

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF
CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT PREVENTION
THE CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND

ANNUAL REPORT 2023





LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Greetings,

We are proud to present our 2023 Annual Report of the Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention. This report highlights our revenue sources, expenditures, grantee accomplishments, and our on-going, robust program evaluation. Our agency, commonly known as The Children's Trust Fund, also proudly serves as the state chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America.

Our agency works diligently to secure resources to award grant funding to community-based prevention programs across our great state. During the time reflected in this 2023 report, we were able to fund additional programs, many for the first time, due to increased funding in our appropriation from the Education Trust Fund and the federally funded Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention program. Our grantees all utilize the protective factors in their service models and delivery which are proven to strengthen families.

These community-based programs focus on providing resources, training, and support to ensure that children can thrive in safe, stable, and nurturing environments. Our agency's staff provide on-going training and technical assistance to ensure accountability and transparency. We are very proud to partner with many state entities in delivering services and resources to communities. One of our vital partners is Auburn University's College of Human Sciences - Department of Human Development and Family Science which serves as our program evaluator. AU's team of evaluators measures the progress and success of our grantees and publishes annual evaluation reports that highlight our programs' accomplishments.

This program year also saw the launch of our "Be Smart: Don't Start" Opioid Prevention initiative as well as our Digital Safety project. Both initiatives are the focus of many of our statewide and region presentations at conferences. We are also continuing our partnership with the Alabama Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics in hosting opportunities for our service providers to connect with local pediatricians in sharing resources for families.

We are also continuing our very effective Parent Advisory Council (PAC) which offers parent representatives the opportunity to lend their lived experiences and voices to our work. Our PAC has presented and represented us well at various conferences, including our annual Grantee training and Doing What Matters for Alabama's Children.

Warmest regards,
Sallye R. Longshore
Director





CTF BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-2023

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OUR MISSION

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention secures resources to fund evidence-based community programs committed to the prevention of child maltreatment. We advocate for children and the strengthening of families.

PREVENTION PROGRAMS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

From October 2022 to September 2023, the Department worked with an independent research team in Auburn University's Human Development and Family Studies Department to conduct a systematic evaluation of its funded programs; to document the magnitude of the outreach and effects of the funded programs statewide for youth and parents served. Below is a brief compilation of the data:

PARENT EDUCATION AND HOME VISITING

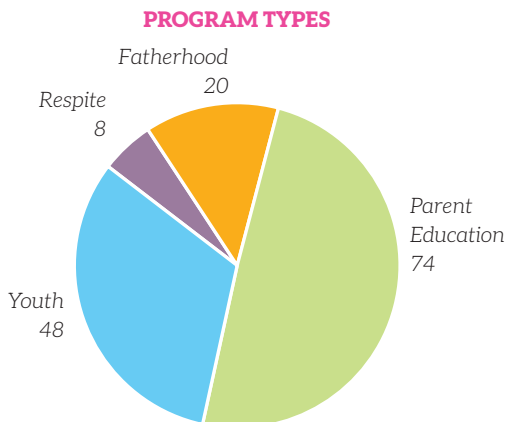
74 parent education and home visiting programs provided support and educational programs to parents. An assessment of 7 targeted outcomes with 4,389 participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:

- Stress Management Skills
- Skills to Manage Maltreatment Risk
- Understanding of Various Forms of Maltreatment
- Medical Care Commitment
- Parenting Skills & Child Development Knowledge
- Knowledge and Use of Support Services
- Use of Informal Support Networks

YOUTH FOCUSED PROGRAMS

88,973 youth in Alabama grades 3-12 were served through 48 youth focused programs that provided educational sessions and revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:

- Social Skill Development
- Abuse Awareness & Resourcefulness
- Improved Self-Confidence
- Emotion Identification and Regulation
- Enhanced Assertiveness
- Cooperative Behavior
- Commitment to Avoid Risky & Delinquent Behavior



