



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 *

Dallas

Honorable Judge *

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

Vernetta R. Perkins

Name of CPC Coordinator *

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

Hon. Vernetta R. Perkins

CPC Coordinator Email *

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

vernetta.perkins@alacourt.gov

Address *

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

105 Lauderdale Street, Room 228

Address Line 2

P.O. Box 987

City

Selma

State / Province / Region

Alabama

Postal / Zip Code

36702

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.

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
Hon. Vernetta R. Perkins-District Judge	James Perkins-Mayor	Wanda Goodwin-DHR
Dr. Anthony Sampson-Supt./Dallas Co.Schools	Dr. Zickeyous Byrd-Supt./Selma City Schools	Jessilyn Blair-DYR
Michael Irwin-Chief JPO	Robert H. Turner, Jr.-District Attorney	Prince Chestnut-State Representative
Mike Granthum-Sheriff	Jimmy Nunn-Probate Judge	Kenta Fulford-Police Chief
Carrie Bearden-Cahaba Mental Health	LaTonya Norris-Cahaba Mental Health	Miah Jackson-Dallas County Court Services
Lauri Cothran-Child Advocacy Center	Jeff Cothran-United Way	Vivian Black-Selma Career Link
Clifford Hunter-Selma Career Link	Andrea Dudley-DHR	Liletta Jenkins-ECE
Myra Holt-ECE	Lou Ella Guthridge-Dallas Co. Schools	Merrill South-Sabra Sanctuary
Jerria Martin-Drug Free Communities	Leith Wilson-Boy Scouts	Judith Hardy-Blackbelt Foundation-Headstart
Donna Allen-WIOA	Ben Rich-Blackbelt WIOA	Glenda Vansandt-AL Rehab
Constance Phillips-AL Rehab	Ann Fox-Dept. of Public Health	Family Resource Center
Robert Stewart-State Senator		

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. *

4

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? *

11

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 cannot provide a recidivism rate because we no longer 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.

Substance abuse violations increased increased by one from 2021 to 2022, however data collected in 2022

YES survey noted a pattern of use by students in the 6th to 12th in Selma City and Dallas County schools.

Please see information below:

6th Grade (Selma City)

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 21.4%
- Use per Month 24.1%
- Heavy Use 24.1%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 20.7%
- Use per Month 14.3%

Alcohol Use

- Use per Year 17.2%
- Use per Month 24.1%
- Binge Drinking 10.3%

Marijuana Use

- Use per Year 14.3%
- Use per Month 17.2%

Prescription Drug Use

- Use per Year 14.3%
- Use per Month 14.3%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 10.7%
- 14.3% per month

8th Grade: (Selma City)

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 9.2%
- Use per Month 7.9%
- Heavy Use 6.6%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 14.5%
- Use per Month 13.3%

Alcohol

- Use Use per Year 21.3%
- Use per Month 14.7%
- Binge Drinking 10.8%

Marijuana

- Use Use per Year 13.5%
- Use per Month 12.2%

Prescription Drug

- Use per Year 9.6%
- Use per Month 9.5%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 8.1%
- Use per Month 9.5%

Selma City 10th Grade

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 23.1%
- Use per Month-21.4%
- Heavy Use 21.4%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 15.4%
- Use per Month 20%

Alcohol Use

- Use per Year 26.7%
- Use per Month 20%
- Binge Drinking 20%

Marijuana Use

- Use per Year 26.7%
- Use per Month 14.3%

Prescription Drug Use

- Use per Year 20%
- Use per Month 14.3%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 20%
- Use Per Month-9.5%

Dallas County 6th Grade Use-Substance Use

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 11.7%
- Use per Month 9.6%\
- Heavy Use 8.6%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 12.8%
- Use per Month-12.4%

Alcohol Use

- Use per Year 17.7%
- Use per Month-14.3%
- Binge Drinking-11.2%

Marijuana Use

- Use per Year 10.5%
- Use per Month 9.8%

Prescription

- Drug Use Use per Year 9.7%
- Use per Month 8.4%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 7.2%
- Use per month: 6.7%

