

2014 Needs Assessment for Macon

Honorable Aubrey Ford, Jr.
Macon County District Judge
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Lewis Maxwell
Michael Evan Johnson
Johnathan Davis

Jacqueline Brooks
Liz Todd
Dorothy Hooks
Pearl Clark
Kenneth Oliver
Melvin Clark
Lionel Armstead
Ellis Hall
Ellie M. Peavy
Jaunita Pierce

Nannette Phillips
Greg Smith
Tiffany Jones Williams
Owen Duke
John Pulliam
Juanita Pierce
David Sunday
Mary Hill
Rachel Parham
Lisa Jackson Stephens

Elizabeth Clausell
Febreu Holston
David Warren
Theodore Jones III
Derrick Bolling
Kelia Lane
Charolette Walton
Tiffany Johnson Cole

Accomplishments

2014 Needs Assessment for Macon

First Priority

Need related to children of this county

| Existing resources available to help meet this need include: | Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include: |
|---|--|
| <p>Citizens resources including students and faculty at an institution of higher education, retired teachers and other professionals, member of the clergy and concerned politically active citizens. The Alabama Cooperative Extension Service</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The county needs a stronger tax base because local funding for schools is provided primarily by property taxes and our county has a growing number of vacant properties which affects the amount of taxes collected for our schools. 2. Our business community is floundering so we do not have a diverse offering of employment opportunities for our citizenry. 3. Our county needs an influx of a middle class population to counter the "brain drain" that exists because of the lack of employment opportunities. 4 Our school population continues to decrease every year because of the lack of jobs and the lack of confidence in our system. 5. Encourage community collaboration efforts amongst identified members (e.g. positions appointed according to state's mandate). 6. Identify and support six committee activities functioning outside, yet supportive, of CPC goals and objectives for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Early Education b. Education c. Parental involvement d. Economic security e. Health f. Safety 7. Finalization of non-profit documentation from Internal Revenue Service (e.g. awaiting corrective action/follow-up) to reinstate non-profit status for MC CPC. |

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

1. Promote and promote citizen activism by recruiting them through the established media outlets and door to door campaigns. Recruit individuals, high profile people, who have successfully matriculated in the Macon County School System to tell their story about their positive experiences with our schools and how these experiences helped their careers.
2. Hold town hall meeting about issues that highlight the needs and accomplishments of our schools and to encourage citizen involvement.
3. Partner with Tuskegee University to expand resources for students, faculty and staff and to increase educational offerings for student through cooperative programs.
4. Research and implement successful educational programs offered in other states or Alabama counties.
5. Enable and encourage committee reports during CPC meetings {e.g. Early Education with Education; Parental Involvement with Safety; Economic Security; & Health} will yield 4 sub-committees
6. Support creation of monthly newsletter to CPC members and community to document efforts of individual members and facilitate committee action{s}.

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

| Existing resources available to help meet this need include: | Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include: |
|---|--|
| <p>Recreational opportunities offered by the Tuskegee-Macon County YMCA and city and county recreational programs.</p> <p>A truancy program developed by the juvenile court and the school system.</p> <p>A counseling program and in-home services offered by East Central Mental Health Mental Retardation through a federal grant.</p> | <p>More family counseling and local consistent parenting programs to give parents discipline alternatives and encourage positive parenting.</p> <p>Alternative educational programs to address the academic deficiencies of the students</p> <p>A community task force to plan and implement programs to encourage youth to stay in school. More juvenile court staff for increased surveillance of youth on probation</p> |

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

1. Enhance recruitment efforts to encourage and solicit more adults as coaches and supporters of youth sports programs and other recreational activities.
2. Encourage the development and use of local service providers for parenting programs and programs for positive youth development.
3. Enhance the current truancy program with and emphasis on school-based intervention to prevent dropouts and "push outs".
4. Enhance the use of local counseling resources for parents and children as well as the use of college students to service as mentors for school children.
5. Encourage and support collaboration efforts of research teams and projects within the county (e.g. parental involvement with interdisciplinary teams)

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

| Existing resources available to help meet this need include: | Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include: |
|--|---|
| Community resources, such as Tuskegee Area Health Education Center, Shanti Villa, Faith Works and others that promote healthy lifestyles. The state tobacco eradication program for youth in the 6th through 12th grades. Medicaid and CHIPS health insurance programs for children and youth. | More local doctors and other medical personnel to serve the residents of the community. Healthy "fast food" outlets to counter balance the restaurants that serve high fat, high sodium foods. Efforts to stop the advertising of tobacco products and alcohol on mediums (e.g. television, Internet, etc.) used by children. Lack of school based health clinics. |

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

1. Encourage the use of existing community health education programs
2. Encourage creation of additional community health programs
3. Enhance health education programs in schools including parental involvement and/or sex education for the prevention of teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and favorably influence of improved understanding of disability issues.
4. Develop a community based program to encourage healthy eating habits to prevent childhood obesity and other destructive health conditions that the result of unhealthy diets.