

The Alabama Department Of Child
Abuse & Neglect Prevention

Evaluation Report Executive Summary

Impact On Adult Participants

13,028 adults in Alabama received services through four types of ADCANP/CTF-funded programs: parent education, home visiting, respite care, and fatherhood. The population served were primarily parents of lower-resource, based on work status, education level, and income reported. An additional **338,689 parents and professionals** participated in community awareness programs.

Four primary funding sources provide support: The Community Based Child Abuse Prevention Program (CBCAP), The Children First Trust Fund (CFTF), The Education Trust Fund (ETF) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

An independent Evaluation Team from Auburn University's Human Development and Family Studies Department documented the effort and effectiveness of these programs.

- 66%** of the participants were women
- 56%** were European American/White
- 38%** were African American/Black
- 33** was the median age of the adult participants
- 54%** reported a gross income of less than \$10,000
- 51%** reported not working for pay
- 20%** reported not completing high school
- 52%** reported a high school degree/GED as their highest level of education

Analyses of data revealed statistically significant improvements ($p < .05$) on many relevant measures of commitment, skill, and knowledge based on average scores at pre-program and post-program.

The outcomes are indicators of protective factors that reduce the risk of child maltreatment and promote individual and family strengths.

ADCANP/CTF-funded programs reduced the likelihood of adults in Alabama engaging in child abuse/neglect and enhanced the likelihood of current and future strong and stable families.

Potential Costs vs. Investment In Prevention

\$175,344 Average taxpayer cost in Alabama per child abused or neglected.*

\$17 Average cost of prevention programming per adult participant.**

Funding prevention work has the potential to reduce not only the social, emotional, and achievement costs to our youth and families, but also to reduce the real financial costs associated with intervention.



Parent Education & Home Visiting

61 parent education and home visiting programs provided support and educational programs to parents. **An assessment of 7 targeted outcomes with 2,391 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 of & Commitment to Use Support Services
- Use of Informal Supportive Networks

Respite Care

7 respite care programs provided respite services and parent education. **An assessment of 4 targeted outcomes with 374 participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:**

- Stress Level
- Positive View of Child
- Knowledge of & Commitment to Use Support Services
- Use of Informal Supportive Networks

Fatherhood

28 fatherhood programs provided educational sessions and support to non-residential fathers. **An assessment of 17 targeted outcomes with 1,419 participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:**

- Commitment to Couple Relationship Stability
- Conflict Management Skills
- Communication Skills
- Co-Parenting Conflict
- Dating Abuse Prevention Skills
- Hopeful About Future
- Financial Responsibility
- Perception of Economic Stability
- Cooperation with Child Support Personnel
- Commitment to Pay Full Child Support
- Positive Parenting Behavior
- Parent Involvement
- Parent Child Relationship Quality
- Child Academic Adjustment
- Income Level
- Job Status

* Report from the University of Alabama released in 2015

** Based on amounts of grants awarded and number of adult participants



Impact On Youth Participants

55,135 youth in Alabama in grades 3-12 were served through 41 ADCANP/CTF-funded programs. These programs offered classes and mentoring services in schools and communities. An additional 275,631 youth participated in community awareness programs.

All were focused on enhancing life skills, school performance, overall well-being, and reducing risks for children of maltreatment. Program objectives included: improved social competence, improved emotion knowledge, improved self-confidence, improved abuse awareness and resourcefulness, increased cooperative behavior, enhanced assertiveness, and avoidance of delinquent behaviors.

Funding for youth programs came primarily from two funding sources: The Education Trust Fund (ETF) and The Children First Trust Fund (Tobacco settlement dollars).

- 59% of youth were in grades 3-5
- 41% of youth were in grades 6-12
- 49% of the participants were boys
- 51% of the participants were girls
- 49% were African American/Black
- 36% were European American/White
- 2% were Native American
- 1% were Asian American
- 12% reported "other" when asked race
- 9% identified as Hispanic/Latino

Analyses of data revealed statistically significant improvements ($p < .05$) on relevant measures of commitment, skill, and knowledge based on average scores at pre-program and post-program.

The outcomes are indicators of the protective factor: social and emotional competence of children, that reduces the risk of child maltreatment and promotes individual and family strengths.

Grades 3-5 Youth Programs

41 Youth focused programs provided educational sessions to youth participants. An assessment of 6 targeted outcomes with 2,579 3rd-5th grade participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:

- Social Skill Development
- Abuse Awareness
- Self-Confidence
- Emotion Identification and Regulation
- Enhanced Assertiveness
- Cooperative Behavior

Grades 6-12 Youth Programs

41 Youth focused programs provided educational sessions to youth participants. An assessment of 7 targeted outcomes with 1,961 6th-12th grade participants revealed statistically significant improvements in average scores for:

- Emotion Knowledge of Self
- Emotion Knowledge of Others
- Self-Confidence
- Social Competence
- Commitment to Avoid Risky & Delinquent Behavior
- Cooperative Behavior
- Abuse Awareness & Resourcefulness

Potential Costs vs. Investment In Prevention

\$175,344 Average taxpayer cost in Alabama per child abused or neglected.*

\$4 Average cost of prevention programming per youth participant.**

Funding prevention work has the potential to reduce not only the social, emotional, and achievement costs to our youth and families, but also to reduce the real financial costs associated with intervention.



The 2019-2020 Evaluation Report prepared by the Auburn Evaluation Team documented the combined effort and effectiveness of program offerings through an evaluation of funded programs.