

# 2014 Needs Assessment for Franklin

Paula B. McDowell  
Franklin County Courthouse  
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Judge McDowell	Karen Thorn	Chris James	Bobby Forsythe
Hon. Roger Bedford	Jabari Sullen	Sheila Pierce	Bettie Hillman
Dr. Susan Hargett	Elaine Softley	Rhonda Beam	Brad Bolton
Heather Darracott	Andrea Sornberger	Judge Terry Dempsey	Herbert Trulove
Joey Rushing	Becky Massey	Melanie Allen	Brett Gist
Jerry Groce	Luanne Vickery	Joann Graham	Rex Mayfield
Diane Pace	Laura Pruett	Jr. Ruiz	Troy Oliver
Remona Roberson	Josie Dugan	Renee Knoblock	Leila Wissert
Vicki Weatherby	Tim Guinn	Suzanne Fuller	Nina McNatt
Kim Wooten	James Pharr	Chad Sears	Gary Williams
Nancy Cooper	Kenny Sparks	Annette Hargett	Katernia Cole
Dr. Kay Hargett	Cindy Davis	Kevin Strickland	Kristie Ezzell
Sue Entrekin	Steve Pounders	Kevin Stone	Gary Hester
Rosalyn Fabianke	Susan Hall	Larry Freeman	Kellie Singleton
Jeff Rice	Deborah Hester	Carla Hutto	Jessica Latham
Nancy Davis	Donald Borden	Scott Wiginton	Rep. Johnny Mack Morrow
Shannon Oliver	Jan Page	Randy Hester	Brenda Hall
Liz James	Kathy Archer	Greg Smith	Karen Jarmon
Diane Baker	Kathy Swindle	Judge Barry Moore	Carolyn Hovater
Mike Mayfield	Deborah Glasgow	Stratt Byars	Willodean Davis
Sandy Evans	Heather Fowler	Michael Moomaw	

## Accomplishments

1. Teen Day at Northwest-Shoals Community College for all Franklin County Schools 8th grade students.
2. Awarded scholarships to after school centers and summer programs for children who cannot afford to attend, children who are failing in school, or in danger due to their home environment.
3. Applied for 6 grants that will help the school systems afford extra enrichment and activities for children.
4. Secured a \$100,000 grant for health technology equipment at Career-Technical Center and Red Bay School.
5. Provided computer classes for adults in the Red Bay area that will enable participants to gain work readiness skills.
6. Offered classes at night for the community such as photography, selling on Ebay, cake decorating, and parenting skills.
7. Held two CPC meetings for the active members, including the annual Making a Difference for Franklin County's Children Child Abuse Prevention Conference.
8. Participated in the Drug Story program for all county 6th grade students that was held in Red Bay (drug prevention program).
9. Nine active after-school sites were in operation in Franklin County.
10. The YES Foundation participated with the CPC to help with events such as the child abuse conference, computer classes for the elderly, and donations to various agencies/organizations.
11. The CPC worked with the county schools truancy officer to see what resources they could provide for those students (especially the students with multiple offenses or who were more likely to drop out of school).
12. The CPC also worked with the local tobacco prevention coordinator to encourage youth to not smoke or use tobacco of any kind.
13. Reality Check taught to all 8th graders in Franklin County (through the Extension Office).

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## First Priority

### Need related to children of this county

#### Early Learning

<b>Existing resources available to help meet this need include:</b>	<b>Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:</b>
Pre-K sites within the county. More day care providers are dedicated to Pre-K education and are working more closely with parents to encourage involvement. Grants.	Money Volunteers Early Learning Curriculum Transportation

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

1. Community education is applying for additional funding through grants that would help with programs for Early Education.
2. Current day care providers that will work with other providers to encourage each other, to share resources and new ideas.
3. In the case of new Pre-K sites, those teachers will work with other ones who have been teaching Pre-K already and they will collaborate resources.

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## Second Priority

### Need related to children of this county

#### Bullying

<b>Existing resources available to help meet this need include:</b>	<b>Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. School system (administrators, teachers, nurses, social workers, etc.)</li><li>2. Bullying information</li><li>3. Counselors at each school</li><li>4. School Nurses</li><li>5. Social Worker</li><li>6. Law Enforcement</li><li>7. Private Practice Counselors</li><li>8. Riverbend Center for Mental Health</li><li>9. Juvenile Court System</li><li>10. The Healing Place</li><li>11. Be Your Best Self Program</li></ol>	Funding Tools to implement an anonymous reporting system for school children (like a hotline, etc.). Volunteers to implement programs in the schools Time constraints of school personnel

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

1. Address the issues while teaching other education programs in the school systems (this can be done by the counselors/nurses/social worker).
2. Distributing age-appropriate anti-bullying pamphlets throughout the school system.
3. Anonymous reporting system/hotline.
4. Specific education awareness programs designed for bullying or low self-esteem.
5. Guest Speakers (free or low cost).
6. Individual or Group Counseling sessions at school.

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## Third Priority

### Need related to children of this county

#### Parental Involvement

<b>Existing resources available to help meet this need include:</b>	<b>Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:</b>
Extension Office DHR Riverbend Center for Mental Health Faith Based Resources Schools Law Enforcement Community Education (provides afterschool centers) All call phone system	Increased funding. New ideas for getting parents involved. Incentives for parents (donated by businesses). Help with transportation for parents to come to meetings. Schools can let parents know ahead of time about meetings, etc.

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

Continue to look for funding to implement parent activities.

Partner with other agencies/organizations that provide parenting activities.

Meet with principals/counselors/teachers to find out what they think would work to get more parents involved.

Provide job fairs for parents (with an incentive for them to come).