ALABAMA

Community-Based Child Abuse Prevention
2009 State Profile

Alabama Dept. of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention/Children's Trust Fund
PO Box 4251
Montgomery, AL 36103
(334) 242-5711

POSITION IN STATE GOVERNMENT

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect / Children's Trust Fund (ADCANP/CTF) is an independent state agency whose mission is to support the establishment and maintenance of local prevention councils and programs, manage the Children's Trust Fund including distributions, develop public and professional awareness of child abuse and neglect and internally evaluate said efforts. The ADCANP/CTF works with partners to develop public policy related to children and families, and develop and support special projects to prevent child abuse and neglect.

KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Core Services:** ADCANP/CTF funds a network of 9 community-based projects through the CBCAP program. The funded agencies are primarily family resource centers and United Cerebral Palsy organizations. All funded programs provide one or more of the following: home visitation, parent education and support, respite and fatherhood services to their communities. The grantees are part of a larger network of programs funded by the Department, all of whom address child abuse and neglect prevention.

- **Policy achievements:** Governor Riley created the State Task Force to Strengthen Alabama Families. The Director of CTF was appointed to sit on the task force and chairs the Family Services sub-committee. The mission of the group is to support the development of a family resource center in every region of the state. The group is currently working with 19 emerging centers.

- **Outreach to Special Populations/Cultural Competence**: ADCANP/CTF worked with the planning committee of the Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Marriage Conference of Best Practices, held in February 2009, to develop a prevention track focusing on respite, fatherhood and cultural competency within organizations. Their goal in this effort also included maximizing the participation of parents and ensuring that racial and ethnic minorities were considered in selecting speakers for the conference.

  In collaboration with the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, protocols for the healthy marriage projects were created and the Coalition now provides support letters for appropriate applicants seeking funding from ADCANP/CTF.

  ADCANP/CTF added language to their Request for Proposal to better ensure cultural competency in funded programs and recruit applicants that serve diverse populations.

  Shaken Baby and safe sleeping informational pamphlets are available in English and Spanish.

  In partnership with the Department of Human Resources, ADCANP/CTF focused on the importance of healthy marriage and provided Shaken Baby Syndrome awareness through the use of simulator dolls through the Fatherhood Initiative.

- **Parent involvement/leadership**: Four parent trainings were held in different areas around the state in January and February of 2009 through the collaboration of ADCANP/CTF, the Department of Children's Affairs, Department of Public Health, and Alabama Partnership for Children.

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ADCANP/CTF reviewed RFPs with an emphasis on parental involvement.

Annual site visits were used to monitor parental involvement at agencies within the network of funded programs.

Parents were invited to participate in local grant processes.

- **Evaluation:** ADCANP/CTF utilizes a list of quality standards to measure operation of the funded family resource centers. Funded programs demonstrated a high level of satisfaction among families based on their program delivery and flexibility in their program design.
- **Support Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation Assistance:** ADCANP/CTF provided an annual grantee training covering many topics including research on prevention and child maltreatment, evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices and program monitoring and continuous quality improvement. Ongoing training on evaluation techniques is conducted by the University of Alabama.

  A yearly site visit and other support were provided through newsletters, telephone consultations and electronic correspondence.

Participants receiving direct services	**# individuals**	**2,319**	**# families**	**2,923**
	# children with disabilities		**# parents with disabilities**	**2**
Reach	**# local grantees**	**9**		
Spread	**# training sessions on evidence-based and best practices**	**1**	**# professionals participating in training**	

ESSENTIAL PARTNERSHIPS

State Level Child Welfare Collaboration Initiative: Committee of several stakeholders that discuss action plan goals, Annual Progress Service Report (APSR), Poarch Creek Indians IV-B goals and objectives and other relevant state collaborations.

ADCANP/CTF and the Department of Children's Affairs are partnering with Head Start and the Pre-K Initiative to strengthen parent roles in the state and conduct mandatory reporter training. ADCANP trained 911 professionals and 496 of those were head start and daycare providers.

ADCANP/CTF and community partners launched the Jefferson County Pilot Project in response to the report of the Child Death Review Sub-committee demonstrating that in 2007, 76% of the preventable child deaths occurred in the 0-3 population; the majority of these being Abusive Head Injury and Unsafe

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Sleeping Environments. The project uses public awareness efforts and simulators to increase understanding of the effects of Shaken Baby Syndrome.

Key partners:

Public Sector

- Child welfare
- Public health/ maternal and child health
- Education
- Early childhood
- Home visiting
- Family Court System

Private Sector

- Advocacy organizations
- Parent organizations
- Civic organizations
- Hospital Association
- Pediatric Association
- Nursing Association

SYSTEM CHANGE EFFORTS

- **Early Childhood**: ADCANP/CTF attends the ECCS/Blueprint for Zero to Five Advisory Council meetings.
- **Child and Family Service Reviews/Program Improvement Plan (CFSR/PIP)**: ADCANP/CTF participated in the CFSR process through the safety workgroup established by the State Department of Human Resources.
- **Home Visiting:** ADCANP/CTF is now represented on the Home-Based Parent Education Advisory Committee overseen by the Department of Children's Affairs.
- **Strengthening Families:** ADCANP/CTF continues to be an integral part of the State Systems Mapping Project in collaboration with the Alabama Partnership for Children as a partner in the "Learning Community."

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FUNDING AND FISCAL LEVERAGING

Fiscal Leveraging

Innovative funding mechanisms:

- Education of legislators on prevention issues to sustain prevention funding in the state
- Collaboration with non-traditional partners
    - Wal-Mart and First Lady of Alabama on the Parent Assistance Line, a warm line that will provide parents with information on parenting and address other concerns.
    - Realtors on public awareness of the CTF license tag and the realtor tag through billboard exposure and proceeds of the Realtor tag being donated to ADCANP/CTF

State Allowable Claims	**2,500,000**
Population-based Allocations	**379,333**
Leveraged-Funds-Based Allocations	**84,945**
Final FY 08 Federal Grant Amount	**454,459**

EVIDENCE-BASED AND EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES

Level per Program Assessment Rating Tool	CBCAP Funding
Programs Lacking Support or Positive Evidence/Undetermined/Harmful	-0-
Emerging and Evidence-informed Programs and Practices	$80,000
Promising Programs and Practices	$27,500
Supported Programs and Practices	$24,100
Well Supported Programs and Practices	$122,000

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TRAINING TOPICS

Administrative and Management Topics

- collaboration and partnerships for prevention
- evaluation and data management
- program monitoring and continuous quality improvement
- grant reporting requirements
- Peer review

Programmatic and Service Topics

- research on prevention and child maltreatment
- evidence-based and evidence-informed programs and practices
- prevention programs and family support
- marketing, messaging and public awareness

RESOURCES

- Prevent Child Abuse America: www.preventchildabuse.org/index.shtml
- Educator Resource Manual: http://ctf.alabama.gov/Archived%20Info/
- Annual State Profiles: www.friendsnrc.org/