ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
Early Childhood
Education

CPC Needs Assessment

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 *

Chilton

Honorable Judge *

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

Judge Chris Speaks

Name of CPC Coordinator *

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

Ali Patterson

CPC Coordinator Email *

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

chris.speaks@alacourt.gov or augarrett@gmail.com

Address *

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

P. O. Box 1187

Address Line 2

City	State / Province / Region
Clanton	AL

Postal / Zip Code	Country
35045	United States

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
Judge Chris Speaks	Celia Flanningan	
Ali Patterson	Chris Cleckley	
Shannon Wright	Jana Zuelzke	
George Ramsey		
Marilyn Colson		
Rebecca Corley		
Laura Baker		

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

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. *

7

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? *

65

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.

The recidivism rate to reoffend continues to be high individuals go back to the same environment and do not change their everyday habits or get jobs to keep them from reoffending. Also, there is not local funds for drug programs to help juveniles or adults in our community that do not cost them money.

Additional information About Substance Abuse *

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

I would say 50% of the substance abuse problem is due to the repeat of environment kids continue to live how there parents lived. We need more free resources for juveniles and adults for counseling and just life skills.

Parental Involvement and Family Engagement

Family risk and protective factors impact the involvement, or lack thereof, of parents in their children's social-emotional development and their academic education.

Parental Involvement 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

Trends of Child Abuse *

Mark the answer that best characterizes reports of child abuse in your county.

- ◉ Over the past few years, we have seen an increase in the number of reports of child abuse.
- ◯ We are seeing a leveling off of child abuse reports.
- ◯ Our county has seen a decline in the reports of child abuse.

Domestic Violence *

Select the item that best characterizes the domestic violence trends in your county.

- ◉ Increasing
- ◯ Remaining about the same
- ◯ Declining

Community Factors Impacting Trends *

Describe community factors which may impact the trends in domestic violence and child abuse, including but not limited to, access to family counseling and mental health support.

Substance abuse is the leading factor of domestic violence and child abuse in our county.

Number of Children in Foster Care *

150

Are there enough available placements for foster children in your county? *

- ◯ Yes
- ◉ No

Which components of parental involvement and family engagement apply to your county? *

- ☑ Single parent families
- ☑ Support for teaching children at home
- ☑ Increased foster care placements
- ☑ Increased child abuse and domestic violence rates
- ☑ Increased adoption needs

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.

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.

The Wellness group has partnered with our local school system to provide mental health services to the children who are referred and qualify. Central Alabama Wellness (the one state mental health agency) has also partnered with the court system and school system to provide services to the children who are referred and qualify and for services.

Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. *

Our county needs a facility to provide inpatient (short term and long term) to adults and juveniles. Then free resources for in-home and outpatient services once released from these facilities. A resource center for individuals to go and get help with life skills like how to fill out a job application or get drivers licenses back if revoked.

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

18 to 54 years old

Top 3 Mental Health Resources *

List the top 3 mental health resources in your county.

The Wellness Group
Central Alabama Wellness

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.

Accomplishment 1 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Free after school programs at each k-6 schools

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? *

multiple children across the county

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 *

na

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 *

Local School System (state or federal funds)

Accomplishment 2 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Truancy is addressed more often that in the past...more cases involving truancy and getting services needed to those families.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2? *

students in the local school system

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2 *

na

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2 *

Chilton County Department of human resources or Medicaid from the families who received the help

Accomplishment 3 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Chilton County SPAN program

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3? *

local students

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3 *

na

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3 *

Chilton County SPAN program

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.

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

CPC Members List

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

cpc list info.pdf   11.03KB

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 sign in .pdf   51.03KB

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.

sign in sheets 2.pdf   115.97KB

Conclusion *

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

NA