

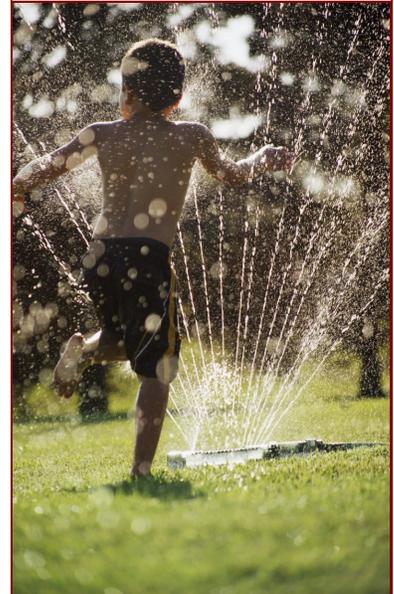


Working Together to Improve the Lives of Alabama's Children

The CPC Review

DCA GRANTS AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING CPCs

- Autauga County** - partially fund salary for CPC director
- Bibb County** – project to provide health screenings for children
- Calhoun County** – partially fund salary for CPC director
- Chambers County** – project to enhance Juvenile Drug Court
- Coffee County** - partially fund salary for CPC director
- Covington County** – Peer Helper Project, Kids Against Prescription Drugs Project, and production of “59 Minutes”
- Dallas County** – continuation of Safe School Challenge, a project of the CPC
- Geneva County** – bringing Choice Bus to the county, mentoring and work-force development for youth
- Greene County** – project to provide a reading program and a character development program
- Jefferson County** – partially funding CPC program manager, website design
- Lauderdale County** – partially fund salary for CPC director
- Madison County** – project to continue Juvenile Conference Committee
- Morgan County** - partially fund salary for CPC director
- Shelby County** – project to design and host a website for the CPC
- Tuscaloosa County** – partially fund salary for CPC director
- Wilcox County** – projects to enhance parenting skills, enhance life skills, improve behavior, and encourage reading
- Winston County** – project to reduce school absenteeism



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SHELBY COUNTY BLUE RIBBON TREE



The winner was the Probate Office under Judge Jim Furhmeister, with their wonderfully handcrafted trees.

Policy Council is the strengthening of families so that they can become strong and stable. The Shelby County Children’s Policy Council joined with the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention (Children’s Trust Fund) in promoting awareness of child abuse prevention in April by displaying trees filled with blue ribbons around the community. Members of the CPC made ribbons to honor children and creatively placed them on hand-crafted trees, artificial trees and even outhouses! All agencies of the CPC were asked to display a tree during the month of April, with the Shelby County Family Resource Center, DHR, Safe-House, Owens House, Spirit of Hope Youth Ranch, the University of Montevallo, the Board of Education and the county responding. A competitive challenge was issued between the courthouse offices and the Juvenile Probation Office. A gift certificate to Joe’s Italian restaurant was awarded to the winner, which was the Probate Office under Judge Jim Furhmeister, with their wonderfully handcrafted tree. Certificate of Excellence awards were presented to the Circuit Clerk’s Office and Juvenile Services Office.

In addition, three proclamations were signed to recognize April as Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month: one from Mayor Sonny Penhale of Helena, another from Mayor Allen Lowe of Columbiana and one from Superintendent Randy Fuller of the Shelby County Board of Education.



