

2014 Needs Assessment for Etowah

Honorable William D. Russell
Etowah County District Court
801 Forrest Ave
Gadsden, AL 35901
256-549-5319

Adams, James	Entreken, Sheriff Todd	Ledbetter, Misty	Simmons, Willie
Alexander, Flora	Falcon, LeRoy	Lewis, Gary	Simpson, Felicia
Alvarez, Sari	Falcon, Patricia	Lotfi, Rachel	Sims, Emily
Ashley, Dianne	Ford, Rep. Craig	Lumpkin, Denise	Smith, Trace Fleming
Ball, Codi	Goodwyn, Leon	MacKroy, Sumika	Stephens, Tameka
Biddy, Sandra	Gregory, Ava	Millican, Jessica	Stowe, Cherlyn A.D.A.
Bowman, Superintendent David	Griswold, Elizabeth	Moody, Jessica	Tempel, Nancy
Butler, Rep. Mack	Guyton, Debra	Murray, Regina	Tinker, Jay
Carter, Susan	Hamrick, Eve	Nordgren, Rep. Becky	Weathers, Larry
Clay, Honorable Will	Harp, District Attorney Jimmie	Overstreet, Commissioner Jeff	Weaver, Lora
Cleghorn, Lisa	Henderson, Cyndy	Pannell, Dana	Whisenant, Lynne
Cole, Agnes	Henry, Joan	Parker, Commissioner Carolyn	Williams, Senator Phil
Collins, David	Hereford, Emma Atkins	Parks, Deborah	Woodall, Carrie
Crosby, Superintendent Alan	Herring, Katrina	Payne, Kim	
Darbo, Heidi	Hill, Janet	Quinn, Summer	
Densen, Kathy	Hooks, Officer Mike	Reid, Susan	
Donahue, Cathy	Johnson, Marie	Richardson, Valerie	
Duncan, Jamie	King, Willie	Roberts, Barbara	
Ellis, Becky	Krueger, Suzie	Short, Dianne	

Accomplishments

- 197 children aged 3-4, were served through a program called Scrubby Bear. This is an American Red Cross program that focuses on hand-washing and germs. Each child that participated received a CPC coloring and activity book
- Purchased and passed out 1000 'It starts with me' bracelets for Anti-Bullying Rally.
- Served 10 families of children with disabilities through an Easter event. Children could play games, get pictures made with the Easter Bunny, receive face painting and hunt eggs, all of which was handicap accessible. Children were invited from local agencies that are in the CPC.
- GRAD or Graduates Resisting Alcohol and Drugs program grew this year. This program targets graduating seniors and acts as a reminder to teens to stay safe on their graduation night and make smart decisions. 4 schools were served in Etowah County: Etowah High, Hokes Bluff, Gadsden City, and Southside. 783 students received a bracelet with the words GRAD on it.
- Health Screening - A health screening was performed at Striplin Elementary in June of 2014. We served 126 children that received 118 referrals: BMI-60, Vision-44, Dental-12, and Hearing-2.
- Health Screening- A health screening was performed at YMCA in July of 2013. We served 50 children that received 65 referrals: BMI-28, blood pressure-23, and dental-6.
- Set up a window display at the Gadsden mall in support of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention month in April 2014.
- United Way's Success by 6 Program served over 1400 children through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library where children received free books in the mail until they turn 5 years of age.
- 1,580 'Getting Ready for Kindergarten' calendars were distributed through United Way's Success by 6 Program.
- 28,000 Yellow Resource cards were printed to be distributed this year. The Children's Policy Council partner with United Way's 211 First Call For Help Program and United Way's Success By 6 Program
- Etowah County received 4 4-K grants this year at Attalla Elementary, Highland Elementary and two at JW Stewart Head Start.

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

School Success

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Backpack program• Success By 6• Mentoring - BBBS & Boys and Girls club• After school programming-21st century Gadsden City Schools• JW Stewart Headstart• 4-K programs• Evenstart Literacy Program• Etowah County Preschool• Gadsden Public Library• The Parent/Teacher Resource Center• UCP Hand in Hand• Children Rehabilitation Services• Gadsden City Schools Homeless Program• Etowah Baptist Mission Center• Family Success Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funding for 4-k programs free or low cost• After school programs for county• Children with special health care needs do not have access to after school/summer programs.

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Grants for needs.
2. Train day care workers to care for children with disabilities to have after school and summer care.

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Bullying

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Family Safe Success• Grad program - CPC• DARE officers - Dare Camp• Anti - bullying rally• Anti - bullying curriculum• Counselors at Gadsden City Schools• Choice Bus - Mattie C. Stewart• Be a Sweetheart, not a Bully• County / City schools - keynote speakers• Run, Hide, Fight - Etowah County Sheriff's department• School systems incorporating security equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hot line for children to call if they are being bullied or they see it happen• Awareness to schools

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Creating a city wide day in honor of Anti-Bullying Awareness.
2. CPC continue to give its 'it starts with me' bracelets to school aged children.
3. Try to incorporate the 'Thinking Straight Program' (Bradford Health).

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Child Health

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Policy Council • Sarrell Dental • Backpack program-CED Mental Health/ NAACP • CRS - PT, Speech, OT, • Audiology - Training for teachers and school personnel • GCS - PEP Grant, physical education grants • Gadsden City summer feeding program • American Red Cross • Scrubby Bear-American Red Cross • Lions Club • Focus 1st Impact Alabama (Vision) • Medicaid - non-emergency reimbursement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More nurses • More schools to allow dental education • Specialized staff for special needs students PT, OT, health care professionals • Move social workers • Transportation for children with medical needs

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Pass out 211 brochures to every child seen at health screenings.
2. Parent Fair for parents to receive information / Back to school fair and partner with Good Hairday.
3. Check into getting kid-check to come to Gadsden City.