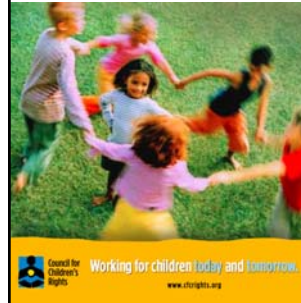




Child Abuse & Neglect in Mecklenburg County

April 28, 2010



Welcome About the Council for Children's Rights

Brett Loftis, JD
 Executive Director



The Larry King Center for Building Children's Futures

- The Council for Children's Rights leads our community to stand up for every child's right to be safe, healthy, and educated today and tomorrow.
- The Larry King Center for Building Children's Futures is a part of the Council for Children's Rights.
- The roles of the Larry King Center are:
 - Research
 - Strategic Planning
 - Public Policy
 - Public Awareness



Larry King Center Lead Staff

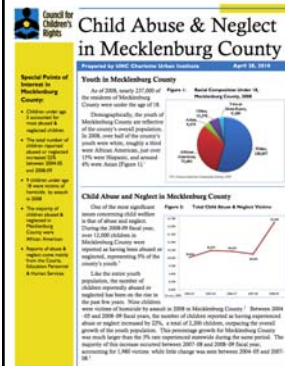
- Brett A. Loftis JD – Executive Director
- Libby Kelligrew JD – Director of Strategy and Policy
- Laura Clark M.A. – Director of Research and Evaluation



Regional Indicators Project

Jeff Michael
 Executive Director
 UNC Charlotte Urban Institute

www.ui.uncc.edu



What We Know

Laura Clark
 Director of Research and Evaluation
 The Larry King Center for Building Children's Futures



Data Methodology

- Council for Children's Rights worked with UNC Charlotte Urban Institute to compile the list of data indicators & sources
- UNC Charlotte Urban Institute compiled data from secondary sources
- Analysis & write-up created by UNC Charlotte Urban Institute



Data Methodology

Secondary Data Sources: State & County

U.S. Census Bureau
Jordan Institute for Families UNC
Chapel Hill
NC State Demographics
NC Center for Health Statistic
NC Department of
Administration: Council for
Women/Domestic Violence
Commission

Secondary Data Sources: National

US Department of Health & Human
Services Administration for
Children & Families
National Incidence Study of Child
Abuse & Neglect
Child Maltreatment Annual Reports
Reports from the State to the
National Child Abuse & Neglect
Data Systems



Child Abuse & Neglect in Mecklenburg County

- Last year, there were over 12,000 reports of abuse and neglect
- The total number of child abuse and neglect reports has increased 22% since 2004



Demographic Profile of Abused & Neglected Children

- 40% of children reported abused or neglected were under the age of 5
- There are few gender differences in the number of abused or neglected children
- Minority children have consistently experienced higher rates of reported child abuse and neglect



Substantiated Rates of Child Abuse & Neglect

- Approximately 18.5% of child abuse or neglect reports are substantiated
- This rate is comparable to national rates of substantiations



Community Efforts to Address Child Abuse & Neglect

- Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention month activities
- Nurse-Family Partnership
- ZFive Infant Mental Health Coalition



Child Abuse & Neglect Awareness Month

- CFCR serves as the local affiliate for Child Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month
- Partnered with over a dozen agencies to raise awareness and coordinate community events
- Co-sponsored a reprisal of an award-winning play about the effects of child abuse



Child Abuse & Neglect in Mecklenburg County

Prepared by UNCF, Charlotte Urban Institute April 15, 2010

Youth in Mecklenburg County

As of 2008, nearly 237,000 of the residents of Mecklenburg County were under the age of 18. On average, the youth of Mecklenburg County are reflective of the state's racial and ethnic diversity. In fact, one half of all county youth are white, roughly a third are African American, and one fifth are Hispanic, and around 1% are Asian (Figure 1).

Child Abuse and Neglect in Mecklenburg County

One of the most significant issues impacting child welfare is that of abuse and neglect. During the 2008-09 fiscal year, over 12,000 children in Mecklenburg County were reported as having been abused or neglected, representing 7% of the county's youth.

Like the state youth population, the number of children reportedly abused or neglected has risen in the past few years. Since 2004, more children were reported as abused or neglected in Mecklenburg County. Between 2004-05 and 2008-09 fiscal years, the number of children reported as having experienced abuse or neglect increased by 27%, a total of 2,000 children, representing the overall growth of the youth population. The percentage growth for Mecklenburg County was much larger than for the 7% percentage increase across the state overall. The number of child abuse incidents between 2004-05 and 2008-09 fiscal years, according to 1,980 reports, which little change was seen between 2004-05 and 2007-08.

Q & A



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