



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 *

Montgomery

Honorable Judge *

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

Honorable Judge Calvin Williams

Name of CPC Coordinator *

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

Ray Williams

CPC Coordinator Email *

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

raywilliams@mc-ala.org

Address *

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

1111 Airbase Blvd.

Address Line 2

City

Montgomery

State / Province / Region

Al

Postal / Zip Code

36108

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
Allyson Hobbs	Amy Morris	Angela Daniel
April Ray	Audrey Graham	Avis Stallworth
Ayanna Sterling	Judge Calvin Williams	Dr. Catherliene Williamson
Charity Alpert	Christiana Arnold	Colenthia Wright
Courtney Vance	D. Siaway	Rodrick Calhoun
Darryl Bailey	Demetria Peoples	Chairman Doug Singleton
Eris Beasley	Gerald Jones	Jessica Douglas
Jaquel Taylor	John Bowman	Jessilyn Townsend-Blair
Joan Carlisle	Jonathan Melton	Judge Monica Arrington
Kay McGraw	Chief Kevin Murphy	Kimberly Edwards
Kimberly Waugh	Kiona Mason	Senator Kirk Hatcher
Bishop Keith Moore	LaQuanna Washington	Leanna Smith
Liletta Jenkins	Nicole McCants	Judge Lloria James
Mary Florian	Maryun Haston	N. Deramus
Natalie Mason	Paloma Jones	Rep. Patrice McClammy
Rep. Philipp Ensler	Rochelle Tyus	Sandy Kent
Shared Finch	Shontavious Core	Tammy Speigner
Rep. Tashima Morris	Tawana Casey	Tawana Sanders
Tish MacInnis	Zachary Beesley	

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

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.

- Lack of Transportation
- Lack of means of Communication
- Peer influence
- Poverty
- Lack of Family Support
- High rate of Substance Abuse

Number of Children in Foster Care *

208

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? *

2

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

18

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? *

40

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.

Community Mental Health Center opened Crisis Center which helps to divert mental illness emergencies from the Emergency room. This center provides temporary and extended observation to determine if a consumer needs to be linked to an inpatient bed-this is not an acute inpatient placement.

Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. *

More support for acute inpatient placement for children, especially those under the age of 12 and those who may have Autism which is a strong prohibitive factor in trying to locate a bed. We need more beds overall and adults within the county.

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.

Carastar Health & Crossbridge

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.

- Mental Health Issues
- Lack of role models and Parental Support
- Poor Performance in School. Most of our clients are reading well below grade level
- Lack of conflict resolution skills

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?

- Gun violence
- Illiteracy
- Poor role models (Parents & Rap Music)
- Drugs (Marijuana & Opioids)

Gang Activity *

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

- Yes
- No

Describe how any gang problem is being addressed. *

Gun violence is synonymous with gangs. Our Juvenile Probation Officers have an open discussion with our clients about gun violence every time they meet with them. Specific questions are asked about guns and their involvement with guns. We realized most of our clients don't have role models and hopefully this intervention will eliminate any involvement with guns and make the child understand the consequences of being around guns.

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.

The greatest challenge of the JPO is get the child, the parent, and the school personnel all on the same page. Most of parents are immature and they don't understand the value of education. The parents don't understand their roles, the roles of the of the teachers and other school personnel. This results in disruptive behavior from the child and eventually the child falls behind. Our JPOs often volunteer with the book club and the Health and Literacy Fair that was created by our Children's Policy Council. Our goals are to promote learning and increase grade level reading which make better students of our clients.

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

2.6

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

10.6%

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.

Health and Literacy Fair

Montgomery County CPC sponsored a Health and Literacy Fair on September 10, 2022. The Fair supported the Governor's Grade Level Reading Campaign. The purpose of the fair was to ensure that children were physically and mentally healthy to be able to fully benefit from educational opportunities and instruction. The fair provided vision, hearing, and dental exams and screenings. Ninety-nine exams and/or screenings were completed. Fifty-six vision exams, thirty-nine hearing tests, and four dental screenings were completed. Twenty-one departments from social service agencies provided resources and information to families on mental health, developmental and special needs, physical health, and literacy. The children and their families enjoyed literacy activities, games, and free food.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? *

The Students of Montgomery Public Schools.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 *

\$5640.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 *

Montgomery Children's Policy Council Received a grant from the Department of Early Childhood Education. The Campaign for Grade Level Reading grant.

Accomplishment 2 *

Describe this accomplishment.

The Martin Luther King Elementary School Book Club was created to promote grade level reading for the third graders at MLK Elementary School. Our intent is for the students to develop a love for reading and promote social interaction.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2? *

Third grade student at MLK Elementary

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2 *

\$3160.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2 *

The Campaign for Grade Level Reading Grant

Accomplishment 3 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Span

Span Achievement Network is collaborating with Trenholm Community College to allow students to take the GED test in sections. At one point they served fifteen students. The program allows students who need a slower-paced learning environment to succeed. Title One provides tutoring.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3? *

The clients on court supervision at the Montgomery County Juvenile Court.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3 *

0

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3 *

Span Achievement Network is funded by the Department of Youth Services.

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 Roster 2023.pdf 518.23KB

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 July 2022-July 2023 Minutes .docx 25.97KB

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 ATTENDANCE 2022.2023.pdf 1.01MB

Conclusion *

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

Gun violence has increased in Montgomery County and around the country. I was given a chance to express my concerns here. I think that is a great start to addressing this matter.