

The Alabama Department Of Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention

Evaluation Report

Children First Trust Fund (CFTF) Programs

Impact on Adult Participants

42,388 adults in Alabama received services through five types of ADCANP/CTF-funded programs: parent education, home visiting, respite care, fatherhood, and community awareness.

The population served were primarily parents of lower-resource, based on work status, education level, and income reported. Adults who participated only in community awareness programs did not provide demographic information.

The primary funding source that provide support for these individuals is the Children First Trust Fund (CFTF).

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

- 76%** of the participants were women
- 55%** were European American/White
- 38%** were African American/Black
- 32** was the median age of the adult participants
- 52%** reported a gross income of less than \$10,000
- 50%** reported not working for pay
- 20%** reported not completing high school
- 53%** 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 CFTF programs engaging in child abuse/neglect and enhanced the likelihood of current and future strong and stable families.



Parent Education & Home Visiting

44 parent education and home visiting programs provided support and educational programs to parents. **An assessment of 7 targeted outcomes with 1,707 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

3 respite care programs provided respite services and parent education. **An assessment of 4 targeted outcomes with 221 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

4 fatherhood programs provided educational sessions and support to non-residential fathers. **An assessment of 17 targeted outcomes with 289 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
- Job Status

Impact on Youth Participants

32,853 youth in Alabama in grades 3-12 were served through 19 ADCANP/CTF-funded programs. These programs offered classes and mentoring services in schools and communities. Youth who participated only in community awareness programs did not provide demographic information.

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.

The primary funding source that provide support for these individuals is the Children First Trust Fund (CFTF).

- 41%** of youth were in grades 3-5
- 59%** of youth were in grades 6-12
- 52%** of the participants were boys
- 48%** of the participants were girls
- 55%** were African American/Black
- 31%** were European American/White
- 1%** were Native American
- 12%** reported "other" when asked race
- 8%** 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.

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

Grades 3-5 Youth Programs

19 Youth focused programs provided educational sessions to youth participants. **An assessment of 6 targeted outcomes with 944 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

19 Youth focused programs provided educational sessions to youth participants. **An assessment of 7 targeted outcomes with 1,166 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

