

2014 Needs Assessment for Mobile

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Accomplishments

The Children Policy Council of Mobile County main focus is to better the lives of children and their families. We want them to be the best that they can be. In keeping with this commitment the Mobile County Children Police Council has made the following accomplishments:

1. The Juvenile Court has developed a Gun Court Program for juveniles who are arrested as a result of a first-time gun charge. The program consists of three 6-8 week phases. A Juvenile Probation Officer was designated to work exclusively with the Gun Court.
2. Juvenile Court re-designed the Drug Court Program and designated a JPO to work exclusively with that court.
3. In an effort to show support for staff the Juvenile Court held a two-day retreat at Camp grace for probation, detention, and support staff.
4. The Juvenile Court of Mobile County had approximately 25 youth on probation to graduate high school during the 2013-14 school year.
5. The Juvenile Court, in collaboration with the Center for the Living Arts and artists at Space 301, is hosting a Summer Art Program. Under the directions of Art Instructor Harlon Toole Schwall, youth on probation to this court will paint a mural that incorporates the geographic, historical, and cultural significance of Mobile and the Gulf Coast, to be displaced on Dauphin Street in Downtown Mobile.

6. As an alternative to detention, Juvenile Court hold special hearing every Friday, during the school year, for youth that have been suspended from school during the week. The Court discuss the law and consequences if their behavior continues.
7. Three youth in the Boys Leadership Program had the honor of hearing Payton Manning speak at a dinner held in Mobile.
8. In an effort to keep communication ongoing with Pointe Academy, Mobile's alternative school, Chief Probation Officer Lawrence Battiste meets with Mary Zoghby, Directory Boys and Girl Club, and Larry Henderson, Administrator with Pointe Academy, on the 2nd Thursday of each month to discuss concerns and achievements.
9. CPO Lawrence Battiste, in conjunction with the Mobile County Teen Center was trained on a new program, Project AIM, which is now implemented in the Boys Leadership Program.
10. CPO Lawrence Battiste, in conjunction with the Mobile County Teen Center, was trained to implement the SHARP program.
11. In keeping with JDAs initiative, Juvenile Court has developed sub committees that meet quarterly to discuss developing new programs and finding alternatives to detaining juveniles.
12. Juvenile Court, Bridge, and Alta Pointe expanded the Transitions program to include Truancy Transitions to address youth that are not attending school.
13. Big Brothers and Big Sisters partnered with the Juvenile Court of Mobile County with their One-to-One Mentoring services to strategically identify and serve children involved with the court through the truancy court program.
14. Big Brothers Big Sisters accomplishments are reflected in their Youth Outcomes Surveys.
 - 100% of the children showed an increase in self confidence
 - 98% displayed an improved attitude toward school
 - 100% showed an ability to avoid delinquent behaviors
 - 97% improved academically
 - 100% showed an increased sense of the future
15. The Drug Education Council brought author and national speaker Dr. Paul Chabot to Mobile for a Community of Concerns Evening for parents 'How to Talk to Your Kids.' Dr. Chabot shared tips on how to have effective conversations with kids, facts about the latest drug trends and what to look for. The event was free to the public.
16. The Drug Education Council has an evidence-based program 'Families Rock!' The program is designed for youth who are not in need of substance abuse treatment, but who are exhibiting early signs of alcohol and/or drug use.
17. The Homeless Coalition 'Housing First, Inc.' is providing direct support to disabled, chronically homeless individuals, homeless families, and homeless veterans in Mobile and Baldwin Counties. The coalition sends representatives into the community to meet with homeless persons/families. The coalition is working on developing services for unaccompanied homeless youth and halfway homeless persons.
18. Mobile Coalition Against Bullying brought a guest speaker from Troy University Cyber Kids Initiative 'Protecting Our Youth in Cyberspace' to speak to and arm children and adults with the tools necessary to protect children in cyberspace. The event was free to the public.
19. Team Focus featured a fundraiser featuring Alabama Head Coach Nick Saban. All funds collected will be put towards their year round mentoring program for young men.
20. The Mobile County Police Department has partnered with the Mobile County District Attorney Office and Sheriff Department to get the message out about the dangers of Spice.
21. The Bar Association has implemented in two local high schools, the CARE Program, Credit Abuse Resistance

Education. It is a national financial literacy program designed to teach students how to navigate their own financial course by focusing on student loans, credit card debt, payday loans, and predatory lending. The program is presented by trained attorneys from the local bar association.

22. The Boys and Girls Club has a summer enrichment program at Gillard School servicing approximately 125 kids.

The kids receive help in reading and math.

23. Mobile County Alternative School, Pointe Academy

- Developed reading program for the middle school students. The program serviced 46 students. The goal for 2014-15 is to include all students in the reading program.

- Held a career day for the students. Fifteen businesses set-up booths and provided information about their business and employment opportunities.

- Pointe Academy, along with the Juvenile Court, uses the Grand Point program to offer students an opportunity to recover credit for classes failed.

24. Bradford Health Services will host a multi-agency Spice Summit in Mobile on July 31, 2014. All agencies are encouraged to attend. There will be media coverage.

25. The Family Center performed 545 monitored exchanges of children at their office; provided 584 hours of supervised visitation with children and their non-custodial parents; taught 94 parents in their Nurturing Parent classes; served 98 parents in their Fatherhood Initiative, and served 2,578 new parents in their Healthy Start Never Shake a Baby program at USA Children's & Women's Hospital.

26. The Mobile County Health Department:

- created a collaborative model to extend services for the High School model based at Williamson High School.

- provided training for community based organizations on evidence-based programs.

- Opened a primary care clinic in the Dauphin Island Parkway area which focuses on children.

27. Mobile County DA & Crittenton has a collaborative effort to bring awareness and education about bullying and

provide resources to victims of bullying.

28. Alta Pointe provided training on various mental health topics to create awareness.

We, the Children Police Council of Mobile County, are fighting for the hearts, souls, and minds of our children. It is a fight that we are committed to winning. It is a fight that can only be won by community collaborations and fresh and innovative approaches to building and strengthening our families.

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

High School Graduation Rate

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early intervention programs in schools/out of school• Tutoring for drop outs• 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parental Involvement• More educators in Truancy Court• Volunteer tutors and mentors•

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

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

Transportation

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 Intervention Team (FIT)• Helping Families - Mobile District Attorney Office• Unite Way 211• Alta Pointe - Care Point Access to Care• Mobile Health Department• Catholic Social Services• The Bridge• Bradford Health Services• Drug Education Council• Goodwill• Boys & Girls Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Transportation• Funding• Low risk children and services for them• Limited resources in the rural areas.

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

1. Long-term, Conversations with action plan. Short-term, bus passes for agencies
2. Create community site in rural areas,
3. Funding - collaborate more on grants. Share grant information with others
4. Low risk children - needs assessments

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Job Opportunities for Teens

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partner with the Teen Center to provide leadership skills through an evidence based program. Project AIM which seeks to expose students seeing their positive self.• MAEF - Mobile Works cooperative extension• May I - a training program.• Project AIM• Mt. Hebron Church Ministry	Funding Grants

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

1. Continue to work with the Teen Center Project AIM in middle and high schools.
2. Seek relationships with additional churches for additional participants.
3. Work with parents and educators to help develop programs for after school programs on helping children become job ready.