RESPITE CARE

8 respite care programs provided respite services and parent education. An assessment of 4 targeted outcomes with 551 participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:

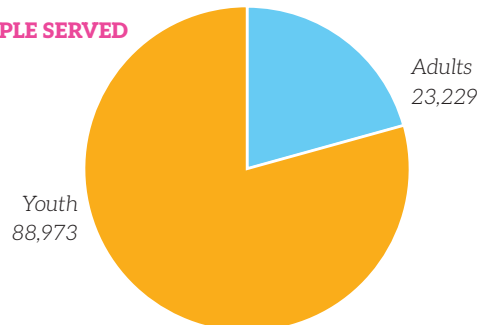
- Stress Level
- Positive View of Child
- Knowledge and Use of Support Services
- Use of Informal Support Networks

FATHERHOOD

20 fatherhood programs provided educational sessions and support to non-residential fathers. 1,363 participants were invited to complete a post-program benefit checklist survey that includes a list of 29 possible improvements/benefits they perceived they obtained from the program. These benefits are reflected in 9 categories, grouped within the five protective factors of the Strengthening Families™ and Protective Factor Framework.

- Workforce Development Improvement
- Financial Benefit
- Greater Access to Community Resources
- Improved Basic Needs
- Better Adult Relationship Skills
- Improved Parenting
- Improved Child Functioning
- Better Coping Skills
- Cooperation with Court System

PEOPLE SERVED



INITIATIVES

FATHERHOOD

Twenty fatherhood programs for parents were provided across the state of Alabama. The Strengthening Families Through Workforce Development Fatherhood Program funded by the Department of Human Resources continues to address the following components: Adult Education, Ready-to-Work and Workplace Essential Skills training, Credentialing and degree attainment opportunities through Alabama Community Colleges, Pre-apprenticeship/apprenticeship and credentialing programs, Parent education and support services related to strengthening the parent-child relationship, and re-entry services for transition back into the community.

In April of 2023, in collaboration with AU Evaluation, focus groups were conducted with Fatherhood participants to gain insight on program benefits and how to continue to grow the program for the future.

TANF participants who received employment through the program totaled 1,234 and 1,341 participants were served.

EXPANDED LEARNING POSSIBILITIES

Expanding Learning Possibilities (ELP) is a collaborative initiative and partnership between Children's Trust Fund and Alabama Department of Human Resources. Launched in the wake of the lingering impact and effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Out-of-School (OST) Summer efforts worked to mitigate students' severe learning loss and the mental duress they had experienced. The efforts proved to be vastly successful.

ELP has continued to expand through Afterschool and Summer school programs to provide direct virtual STEM instructional lessons and experiential activities that are facilitated in tandem with the individual Programmatic Sites in multiple counties with three hubs located in Dallas, Talladega, and Tuscaloosa. Initially serving 1,000-1,500, the adventure has now grown to 3,000+ students. We have seen significant improvements in student reading/literacy and mathematical proficiency while opening the door to a lifetime of learning by leveraging engagement with the STEM disciplines as an integral part of their everyday lives.





PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

With CBCAP funds, we support the work of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC), which includes a diverse group of 10 parents with at least one parent from each of Alabama's seven congressional districts. The PAC meets every other month to provide guidance and support to our agency related to advocacy, programs, grant review, and prevention awareness. We worked with the FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP to host a retreat for the PAC in Birmingham on August 29th and then a strategic session with our statewide partners working on parent leadership on August 30.

Some recent PAC member highlights:

- Kayla Etie of Tusculmbia was selected to serve as our Parent Leader helping assist with the administrative side of the PAC. In her new role, we were able to support her in getting certified in the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework so she can provide training.
- 6 PAC members volunteered to review and score grant applications as local reviewers.
- Vadonna Williams of Tuscaloosa is about to end her final year on the FRIENDS National Center for CBCAP PAC where she leads their quarterly newsletter and recently published an article on "Parents that Help Build the Table" describing the work of Alabama's PAC.
- Churmell Mitchell of Auburn was nominated and elected to join the Alliance National Parent Partnership Council, which is a national Parent Advisory Council for the Children's Trust Fund Alliance.



