



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 *

Hale

Honorable Judge *

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

HON. Judge Timothy A. Evans

Name of CPC Coordinator *

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

Tara Prince

CPC Coordinator Email *

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

tara.prince@alacourt.gov

Address *

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

Street Address

1001 Main Street

Address Line 2

Suite 36

City

Greensboro

State / Province / Region

Alabama

Postal / Zip Code

36744

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.

3

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
Banks, Lizzie	Lewis, Andrea	Stephens, Michelle
Banks, Toby	Lewis, Jovita J.	Stewart, Robert
Belcher, Katherine	Matos, Yasmin	Sorrells, Kaleena
Braggs, Willie Mae	McCants, Nicole	Taylor, Angela
Brazzell, Sarah	McCrory, Jason	Turner, Kim
Burton, Marquetta	McKinney, Audra S.	Turner, Robert H., Jr.
Cothran, Lauri	Moore, Patricia	Vanhorn, Jennifer
Cottrell, Andrea H.	Morrison, Angela	Vansandt, Glenda
Craig, Diane Travis	Perry, Eric	Vasser, Dorothy
Crawford, Arthur	Phillips, Matthew	Walker, William
Croom, Brandon	Posey, Jonathan	Wiley, Beverly
Davis, Kimberly	Price, Torrey	Wilson, A
Evans, Timothy A	Richburg, Theresa	Williams, Jamaria
Garner, Ronnie	Richey, Stephanie	Williams, Rieta
Hamilton, Mike	Ryans, Michael	White, Sharon
Harris, Dennis	Samuel, Trendel	Murray, Marlon
Harris, Mattie	Samya, Misty	Ratcliff, Tameka
Holland-Garner, Sarah	Sanders, Anthony	
Jackson-Brown, Bridget	Schmitt, Alexandria	
Jenkins, Liletta	Shine-Hopson, Nicole	
Jemison, Tracy	Singleton, Bobby	

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.

We are in need of more support for victims and family counseling. Decrease in the unemployment rate. Increase penalty for Drug/Alcohol use and violent crimes.

Number of Children in Foster Care *

36

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%

Credit Recovery and Graduation Assistance *

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

We handle this in a few ways, mainly by trying to catch up students that have failed a class in the very next semester using Ed-Genuity in the X block time slot that is built into the high school schedule. Students that don't need to catch up can use that as enrichment or for clubs, etc. This is not intended to be a time block to earn credit, but it is for catch up.

We are still offering summer school classes where students can make up two classes.

Additionally, our requirement of 28 graduation credits, which is higher than surrounding schools, still has the possibility of students graduating mid-year, as a senior, which means that you have an entire semester to make up anything that may still be lacking.

We don't actually encourage re-enrollment, because we try not to prevent dropouts through credit monitoring and career choice placement starting in 8th grade.

Our withdrawal procedure requires an exit interview which is intended to help prevent dropping out through a series of questions trying to get to the basis of the reason for the withdrawal.

Truancy Cases *

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

47

Discipline problems in schools *

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

There are numerous issues which cause suspension, but this year there were several for fighting (mostly because it involves more than one person, though everyone involved can be suspended at least for a few days). There are many issues with threats to other students, the school or directed at a teacher. Many students were suspended for possession/use of substances prohibited at school. The shorter-term suspensions are probably more related to disrespect/defiance where students refuse to comply with directions in a manner that keeps other students from learning. Those issues seem to be mostly related to a lack of respect for authority/teaching or others (other student learning), because it is probably impossible to keep each student fully engaged 100% of the classroom time and during transitions. Progressive discipline (maybe not the correct term) utilized in the classroom has reduced suspensions but requires an increased tolerance to disruption by the general population of students.

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.

12.30%

Reading Proficiency in 4th Grade *

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

48.20%

Math proficiency in 4th grade *

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

21.40%

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.

Action that can be taken is providing a mental health unit at our local hospital, ensuring that the community is well educated and informed when it comes to mental health issues, and ensuring that the local Mental Health Center is providing adequate and sufficient resources.

Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. *

The greatest need is that the lack of knowledge of mental health issues for children and adults. There are no adequate resources to support the number of people with mental health issues in our county. The lack of mental health providers, who will successfully treat the issues.

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.

1. West Alabama Mental Health Center
2. Moundville Medical Association
3. Hale County Hospital Clinic

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.

One of accomplishments was having a community mental health awareness fair and getting local agencies involved in providing information about their programs. May is Mental Health Awareness Month, on Fridays we wore green. HCSS CNP provided students with healthy foods to promote healthy minds.

The intentions were to provide and ensure that the students and the community know that mental health is a priority and to provide saw much information as we could.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? *

Hale County School Systems students, faculty, and surrounding community.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 *

Undisclosed amounts

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 *

State and Federal Funding
Funds raised in a local t-shirt sale-\$22.00 each.

Accomplishment 2*

Describe this accomplishment.

Work between Hale County DHR and the Juvenile Court, children/families were able to participate in the Kindship Guardianship and Establishing Permanency (Place w/ relatives).

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2?*

Children in foster care and their families.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2*

Undisclosed amounts

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2*

State & Federal Funding.

Accomplishment 3*

Describe this accomplishment.

Continued operation of the Greensboro Boys & Girls Club.

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3?*

Children from kindergarten through middle school.

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3*

Undisclosed Donations

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3*

Grants

Accomplishment 4

Describe this accomplishment.

Grant for Greensboro High School Football team

Who benefitted from Accomplishment 4?

Student Athletes

Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 4

\$17,000

Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 4

Tombigbee RC&D 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 INFORMATION 2023.docx	26.23KB
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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 MEETING MINUTES 04-06-2023.pdf	132.5KB
CPC Meeting Minutes 06-20-2023.pdf	99.43KB

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 Meeting Sign-in Sheet 04-06-2023.pdf	122.13KB
CPC MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET 06-20-2023.pdf	132.82KB

Conclusion *

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

The size of your county, with a population of 15k people and being 35 miles from any large cities; it poses a real problem for our community in the areas of employment and transportation. These are also contributing factors to the needs in our county.