Judge Kramer presents a Certificate of Excellence Award to Alicia Seal with the Circuit Clerk’s Office under the direction of Mary Harris



Left to right-Alicia Seale, Kim Melton, Phyllis Roberts and Barbara Williams

JEFFERSON COUNTY CPC

The Children’s Policy Council of Jefferson County is excited to report their involvement in an historic public health initiative. *Communities Putting Prevention to Work* (CPPW) is a national program funded through the CDC. The goal of the program is to reduce use of tobacco products and to sustain long-term nutrition and physical activity as a way to reduce childhood obesity. Through this program Jefferson County’s Department of Health leads a multi-agency initiative that includes the CPC. With funding to contract for the services of policy analysts, the CPC will work with the 12 school districts in the county to strengthen policies guiding after-school programs. While working to help after-school programs increase access to nutritious foods and physical exercise, the CPC will also be digging deeper to identify children’s needs and, with the expertise of Better Basics, resources to meet those needs. Through its e-mail communications, web site, social media outlets and monthly meetings, the CPC will serve as a link between grant-related initiatives and the child serving community. The overall CPPW initiative is ambitious and far-reaching. More information about the partners, strategies and expected outcomes go to www.jcdh.org. To follow along with the CPC’s progress check www.jeffersoncountychildren.org.

GOT ANY BIG IDEAS?

Let’s say that you could spend a lunch meeting and pick the keynote speaker yourself. Who would you want to hear? What issues would you like to have addressed? What interests you most right now? Who would you want to hear that would help you better meet the needs of the children in your community? If you have any ideas, please let us know. Just answer these questions:

- If, for the benefit of county Children’s Policy Councils, the Department of Children’s Affairs could bring a nationally known speaker to a single location in the state for a luncheon, who would that speaker be?
- If you don’t know of a speaker – what would the topic be?
- Would you be willing to pay for the cost of the meal in order to hear the speaker?

Think about it . . . then email your responses to amy.floyd@dca.alabama.gov



“We must teach our children to dream with their eyes open.”

- Harry Edwards

LAUDERDALE CPC DID IT AGAIN!



“There are no seven wonders of the world in the eyes of a child. There are seven million.”

- Walt Streightiff

The Lauderdale County CPC did it again! In April, 2010 we hosted the world famous Carson and Barnes circus for two exciting days of family fun. The crowds were amazed by the circus performers and the exotic animals. We rode elephants, petted camels and watched the trapeze artists as they flew through the air. Children, young and old, enjoyed the cotton candy, lights and music as we watched hula hoops twirling and clowns on the trampoline. The weather could not have been better and the Circus could not have been more enjoyable.

This is our second year to host this traveling circus and we have come to love them like our own family. Working closely with the circus professionals and their marketing department we were able to have a tidy profit at

the end of the day. Now we have funds to help the children in our community while giving them a memory of a lifetime.

The Lauderdale County CPC, under the leadership of Judge Jimmy Sandlin, has been selected by the Governor’s Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives to participate in the Alabama Strengthening Alabama Communities project. As the only CPC selected, we are excited and honored. Our LCCPC team for the project is composed of service providers in the non-profit and faith-based realms.

Also, under the watchful eye of Judge Sandlin, the Lauderdale County CPC has crossed the Tennessee River to help Colbert County present The Drug Scene to the students at Muscle Shoals High School. We worked closely with the residents of Colbert County and now feel they will be able to continue the Drug Scene in their community.

LCCPC is involved in every aspect of life in our community. From school programs about the dangers of drugs to the No PANE program to combat childhood obesity, we are working tirelessly to make a difference in our community and the lives of the children we are charged with overseeing. We are at ballgames, First Fridays, festivals and Music in the Park. We talk to business leaders, civic groups and church groups, and they are beginning to listen and take notice of the CPC and our efforts. With everyone working together, we are making progress for a brighter future for the children and families of our community.

LOOK WHAT KIDS IN MORGAN COUNTY WILL BE DOING THIS SUMMER!

The Morgan County Children's Policy Council, under the direction of Cindy R. Moses, has made summer activities for kids a top priority. Member agencies work together throughout the year to devise programs to suit the needs of a diverse population of youth. These programs address a variety of needs within the community.

Summer 2010 has only begun and Decatur Youth Services is seeing an increase in the number of youth applying for Summer Youth Service. Bruce Jones stated that last year DYS served 1237 throughout the year.

