



Introduction

The Children's Policy Councils 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-base 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 in the spaces provided regarding your County's Children's Policy Council.

County*

Morgan

Honorable

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

Brent Craig

Title of Judge

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

District Judge

Address

Please provide the street address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

303 Lee Street NE

Address Line 2

City

Decatur

State / Province / Region

AL

Postal / Zip Code

35601

Country

United States

CPC Members

CPC Member

Africa Patterson (Dept. of Public Health)

Misty Cowger (Child Advoc. Center)

Bill Giguere (Mental Health Ctr.)

Casey Coleman (Vol. Center of Morgan Co.)

Dana King (Mental Health Ctr)

Kellie Tanner (Morgan Co. Schools)

CPC Member

Machea Jones (State DYS)

Arthur Orr (state senator)

Brent Craig (district judge)

Courtney Schellack (Assist. DA)

Donny Bettertron

Kevin Kusta (district judge)

CPC Member

Maegan Farragher (Community Action)

Ashley Beasley (Crisis Services of N.A.)

Candace Coleman (DYS)

Dana Gladden (Hartselle City Schools)

Kathleen Ross (United Way)

Kim Gully (SOS)

Kim Howell (CASA)	Kirby Vickery (local attorney/GAL)	Lainie Alexander (DHR)
Laurie McFalls	Leah Brown (Mosaic of N. Ala)	Lemzel Johnson (Decatur YS)
Liletta Jenkins	Lisa Coleman (Mental Health Ctr)	Michael Douglas (Decatur City Schools)
Michelle Birdwell (Chief JPO)	Michelle Moore (Mental Health Ctr)	Myrtle Caudel (Shiloh Missionary Bapt. Church)
Nikki Usery (Medicaid)	Pam Bolding (Neighborhood Christian Ctr.)	Pam Farris
Patrick Caver (local attorney/GAL)	Rachel Townsend (Help Me Grow)	Randy Garrison (Hartselle Mayor)
Ray Long (Morgan Co. Comm. Chair)	Scott Stadthagen (state representative)	Robert Elliott (Morgan Co. Superint.)
Dee Dee Jones (Harstelle Superint.)	Ron Puckett (Morgan Co. Sheriff)	Scott Anderson (Morgan Co. DA)
Shelly Waters (district judge)	Stephanie Losey (Children's Advocacy Ctr)	Summer Morgan (Decatur Career Ctr)
Susan Claborn (Mental Health Assoc.)	Susan Roberts (PACT)	Tab Bowling (Decatur Mayor)
Terri Collins (state representative)	Tim Bolding (Neighborhood Christian Center)	Wanda Davis (Decatur City Schools)
Yvette Evans (Decatur City Schools)		

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

- Yes
 No

Name of CPC Coordinator

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

Brent Craig, District Judge

CPC Coordinator Email

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

brent.craig@alacourt.gov

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. If your CPC would like to rank five or more needs, please feel free to do so. You are welcome to answer as many questions as you would like on this survey, but we ask that you please answer at least all of the questions under your top three ranked 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)

Most Urgent Needs

Please choose your three most urgent needs.

- 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 manifest through underage drinking, prescription drug abuse, as well as illegal substance manufacturing, access and use. If this issue is one of the top three needs in your county, please rank it first, second or third.

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

66

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

32

Urgent Needs

Please rank your top selected needs in the order of importance- 1 being the most important 2, and 3.

- 1
- 2
- 3

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.

Number of children in foster care

110

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

- Yes
- No

Urgent Needs

Please rank your top selected needs in the order of importance- 1 being the most important 2, and 3.

- 1
- 2
- 3

Mental Health

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

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

43

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

10

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

18 to 54 years old

Urgent Needs

Please rank your top selected needs in the order of importance- 1 being the most important 2, and 3.

- 1
 2
 3

Accomplishments

For your existing programs and accomplishments from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, please provide who benefited from the accomplishment, the source and amount of funds used for the accomplishment. Please provide at least three of your county CPC's accomplishments for the past year. You may include up to 10.

Accomplishment 1

Please describe this accomplishment.

From Neighborhood Christian Center: Neighborhood Christian Center of AL Inc had approximately 33 children and youth attending programs weekly. We served 6,616 neighbors from the community in need. We gave away 3,724 clothes items, 36,975 food items, and 6,214 hygiene items. We also helped 139 neighbors with financial needs focusing on utilities; along with gas, rent, birth certificates and IDs. We had approximately 431 people attending classes and programs weekly on-site at the NCC and off-site at Morgan County Jail, Hamilton A & I Prison, North Alabama Detention Center, Backyard Bible Club, and System of Services. We also offer three transitional homes that serve women leaving incarceration, single moms and their children, and a home that has housed two men this year.