CBCAP

After submitting Alabama's annual CBCAP Application to the Children's Bureau, we received our FY 2022 grant award for a total of \$900,516.



This is our largest award amount to date with an increase of \$128,881 from the previous year. Sallye, Bailey, and two of Alabama's Parent Advisory Council Members attended the 2023 CBCAP Annual Grantee Meeting for all state lead agencies in Baltimore on May 25 and 26th. Not only was it an educational and networking experience for all, but it was a chance to spotlight the great work being done in our state. Bailey and Vadonna presented on a panel with representatives from Arizona and Montana to discuss the importance of strengthening parent and practitioner relationships.

ACTIVITIES

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Children's Trust Fund kicked off Child Abuse Prevention Month on March 31, 2023 by planting a Pinwheel Garden in downtown Montgomery with staff, state representatives, board members, and grantees. Grantees and partner organizations hosted events all throughout the state recognizing CAP month - from Alabama Partnership for Children's Strolling Thunder event at the State Capitol grounds to the fun Family event at the Coliseum in Florence - and all the many pinwheel plantings and local proclamations that made April 2023 a truly special month. A big thank you to the Governor's office for assisting us in acquiring a proclamation from Governor Ivey designating April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Alabama.

GRANTEE TRAINING

Our agency's annual training for the 2022-2023 grantees was held on November 29th and 30th at Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. The 2022 training theme was "Power in Partnership: Prevention with a Purpose." Over 300 CTF grantees enjoyed a variety of educational speakers and networking with other community-based prevention programs.

The Honorable Zachary Collins, an award-winning writer/screenwriter and the Family and Juvenile Court Judge for Russell County, opened the conference with his talk "The Man in the Campaign Hat." The next general session featured Jim Johnson, the William R. Kenan, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship and the director of the Urban Investment Strategies Center, who spoke on "Democratic Realities: The Browning and Graying of America."

Tony Hoffman presented with his talk "The Stigma of Addiction" for the final general session of this year's CTF Grantee Training.

In between the general session speakers, grantees enjoyed breakout sessions that specialized in focused topics, such as Drug Court and Family Resource Centers: A Natural Connection, Supporting Children and Families through Partnership between Pediatricians and Home Visiting/Parent Resource Providers, Practical Strategies for Youth with Mental Health Concerns, The Culturally Effective Organizations Framework: A Path to Equity and Inclusion, and a wide range of other program-strengthening presentations. The Parent Advisory Council also held a discussion on partnering with parents in communities.





AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS BREAKFAST

The Alabama Chapter of the American Association of Pediatrics, Prevent Child Abuse Alabama, and CTF hosted a series of local breakfast forums to create partnerships between local pediatricians and home visiting professionals around prevention of child abuse in Alabama. Forums were held in Tuscaloosa, Dothan, Auburn, and Huntsville. Each meeting provided an opportunity for physicians to connect with the home visiting and parenting resource providers in their area, with a goal of creating partnerships to strengthen families and communities as extensions of the pediatric medical home.

PRESENTATIONS

National Child Advocacy Symposium

National Children's Advocacy Center's (NCAC) 39th International Symposium on Child Abuse, March 21-23, 2023, at the Von Braun Center (VBC) in Huntsville, Alabama. Director, Sallye Longshore and grantee, Jeff Davis lead a breakout session discussing the launch of Digital Safety and Opioid Prevention Initiatives.

PCCA Baltimore

CTF Director Sallye Longshore, Deputy Director Alicia Roper and Special Projects Manager Amanda Lightsey attended the Together for Prevention: 2023 Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference, taking place from August 22nd to August 24th in the vibrant city of Baltimore, Maryland. Director, Sallye Longshore and grantee, Dr. Elizabeth Dawson conducted a breakout session, Supporting Children and Families through Pediatric Partnerships. In the session they shared the outcomes and strategies from a recent partnership initiative which linked service providers and pediatricians through regional forums.