DYS also offers a Summer Lunch Program wherein they feed approximately 1600 hundred kids 18 and under each day lunch and breakfast. DYS ends the summer fun with a Back to School Jam, where they give over one thousand student book bags and school supplies.

The Neighborhood Christian Center (NCC) a faith based center offers Summer Youth Arts/Work Program. Tim Bolding stated that they train teens from the community they serve to go out and share with other kids at the Boys & Girls Club, and other low-income areas. These teens also take the Jobs for Life course and financial budgeting (investing 70% of their weekly stipend in a savings account that they can use when the program is over, through this they learn delayed gratification in the area of finances).

Jessica Nelson, Executive Director of the Volunteer Center of Morgan County shared about the Summer Youth Volunteering Programs for the summer for kids from ages 10 -18 years of age. The Volunteer Center offers two different programs. KIVS (Kids in Volunteer Service) is a program for 10-12 years olds. The program is designed to give these kids experience in volunteering at a variety of non-profits and community centers. Another program is for kids ages 13-18. These kids select a volunteer "job" online at www.vcomc.org and schedule an appointment to interview for the "job". The students are then placed in one of the 55 positions available. In addition, this year the Volunteer Center is partnering with the Morgan County Extension and Community Action Partnership of North Alabama to bring TMI (Teens Making Impact) to all kids enrolled in the summer programs.

The Student Emergency Response Training (SERT) Program educates middle school and high school students, ages 12-17, about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skill.

The Mental Health Association under the leadership of Sue Brantley offers a summer camp for children in grades 1-5 who have been medically diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder or other emotional disorders.

And finally, Youth Development at Community Action Partnership of North Alabama has an Academic Enrichment program. Jump into Action Summer Day Camp is designed for low income families with students entering 9th grade living in the Hartselle area (but open with special consideration) who are struggling with math and science. The program focuses on enrichment classes to jump-start the transition from junior high to high school. Breakfast and lunch is being provided. The program runs from June 15-July 29 with room for 25 students and is free of charge.

This is just a glimpse of the exciting programs offered through the collaboration of member agencies of the Morgan County Children's Policy Council.



“If you want your children to improve, let them overhear the nice things you say about them to others.”

- Haim Ginott



“Hugs can do great amounts of good - especially for children.”

- Princess Diana

EXCHANGE CENTER FOR CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

The Wise Center for Child Abuse Prevention has been approved as the National Exchange Club Foundation’s newest Child Abuse Prevention (CAP) Center. The new name for the center will be the “Exchange Center for Child Abuse Prevention”. This will be the third CAP Center in Alabama. One is in Mobile, and one is in Birmingham. This is a win-win situation for the National and State Exchange Clubs as well as for the Center. This will allow for an accreditation process and will also bring the Parent Aide program to the Wiregrass. This program will be offered in addition to the parenting classes, anger management classes and individual, family and group therapies offered at the Center. The Parent Aide program will go into homes of families at risk of child abuse with children ages 12 and under and offer prevention strategies before the situation warrants DHR intervention.

For more information about the exchange Center, Please contact Sharon Taylor, Executive Director, at (334) 671-1966.

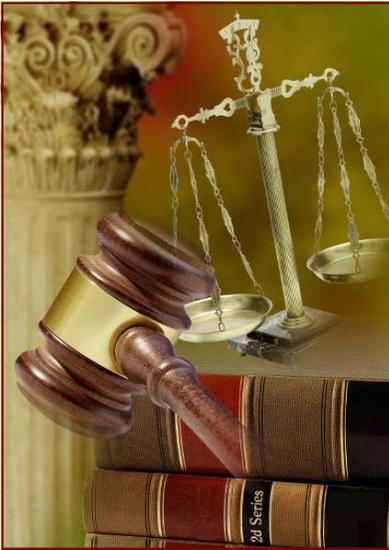
TRAUMA PREVENTION PROGRAM IN CULLMAN COUNTY



Recognizing that a large number of young drivers were being injured, many fatally, in Cullman County and the State of Alabama, the Cullman County Children’s Policy Council has partnered with the Cullman Regional Medical Center to create a Trauma Prevention Program. This program is a safety driving education program designed for young offenders charged with speeding. The offenders are court ordered to the Cullman Regional Medical Center Emergency Room

to tour the trauma room and meet with peers and surviving family members of drivers in an effort to assist them in making better driving decisions.

