

The Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect
Prevention: The Children's Trust Fund
2017-2018 Report



2017-2018
End of Year Evaluation Report
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
TANF

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Fatherhood Program Demographics

Parents who participated in Fatherhood programs are racially diverse and predominantly of lower socio-economic status, based on work status, education level, and income reported. Participants were predominantly men.

Age

Parents in Fatherhood programs had an average age of 35.

- 1% were 18 and younger; 13% were 19-24; 25% were 25-30; 38% were 31-40; and 23% were over 40

Gender

- 71% male
- 29% female

Race & Ethnicity

- 48% African American
- 47% European American
- 2% Native American.
- 3% identify as some other ethnicity
- Of all participants, 3% identified as Hispanic or Latino

Work Status

Parents in Fatherhood programs (excluding students) over the age of 18:

- 68% reported not working for pay
- 8% reported working part-time
- 24% reported working full-time

Education Level

Parents in Fatherhood programs (excluding students) over the age of 18:

- 30% reported not completing high school
- 51% reported completing high school or GED
- 5% reported completing some college/Associate degree
- 9% reported obtaining trade/technical school degree
- 4% reported completing a 4-year college degree
- 1% reported completing an advanced degree

Income Level

Parents in Fatherhood programs (excluding students) over the age of 18:

- 76% reported a gross yearly income of less than \$10,000 a year.
- 18% reported earning \$10,000-\$29,999
- 5% reported earning \$30,000-\$59,999
- 1% reported earning more than \$60,000 per year

Benefits

Parents in Fatherhood programs (excluding students) over the age of 18:

- 39% reported receiving TANF and/or SNAP benefits

Jail

Parents in Fatherhood programs (excluding students) over the age of 18:

- 28% were incarcerated

Average number of children

- Parents in Fatherhood programs over the age of 18 reported having, on average, 3 biological, step, foster, or adopted children

Average number of children in home

- Parents in Fatherhood programs over the age of 18 reported having, on average, 2 biological, step, foster, or adopted children in the home

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Fatherhood Programs

DHR/TANF (Alabama Department of Human Resources and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) provided funding for 21 Fatherhood programs. Fatherhood programs provide case management and classes. They focus on enhancing employability through education and job skills training. They also provide educational information on child development and positive parenting strategies and emphasize the value of positive involvement with children and child support obligation compliance. Mothers are invited to participate in classes as well. Goals of fatherhood programs are:

- positive relationship skills
- enhanced coparenting quality
- dating abuse prevention skills
- cooperation with child support enforcement (CSE) & commitment to pay child support
- greater work and education commitment
- greater use of support services

- positive parenting skills
- enhanced parent involvement & relationship quality with child
- enhanced child adjustment

These goals promote several protective factors emphasized by the “Strengthening Families Program™.”

A sample of Fatherhood participants (n = 1,643) responded to an assessment of 14 goals. Analyses of measures (some using multi-items; Chronbach's α ranges from .79 -.85) using paired sample t-tests revealed statistically significant ($p < .001$) improvements in ALL targeted areas. The effect sizes ranged from .26 – .66. The average magnitude of the effect sizes for these improvements was .43 and can be considered small to moderate (i.e. .25 small effect; .50 moderate effect; .75 large effect).

	Pre-Test		Post-Test				
	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	df	t	Cohen's d
SOCIAL CONNECTIONS							
Commitment to Relationship Stability	5.17	1.91	5.60	1.92	1371	-9.76***	.26
Conflict Management Skills	4.82	1.78	6.09	1.44	1522	-25.36***	.66
Communication Skills	5.58	1.55	6.43	.99	1536	-22.20***	.59
Coparenting Conflict	3.47	1.90	3.03	1.84	1381	13.22***	.35
Dating Abuse Prevention Skills	5.70	1.77	6.49	1.20	1492	-17.01***	.45