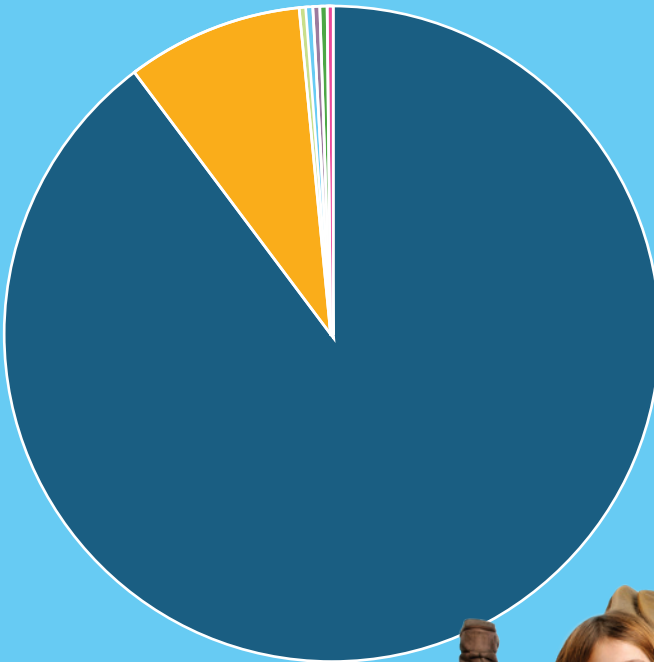
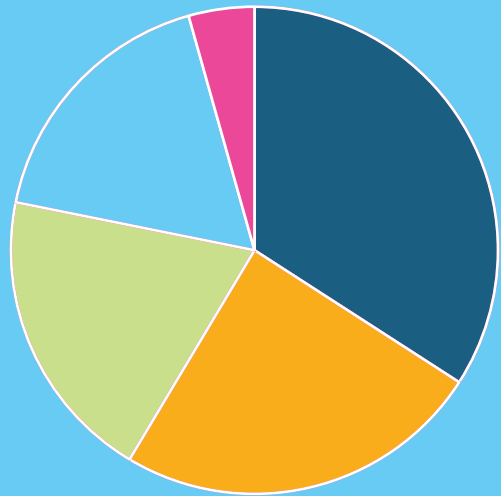
Human Trafficking Summit

CTF Director Sallye Longshore presented at the ninth annual Alabama Human Trafficking Summit on January 7th at the Renaissance Montgomery Convention Center. CTF staffed an exhibition booth at the summit. Breakout sessions addressed law enforcement, faith-based, medical, service provider, legal and educational responses to human trafficking.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

REVENUE

| Revenue | Amount |
|--|-------------------|
| ● Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Fund* | 7,044,918 |
| ● DHR ELP | 5,050,000 |
| ● DHR TANF | 4,045,387 |
| ● Children First Trust Fund | 3,608,851 |
| ● Community Based Child Abuse Prevention | 900,570 |
| Total Source of Funds 2023 | 20,649,726 |
| <i>*Primarily Education Trust Fund and General Fund Appropriations</i> | |



EXPENDITURES

| Expenditure | Amount |
|--|-------------------|
| ● Grants | 18,536,000 |
| ● Personnel Costs | 1,796,898 |
| ● Travel | 65,563 |
| ● Supplies, Materials and Operating Expenses | 71,985 |
| ● Rentals and Leases | 70,467 |
| ● Professional Fees and Services | 73,892 |
| ● Utilities and Communication | 34,921 |
| TOTAL Expenditures | 20,649,726 |



ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED IN 2022-2023

DISTRICT 1

United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile, Inc.
Alta Pointe Health Systems, Inc.
Auburn University - Parent Stronger Together
Baldwin County Child Advocacy Center
Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Alabama, Inc.
Coastal Family Partners
Crittenton Youth Services
Goodwill Gulf Coast
Gulf Regional Early Childhood Services
Mobile County Health Department
The Family Center
United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile, Inc.
United Methodist Children's Home
United Methodist Inner City Mission