Substance Use 10th Grade Dallas County Schools

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 12.6%
- Use per Month-11%\
- Heavy Use 10.3%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 20.6%
- Use per Month 16.9%

Alcohol Use

- Use per Year 21.3%
- Use per Month 15.7%
- Binge Drinking 13.2%

Marijuana Use

- Use per Year 13.5%
- Use per Month-11.1%

Prescription Drug Use

- Use per Year 9.6%
- Use per Month-8.3%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 8.1%
- Use Month-8.1%

Substance 12th Grade-Dallas County Schools

Cigarette Use

- Use per Year 11.8%
- Use per Month 15.1%
- Heavy Use 14.3%

Vape Use

- Use per Year 28%
- Use per Month 20.8%

Alcohol Use

- Use per Year 25%
- Use per Month 20.3%
- Binge Drinking 18.5%

Marijuana Use

- Use per Year 23%
- Use per Month 22%

Prescription Drug Use

- Use per Year 15.1%
- Use per Month 14%

Other Drug Use

- Use per Year 14.9%
- Use Month Center-11.6

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.

Poverty and economic conditions i.e. high unemployment rate, are some factors that can impact trends in domestic violence and child abuse as well as alcohol and drug use in parents, teens and pregnant women. There is little access to local family counseling. The local mental health center provides some counseling but funding is not adequate to meet the needs of the county.

Number of Children in Foster Care *

39

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

School Success

School Success takes many forms. It begins in the early years as often measured through subject proficiencies, and in later years can be measured by graduation rates. The questions in this section are to help drill down into the root causes and specific factors contributing to the needs surrounding school success.

School Success 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

Graduation Rate *

Enter the estimated percentage of students who successfully graduate from high school in your county.

90.7

Credit Recovery and Graduation Assistance *

Describe programs in your county designed specifically to prevent dropping out of high school or to encourage reenrollment.

Edgeunity is a program that provides standard-based online curriculum. It can be used for credit recovery.

Truancy Cases *

Enter the number of truancy cases referred to early warning court.

3

Discipline problems in schools *

Describe the types of discipline issues in schools which disrupt or interfere with student performance, including suspensions and expulsions.

The types of discipline issues in school which disrupt or interfere with student performance including suspensions and expulsions are issue surrounding disorderly conduct, fighting, skipping, profanity/vulgarity and substance misuse.

School Success Factors *

Mark the items that apply to your county's needs related to school success.

- Graduation rates
- Child literacy rates
- Unsafe school culture
- Truancy and absenteeism
- Need for alternative school placements
- Services for children with special needs
- Lack of tutoring and specialized teachers outside school hours
- Discipline issues
- Suspensions and Expulsions

Chronic Absenteeism *

Enter the percentage of students who are chronically absent, defined as missing 10-17 days of school, in your county.

29.00-Dallas Co. Schools; 17.62-Selma City Schools

Reading Proficiency in 4th Grade *

Enter the percentage of children who meet or exceed benchmarks for reading in 4th grade.

24.6

Math proficiency in 4th grade *

Enter the percentage of children who meet or exceed benchmarks in math in the 4th grade.

31.6

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.

There was no accomplishment during the time period of 7/1/22 - 6/30/23.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? *

n/a

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 *

\$0

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 *

n/a

Accomplishment 2 *

Describe this accomplishment.

There was no accomplishment during the time period of 7/1/22 - 6/30/23.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2? *

n/a

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2 *

\$0

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2 *

n/a

Accomplishment 3 *

Describe this accomplishment.

There was no accomplishment during the time period of 7/1/22 - 6/30/23.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3? *

n/a

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3 *

\$0

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3 *

n/a

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.

Dallas County CPC membership.doc

52KB

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 Minutes.2.docx

27.4KB

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 Sheet.doc

29KB

Conclusion *

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

The relevant items of importance were addressed at this time.