*** $p < .001$. Cohen's d reported in absolute values.

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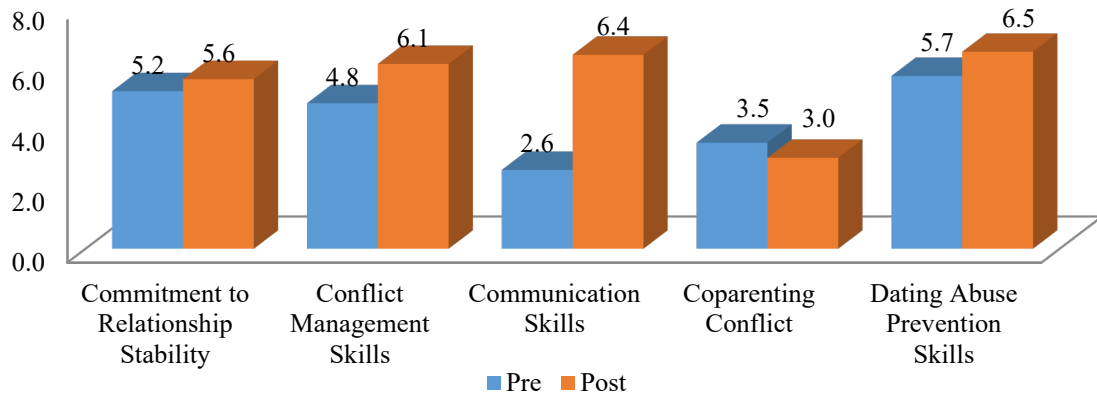
	Pre-Test		Post-Test				
	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>df</i>	<i>t</i>	Cohen's <i>d</i>
CONCRETE SUPPORT IN TIMES OF NEED							
Hopeful About Future	5.05	1.70	6.06	1.19	1536	-23.85***	.63
Financial Responsibility	5.84	1.63	6.66	.89	1539	-19.07***	.52
Economic Stability	4.87	1.61	5.27	1.43	1516	-12.85***	.34
Cooperation with Child Support Personnel	5.90	1.98	6.40	1.59	963	-10.97***	.37
Commitment to Pay Full Child Support	5.38	2.01	6.03	1.68	774	-11.02***	.36
KNOWLEDGE OF PARENTING AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT							
Positive Parenting Behavior	5.82	1.41	6.35	1.09	1460	-17.76***	.49
Parent Involvement	5.76	1.31	6.07	1.29	1470	-10.94***	.29
Parent Child Relationship Quality	6.02	1.39	6.40	1.27	1469	-13.10***	.35
SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE OF CHILDREN							
Child Academic Adjustment	6.14	1.58	6.46	1.29	1221	-10.50***	.31

*** $p < .001$. Cohen's *d* reported in absolute values.

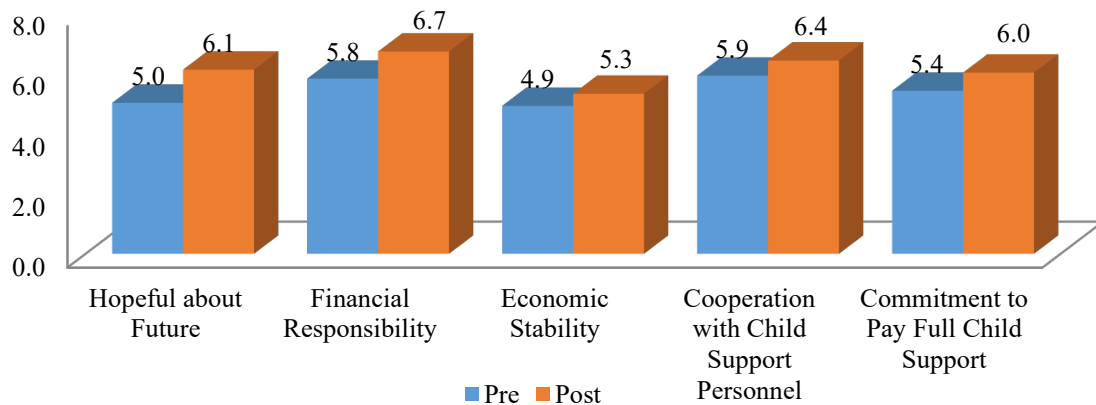
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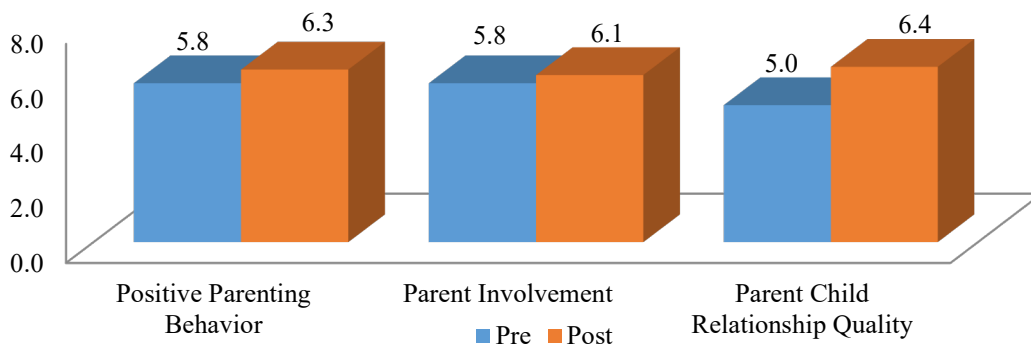
Social Connections