Who benefited from accomplishment 1

Our largest area of service is children, youth, individuals and families in Morgan County. But, we do offer our services to other nearby counties. We serve those in our community who are in need of emergency services such as food, clothing, household items, hygiene and financial assistances. We offer 35-40 classes and programs to many in our community who are caught in the cycle of poverty, incarcerated, struggling with addiction issues, unemployed and under employed, and more.

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 1

Our on-going funding received from private donations, local grants, fund raisers and businesses help sustain our programs.

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 1

Our funding comes from private donations, local grants, fundraisers and businesses.

Accomplishment 2

Please describe this accomplishment.

Decatur Police Department: Created Mental Health Liaison position, filled position Nov 2021

Who benefited from accomplishment 2

Decatur adults and children with mental illness, family members of those with mental illness, advocates for mental health awareness and treatment

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 2

1 full time city employee salary

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 2

City Budget

Accomplishment 3

Please describe this accomplishment.

Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama: 1) Provided 7,491 hours of Outpatient psychiatric and counseling services for 609 children at The Albany Clinic for Children (CTAC is a program of the Mental Health Center), 1315 13th Ave., SE, Decatur, 35601; 2) Provided a combined 490 hours of Psychiatrist time for 330 children and a combined 224 hours of Nurse time for 214 children served by CTAC; 3) Provided 544 hours of Case Management services for 33 children served by CTAC.; 4) In partnership with the Morgan County Juvenile Probation Office provided a full-time Juvenile Court Liaison who provided over 379 hours of outpatient services for youth and 31 hours of family support and education services for 82 youth identified by the Morgan County Juvenile Court.; 5) In partnership with Decatur City Schools and Hartselle City Schools provided over 1,881 hours of combined services for 227 children as part of the School Based Mental Health Collaboration program.; 6) Provided traditional on-site counseling services at the following at Morgan County , Decatur, and Hartselle schools; 7) At-Risk Counselor services were provided on-site Morgan County and Hartselle City Schools.; 8) Provided 933 episodes, 2,494 hours and 970 community contacts of drug, alcohol and other drug prevention services for children.; and 9) Child in-home intervention services: Provided 1,310 bundled days of care for 29 children.

Who benefited from accomplishment 3

Children and their parents and teachers in Morgan County.

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 3

varies

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 3

Variety of sources: client service revenue (primary Medicaid), contract with state department of mental health, federal funding, local government funding, and donations.

Accomplishment 4

Please describe this accomplishment.

Morgan County Child Advocacy Center: The Morgan County Child Advocacy Center continued providing Forensic Interviews, Victim Advocacy, and Therapy services to children in Morgan County throughout our 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, which runs from October 1, 2021-September 30, 2022. As of June 30th, our staff has provided 135 forensic interviews, 1,214 victim advocacy services, and 651 therapy sessions. In total, the Morgan County Child Advocacy Center has served 379 children and 264 caregivers this fiscal year. In addition to our core services, the CAC Certified Facility Dog, Jezebel, has provided 144 services to children served by the CAC through the month of June.

Who benefited from accomplishment 4

Children who are the victims of abuse or are suspected of having been abused are the target population for the services offered at the CAC. The CAC provides services to children ages 3-18 who reside in Morgan County.

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 4

\$231,078.40

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 4

The Morgan County CAC is funded by local and federal grants, fundraisers, and community support/donations.

Accomplishment 5

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited from accomplishment 5

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 5

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 5

Accomplishment 6

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited from accomplishment 6

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 6

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 6

Accomplishment 7

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited from accomplishment 7

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 7

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 7

Accomplishment 8

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited from accomplishment 8

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 8

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 8

Accomplishment 9

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited from accomplishment 9

Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 9

Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 9

Accomplishment 10

Please describe this accomplishment.

Who benefited 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 complete the questions below and indicate your CPC's level of development.

Level I CPC

Please select all that apply.

- Mandate 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
- CPS 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

Please 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

Please select all committees which have been established.

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

Level III CPC

Please 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

Please upload a CPC membership list with contact information.

copier.scan@alacourt.gov_20220829_111240.pdf 288.81KB

CPC Meeting Minutes

Please upload minutes from CPC meetings from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Please ensure all minutes are scanned together as one document.

copier.scan@alacourt.gov_20220829_111008.pdf 1.76MB

CPC Sign-In Sheets

Please upload all CPC Meeting Sign-In sheets from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. Please ensure all sign-in sheets are scanned together as one document.

Conclusion*

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

attendance is listed in minutes