



**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\***

Wilcox

**Honorable**

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

Judge Briana Westry

**Title of Judge**

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

Judge Briana Westry

**Address**

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

**Street Address**

12 Water Street STE 302

**Address Line 2**

**City**

Camden

**State / Province / Region**

Alabama

**Postal / Zip Code**

36726

**Country**

United States

**CPC Members**

**CPC Member**

Judge Briana Westry

Alicia Foster

Carol Dixon

April Moton (Wilcox County CJPO)

Leila Milhouse (Cahaba Mental Health)

Shelia Dortch (Wilcox County BOE)

**CPC Member**

Sheryl Threadgill-Matthews

Jacqueline Hives

Lauri Cothran (Child Advocacy Center)

Timothy Strong (Wilcox County B.O.E.)

Renee' Callen (SABRA Sanctuary)

Candance Burroughs (Wilcox Extensions)

**CPC Member**

Samantha Gomez

Ethel Johnson

Tamika Dial (Wilcox County Extension Office)

Rose Garner (Lily Baptist Church Youth Outreach)

Stacy Hill

Heustis Pledger (BAMA Kids AmeriCorps VISTAS)

Camilla Phillips (BAMA Kids AmeriCorps VISTAS)	Lileta Jenkins (Alabama Early Childhood Education Department)	Brenda Autry (PFS Coalition)
Gwendolyn Washington (SRBWI Wilcox County)	LaKrisa Hunt (ABC Board)	Constance Phillips (CSR)
Sylvia Williams (Partnership for Success)	Janice Simms (Family Sunshine Center)	Cindy Bockman (ADA)
Benjamin Lightner (Wilcox Works)	Jessilyn Townsend-Blair (Department of Youth Services)	Earnest Evans (Wilcox County Sheriff's Department)
Eugene McIntosh (Council on Substance Abuse)	Deondrea M. O'Fields (COSA)	Jim Emerson (Wilcox Works)
Amy Abrams (Wilcox County Health Department)	Dr. Andre Saulsberry (Wilcox B.O.E.)	Leila Milhouse (Cahaba Mental Health)

**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.

Samantha Gomez

**CPC Coordinator Email**

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

samantha.gomez@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](http://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.

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

42

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

17

## 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.

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

0

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

0

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

9 to 17 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

## Poverty

Poverty has many faces, unemployment, poor living standards and the working poor not having enough money to provide the basic needs for their children.

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**What is the unemployment rate in your county?**

10

## What is the rate of children in poverty in your county?

41

### 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.

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#### Accomplishment 1

Please describe this accomplishment.

The Wilcox County CPC met quarterly during 2021 in March, June, and September. During the meetings members received updates from member agencies and made plans for CPC sponsored upcoming events.

#### Who benefited from accomplishment 1

Member agencies benefited in that they were made aware of what was going on for children and families in the country, and what benefits and resources were available.

#### Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 1

0

#### Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 1

#### Accomplishment 2

Please describe this accomplishment.

On October 17, 2021, the Wilcox County CPC in conjunction with the Children's Defense Fund sponsored the 30th Annual Children's Sabbath. Faith across all denominations came together together in support of our children who are always in need of our encouragement and support. The multi-faith Children's Sabbath engages places of worship across the country in focusing prayers, worship, education programs, and action on learning more about the urgent problems facing our nation's children.

The event was held at Bessie Munden Recreational Park in Camden, AL. The program and message was focused on the youth and our speaker was motivating and encouraging!

#### Who benefited from accomplishment 2

The children and members from local churches benefited. Food and snack were provided by the CPC.

#### Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 2

\$100.00

#### Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 2

Wilcox County Children's Policy Council

#### Accomplishment 3

Please describe this accomplishment.

The Wilcox County Children's Policy Council Applied for the Campaign for Grade Level Reading Grant for \$20,000.000.

#### Who benefited from accomplishment 3

Churches, Parents, children from birth - 5 years of age.

**Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 3**

0

**Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 3**

**Accomplishment 4**

Please describe this accomplishment.

**Who benefited from accomplishment 4**

**Amount of funds dedicated to Accomplishment 4**

**Source(s) of funds for Accomplishment 4**

**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.

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#### **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

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### CPC Members List

Please upload a CPC membership list with contact information.

CPC Membership List.docx 22.95KB

### 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.

CPC Minutes March 2022.docx 15.83KB

CPC Minutes June 2022.docx 13.62KB

CPC Minutes September 2022.docx 13.34KB

### 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.

CPC Sign In Sheet March 2022.docx 22.96KB

CPC Sign In Sheet June 2022.docx 24.76KB

### Conclusion\*

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

We thank you for all you do!