Concrete Support in Times of Need



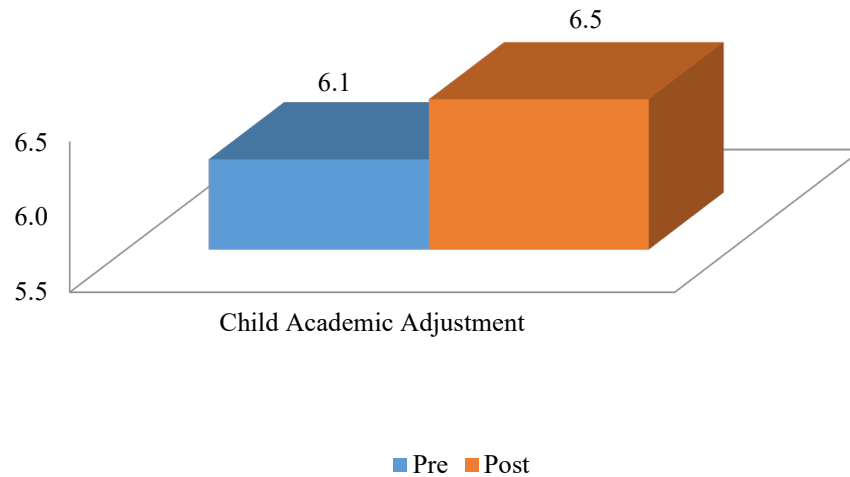
Knowledge of Parenting and Child Development



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Social and Emotional Competence of Children



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Helen Keller noted: *"The world is moved along not only by the mighty shoves of its heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker."* As we complete another year as the Auburn University Evaluation Team, we reflect on the hundreds of people throughout the State of Alabama who are working with the programs funded by the Alabama Department of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention – the Children's Trust Fund. We value our partnership with them and continue to be so impressed with their selfless efforts to offer family-strengthening resources to youth and parents in our communities. Their work doesn't stop there - they also are invested in the process of collecting the important data that are critical to telling the participants' collective story. And it's a powerful story! While we are objective in our analyses of these data, we cannot help but be grateful when we see the results of their work. We have clear evidence that participants value these programs and are experiencing multiple benefits.

We continue to be invested in providing meaningful and useful information for grantees, the ADCANP/CTF staff and Board, and the ADCANP/CTF funding sources. It is our hope that this report will be helpful in your continued efforts to expand the outreach of ADCANP/CTF funded programs in pursuit of your mission: To Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect in the State of Alabama.

We are so appreciative of this opportunity provided by the inspiring Sallye Longshore, Executive Director, Tracy Plummer, Deputy Director, and the Board. This is truly a great team effort and we cannot thank you enough for your unending support and investment in this initiative and in us, as a research team. You are visionaries and it is our privilege and pleasure to work for you and with you.

The dedication of ADCANP/CTF staff and Grantee Program staff to protecting and strengthening children and families is unparalleled in the State of Alabama. We commend you for the evidence provided in this report of the large numbers of citizens who face the future more informed and empowered. Together – these programs are making a difference for Alabama families.

PY 2017-2018 TANF Report submitted in October 2018 by:

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