DISTRICT 2

Aid to Inmate Mothers
Alabama Network of Family Resource Centers
Alabama Parent Education Center
Alabama Partnership for Children
Alfred Saliba Family Services Center
Auburn University - Parenting Etc.
Auburn University - ECCAP
Auburn University - Healthy Children, Healthy Future
Charles Henderson Child Health Center
Elmore County Family Resource Center
Exchange Center for Child Abuse Prevention
Family Guidance Center of Alabama
Family Services Center of Coffee County
Family Support Center
Gift of Life Foundation
Mary Hill Family Service Center
Montgomery Area Nontraditional Equestrians
Organized Community Action Program, INC
Southeast Alabama Child Advocacy Center
That's My Child
TIME Youth Dothan, Inc
United Methodist Children's Home
United Cerebral Palsy of Mobile, Inc.
Wiregrass Hope Group

DISTRICT 3

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Birmingham
Chambers County Council for Neglected and Dependent
Children and Youth, Inc.
Child Care Resource Center Inc./Employers' Child Care Alliance
Coosa Valley Youth Services
East Alabama Mental Health
East Alabama UCP
Evelyn Moon Crisis Shelter
Family Services Center of Calhoun County, Inc
I Am My Brother's Keeper
Ostara Initiative
Project Uplift
Sylacauga Alliance for Family Enhancement, Inc.
TEARS, Inc. Teens Empowerment Awareness with ResolutionS, Inc.
The Children's Advocacy Center of Cherokee County

DISTRICT 4

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast AL
Family Services of North Alabama
Family Success Center of Etowah County, Inc.

Gadsden City Schools
Gadsden State Community College
Hospice of Marshall County- Shepherd's Cove
Jasper Area Family Services Center, Inc.
Sheffield City School
The Link of Cullman County, Inc.
United Cerebral Palsy of Northwest Alabama
United Way's Success By 6

DISTRICT 5

Athens Limestone Children's Advocacy Center
Attention Homes of Northwest Alabama, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Tennessee Valley
Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama
Decatur Youth Services
Family Services Center, Inc.
Morgan County System of Services, Inc.
Mosaic Mentoring of North Alabama, Inc.
National Children's Advocacy Center
Parents And Children Together
United Cerebral Palsy of Huntsville and Tennessee Valley, Inc.

DISTRICT 6

Alabama Hands & Voices
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Birmingham
BridgeWays
CASA of Jefferson County
Children's Aid Society
Disability Rights & Resources
Exchange Club Child Abuse Prevention Center
Family Guidance Center of Alabama
Fowler Davis 4 Change
Friends of the Court/CASA of Shelby County
Gateway
Girls Incorporated of Central Alabama
Glenwood, Inc.
IMPACT Family Counseling
Kid One Transport, Inc.
Shelby County Children's Advocacy Center, Inc
St. Clair County Day Program, Inc.
The Bell Center for Early Intervention Programs
The Freedom Source, Inc. (The Addiction Prevention Coalition)
The Safe Harbor
The Woolley Institute for Spoken-Language Education(WISE)
Vineyard Family Services of Central Alabama, Inc.

DISTRICT 7

BAMA Kids, Inc.
Big Brothers Big Sisters of West Alabama
Central Alabama Regional Child Advocacy Center
Child Abuse Prevention Services of Tuscaloosa
Community Care Development Network
Dallas County Family Resource Center
Dallas County System of Services, Inc.
Pickens County Family Resource Center
Sowing Seeds of Hope
The University of Alabama-Child Development Resources
Tuscaloosa Family Resource Center, dba. Tuscaloosa's One Place
UCPWA of West Alabama (UCPWA)
United Ability, Inc.
University of Alabama Autism Clinic



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