

**Children's Services Council
of Leon County
Needs Assessment Committee**

Thursday, July 8, 2021

Needs Assessment Focus

Three Options

- Broad
- Bifurcated: Broad > Specific
- Specific

Option: Broad

60+ Services in these Service Areas

- Child Safety
- Child Welfare
- Delinquency
- Family Supports
- Housing
- Hunger
- Literacy & Early Education
- Maternal & Child Health
- Child Health
- Out of School Time
- Prosperity

Option: Bifurcated

Start Broad

At negotiated point, focus on specific areas

Option: Specific

Adopt CSC Planning Committee Recommendations

- Success in School and Life
- Healthy Children and Families
- Stable and Nurturing Families and Community

Current Available Reports & Assessments

- CSC Planning Committee Report (December, 2019)
- Whole Child Leon: Critical Issues Impacting the Status of the Child (March, 2021)
- United Way of the Big Bend: ALICE (2020)
- Community Human Service Partnership Needs Assessment (November, 2019)

CSC Planning Committee Resources

- Reviewed data and information collected by:
 - Leon County Board of County Commissioners and its own staff
 - Community coordinating partners
 - United Partners for Human Services
 - United Way of the Big Bend
 - Whole Child Leon
- Reviewed data and information from community organizations about
 - unmet needs
 - gaps in services

CSC Planning Committee Resources

- American Communities Survey
- Public Assistance Report
- Council on Homelessness
- WIC
- Office of Early Learning
- Department of Education
- Healthiest Communities
- Leon County Schools
- ELC of Leon County
- Florida Baker Act Report
- Youth Tobacco Survey
- Youth Substance Abuse Survey

CSC Planning Committee Resources

- School Aged Children & Adolescent Profile/Pregnancy and Young Child Profile
- Infant Mortality Data
- Healthiest Weight Profile
- Big Bend Area Health Education Center-Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative
- Leon County Community Health Assessment
- County and Municipal Arrest Data
- Delinquency Profiles
- Service of Continuum Analysis
- Grandparent data
- Children Under 18 in Foster Care
- Community Based Care Scorecard
- Tallahassee-Leon County Commission on the Status of Women and Girls: Status of Girls Report

CSC Planning Committee Priorities

Success in School and Life

- School Readiness
 - Increase the number of children who enter kindergarten socially, emotionally and academically ready.
- School-Age Supports
 - Increase school performance and reduce juvenile crime among school-age children.

CSC Planning Committee Priorities

Healthy Children and Families

- Physical Health
 - Reduce infant and maternal mortality, increase infant health, improve oral health, and improve early identification of health problems.
- Mental Health
 - Increase resiliency and reduce the number and consequences of adverse childhood events.

CSC Planning Committee Priorities

Stable and Nurturing Families and Communities

- Youth Development
 - Build occupational skills and increase economic opportunities.
- Providing Food Stability
 - Reduce the consequences of food insecurity by ensuring that children in Leon County have adequate year-round access to healthy food.

Whole Child Leon

From the Critical Issues Impacting the Status of the Child:

“...comprehensive report...thorough analysis of data collected by multiple Leon County agencies and organizations, both public and private...focus groups and in-depth interviews with human service agency providers, community advocacy organizations, and residents from a cross-section of neighborhoods...”

Whole Child Leon

10 Key Areas

- Childhood Poverty
- Healthy Birth
- Food Insecurity
- Foster Care
- K-Level Readiness
- Child Health & Safety
- Behavioral Health
- Nature Deficit
- Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Juvenile Crime

United Way of the Big Bend: ALICE

Five Funding Priorities

- Housing
- Early Learning
- Safety Net
- Health & Mental Health
- Skills Development

CHSP Needs Assessment

Most Critical Human Needs in Tallahassee/Leon County

- Mental Health
- Housing that a low-income person can live in while being able to cover expenses for other necessities
- Access to Nutritious Food
- Early Learning
- Elder Care
- Other Services for Populations that Struggle Economically

Needs Assessments v. Reports

- Inventory of providers, programs, services & wait lists
- Availability, access, capacity, outcomes and gaps
 - County, zip code, census tract
- ID opportunities for:
 - program, services & systems development
 - improving service delivery
 - capacity-building
- Identify local, state, and federal funding (public & private)
 - Cares Act Funds
- COVID short- and long-term impacts

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