



### 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 \*

Marshall

#### Honorable Judge \*

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

Jay Mastin, Circuit Judge

#### Name of CPC Coordinator \*

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

Russell Brand

#### CPC Coordinator Email \*

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

russell.brand@alacourt.gov

#### Address \*

Enter the address for mailing information to the CPC.

##### Street Address

133 South Emmett St.

##### Address Line 2

##### City

Albertville

##### State / Province / Region

AL

##### Postal / Zip Code

35950

##### Country

United States of America

#### 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.

5

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

Hon. Jay Mastin

Amber Anderson

Tanya Beard

Butch Cartee

Lesa Davis

David Dyar

Mary Florian

Rachel Geiger

Rita Hancock

Laura Harper

Corey Hill

Tracy Honea

Jennifer Bray

Pamela Just

Brad Kitchens

Leticia Lutes

Marie McCollum

Michelle Mitchell

Christy Murry

Brandi Parris

Jim Peterson

Kimberly Reese

Kristen Robertson

Clay Scofield

Ronny Shumate

Phil Sims

Daniel Spencer

Teresa Walker

Janice Wilson

### CPC Member

Russell Brand

Joey Baker

Laura Braswell

Hannah Chandler

Keith Decker

Rhonda Dyar

Myron Gargis

Karla Golden

Todd Haney

Beverly Harris

Gaylene Holsonback

James Hutcheson

Stacey Johnson

Kevin Kidd

Chuck Knight

Juana Macia-Christian

Lindsey McKee

Laura Moffett

Jenna Nix

Africa Patterson

Greg Price

Kathleen Rice

Zach Ross

Randall Shedd

Grace Siggers

Charlotte Sparks

Carrie Thomas

Rick Watson

Stephanie Wisner

### CPC Member

Michael Abercrombie

Jason Barnett

Letha Cannon

Adam Culbert

Leigh Dollar

Dr. Boyd English

Larinda Garrett

Melinda Hamilton

Rebecca Hanner

Sherrie Hiett

Myra Holt

Marcia Jackson

Bob Joslin

Jana Kirkland

Brandy Lindsey

Felicia Mason

McTarsney Stephany

Sonya Murdock

Jennifer Palmer

Antonia Perez

Ed Ralston

Kerry Rich

David Sandridge

Sara Shelton

Lee Sims

Eric Speight

Courtney Thompson

Dr. Cindy Wigley

Raquel Zavaleta

**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](http://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. \***

45

**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? \***

54

**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

**How many juveniles went through the court last year? \***

46

### **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.

Our Juvenile Drug Court (JDC) has been in existence since 2004. The goal of the JDC is to decrease the recidivism rate in juveniles committing drug offenses. With the ever-increasing availability of new drugs, the challenge has been to stay one step ahead of those trends.

### **Additional information About Substance Abuse \***

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

The advent of vaping and the recent failure of the Alabama State Legislature to pass legislation addressing use of tobacco and vapes by children will only increase the use of those products by our state's children.

### **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.

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### **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.

Access to resources, counseling and mental health support have all been factors in the success preventing increase in domestic violence incidents.

### Number of Children in Foster Care \*

153

### 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? \*

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? \***

10

**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.

Resources are acquired from outside of the county.

**Describe the greatest mental health needs in your county. \***

Co-occurring with drug issues.

**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.

Mountain Lakes Behavioral Health Care

North Alabama Counseling

Lake Guntersville Counseling

**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.

Mountain Lakes Behavioral Healthcare, Thrive Alabama, Kids and Kin of North Alabama and Marshall County Interagency Council collaborated to present a Family Resource Fair on March 3, 2023, at the Boaz Public Library.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 1? \***

Families and Children from all over Marshall County.

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 1 \***

unknown

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 1 \***

unknown

**Accomplishment 2 \***

Describe this accomplishment.

During the summer of 2022, Marshall County CPC organized and conducted a summer book club for ages Pre-K through 3rd grade. We distributed over 3,000 books weekly over the summer at three different locations utilizing volunteers.

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 2? \***

Children in classes from Pre-K through 3rd grade.

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 2 \***

\$7,600.00

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 2 \***

The Alabama Reading Initiative Grant.

**Accomplishment 3 \***

Describe this accomplishment.

N/A

**Who benefitted from Accomplishment 3? \***

N/A

**Amount of Funds Dedicated to Accomplishment 3 \***

N/A

**Source(s) of Funds for Accomplishment 3 \***

N/A

**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.

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#### **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

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### CPC Members List

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

2023 CPC-Membership.xlsx 35.07KB

### 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.

June 29, 2023 minutes.docx 31.68KB

**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.

February 22, 2023 sign-in sheet.pdf	230.26KB
June 29, 2023 sign-in sheet .docx	12.66KB
November 2, 2022 sign-in sheet.pdf	431.41KB

**Conclusion \***

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

N/A