



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 *

Randolph

Honorable Judge *

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

Amy M. Newsome

Name of CPC Coordinator *

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

Samantha Birtles

CPC Coordinator Email *

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

Samantha.Birtles@alacourt.gov

Address *

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

P.O. Box 267

Address Line 2

City

Wedowee

Postal / Zip Code

36278

State / Province / Region

Alabama

Country

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
Adrian Carpenter	Allan Robertson	Amy Newsome
Angie Stewart	Anthony Peck	Arnika Whitaker
Ashley Abrams	Beth Bailey	Bob Fincher
Brent Meadows	Brett Waites	Brittney Duncan
Carol Sprayberry	Chad Kendrick	Chloe Butler
Chris Brown	Chris May	Christina Arnold
Clifton Drummonds	Connor Chauveaux	David Cofield
Debbie McCauley	Deborah McManus	Derek Farr
Donnie Grant	Donna McKay	Greg Foster
Gwendolyn Brown	Jaqueline Burgess	Jill Waters
John Jacobs	Johnece Smith	Kara Hall
Keli Hendon	Larry Roberts	Liletta Jenkins
Logan Cofield	Lorenzo Foster	Lynn Robinson
Mandy Rollins	Marilyn Whitlow	Mason Brown
Myra Holt	Neil Fetner	Nikki Wynn
Pam Johnson	Raisha Morrell	Robert Dewhurts
Sabrina Voss	Samantha Birtles	Scott Carter
Suzanne Shaw	Takisha Shealey	Tiffany Moore
Tim Coe	Tina Musick	Todd Cole
Tucker North	Yolanda Lee	

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. *

6

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? *

34

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.

n/a

Additional information About Substance Abuse *

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

We have seen a rise in drug offenses with adults and an increase in safety plans due to the family's involvement with drugs.

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.

91

Credit Recovery and Graduation Assistance *

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

I'm not sure we have any specific programs in our county to prevent dropouts. As a school system, we work extra hard to prevent students from dropping out. We provide before and after school tutoring in addition to summer school to provide opportunities for students to build academic skills and to recover lost credits. We work hard to build relationships with students as well as provide adult mentors for students. We have put a mental health coordinator in place to work with students who have greater mental health needs as well as full-time counselors at each school. Counselors talk with students about the detrimental consequences of dropping out. In addition, we try to offer opportunities for students with a wide-array of interests.

Truancy Cases *

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

207

Discipline problems in schools *

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

Some of the most common discipline issues we deal with are skipping class, student altercations, use of vapes, inappropriate use of technology, and disruptive behaviors (behaviors that are not violent but disruptive such as speaking out, acting silly, etc).

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.

19

Reading Proficiency in 4th Grade *

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

47.5

Math proficiency in 4th grade *

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

23

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.

Hire more therapist; more community involvement; more external resources; educate the county pediatricians, law enforcement, medical staff, nurses and ER staff on mental health/symptoms/treatment.

Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. *

Our county needs more community resources to help with the needs of the mental health population.

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.

AltaPointe in Roanoke, Alabama

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.

The Right step Program offers treatment for juveniles at risk. Common areas of need include coping skills related to trauma, education, basic living skills, and positive parenting skills. Family counseling addresses relational issues and provides support to both client and family. In the future, the program would like to offer a weekly parent support group utilizing evidence-based material strengthen the parents' skills and build more stability in the home.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? *

At-risk juveniles in Randolph County

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 *

254,600.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 *

DYS Grant

Accomplishment 2 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Randolph County Early Warning Program focuses on truancy issues within the schools from kindergarten through twelfth grade. The Juvenile Probation Officer intervenes with the families before truancy charges are filed against the child or parents.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2? *

Children and families in Randolph County who attend Randolph County Public and Roanoke City Schools

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2 *

\$6,000.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2 *

Randolph County Schools and Roanoke City Schools

Accomplishment 3 *

Describe this accomplishment.

Randolph County Children's Policy Council collaborated with Randolph County DHR to put on a Toy Drive for the children in foster care in Randolph County. The program sponsored a total of 8 children. We asked that every sponsor buy one item they needed, one item they wanted, and a toy they wanted. Each present was wrapped and dropped off to DHR before Christmas.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3? *

Foster Children in Randolph County

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3 *

0.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3 *

Donations from citizens of Randolph and Clay County.

Accomplishment 4

Describe this accomplishment.

Randolph County has two members from our Children's Policy Council certified with The Parent Project and they use that to focus on truancy issues and issues parents have getting their children to go to school. Parents that are involved in our Truancy Court are referred to The Randolph County Parent Project. This is a form of intervention with the families before truancy charges are filed against the child or parents.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 4?

Children and parents of Randolph County.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 4

\$1,130.00

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 4

Literacy Grant

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

CPC Members List

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

CPC Membership.xlsx

24.87KB

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.

Minutes.pdf

725.71KB

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.pdf

987.66KB

Conclusion *

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

Not that I can think of!