COFFEE COUNTY HOSTED A JUVENILE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE TRAINING



Coffee County hosted a Juvenile Conference Committee training during June. The Juvenile Conference Committee (JCC) is a diversionary program for delinquency cases referred to Juvenile Court in Coffee County. When a juvenile is charged with truancy, runaway, out of control, trespassing, criminal mischief, shoplifting, drug or alcohol possession or harassment, he or she may choose to participate in the JCC or go before the Juvenile Judge. If the juvenile and parent choose JCC, a meeting is scheduled to discuss their case. The JCC has knowledge of the case, including family history, prior to the meeting. Parents are requested to bring

documents including grades, progress reports, discipline reports, school records, psychological records and medical records. Depending on the child, other documents may be requested as needed. After the meeting the JCC makes recommendations to the child and parents. The JCC has wide discretion in determining what is in the best interest of the child and family. These recommendations can include a letter of apology, essay or research paper, restitution, community service, curfew, participation in an existing program such as Parent Project or Youth Enrichment Services, loss of privileges such as driving, personal items or school events. Once the committee has agreed on sanctions, the parent, child and JCC meets again to provide a time-frame for the child to complete the recommendations. If the child and parents agree to the sanctions, the JCC agreement is signed and carried out. If the child and parents do not agree, the child may go to Court in front of the Juvenile Judge, where the Judge may choose to follow the JCC's recommendations if the juvenile is found delinquent.

The JCC is comprised of volunteers from around the community and from all walks of life. Each volunteer is asked to give approximately six to nine hours of his or her time a month. Each volunteer is assigned one child in which to follow up. If the juvenile is assigned to a particular agency, the volunteer will call that agency to obtain a status check. If the child does not follow through with the recommendations, the child is referred back to the Court.

JCC volunteers were trained in June and received certificates from the Alabama Administration Office of Courts.

To receive more information on this program, contact Danny Weeks, Executive Director of Coffee County CPC, at dweeks@elbaed.com or 334-470-0032.

“Justice and power must be brought together, so that whatever is just may be powerful and whatever is powerful may be just.”

- Blaise Pascal

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you would like share any information about what your CPC is doing please contact amy.floyd@dca.alabama.gov. We look forward to hearing from you!



DCA MISSION:

The mission of the Alabama Department of Children's Affairs is to provide state leadership that identifies, promotes, and coordinates services for children, their families, and communities.

DCA VISION:

The vision of the Alabama Department of Children's Affairs is a well coordinated and high quality system of services for all Alabama's Children and their families.

WE HAVE MOVED!

In February of this year, the Department of Children's Affairs relocated to a new home. We moved from the Business Center of Alabama to The Alabama Center for Postsecondary Education Building. We have adjusted well to our new home and would like to remind everyone of our new address.

Our NEW Mailing Address is:

Alabama Department of Children's Affairs
P.O. Box 302755
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2755
www.children.alabama.gov

Our NEW Physical Address is:

Alabama Department of Children's Affairs
135 S. Union Street, Suite 215
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Phone Numbers

DCA	334-353-2700	334-353-2701 (Fax)
Susan McKim	334-353-2709	334-652-8344 (cell)
Liletta Jenkins	334-353-2710	334-328-2562 (cell)
Amy Floyd	334-353-2708	334-414-4900 (cell)
Tammy Coates	334-353-2707	334-590-3549 (cell)



WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE
THE LIVES OF ALABAMA'S CHILDREN