Documentation

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#### CPC Members List

Use the upload button below to provide a CPC membership list with contact information.

CPC Member Names.docx	12.22KB
Copy of CPC-Membership-Template.xlsx	18.07KB

#### CPC Meeting Minutes \*

Upload minutes from CPC meetings from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Please ensure all minutes are scanned together as one document.

CPC August 24 2022 and May 10 2023 Meeting Notes.docx	12.9KB
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#### CPC Sign-In Sheets \*

Upload all CPC Meeting sign-in sheets from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. Please ensure all sign-in sheets are scanned together as one document.

CPC Sign In Sheets 2023.pdf	644.23KB
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#### Conclusion \*

What have we not asked you about that you feel is important?

None