



## LINCOLN COUNTY RESOURCE BOARD

*Putting Kids First in Lincoln County*

"Preventing child abuse takes more than a policy; it takes courage." -Unknown



### LCRB Takes Historic Funding Vote

At the April LCRB meeting, the board took a vote that made LCRB history: Approving \$2,427,841.27 in mental and behavioral health programs and services for Lincoln County kids.

The 2024-25 funding allocation will support 22 direct-service programs (e.g., counseling, therapeutic mentoring, case management and more) and five prevention programs. The funding cycle, which begins July 1, 2024, and concludes June 30, 2025, also includes the following newly funded LCRB programs: CHADS Coalition Signs of Suicide Prevention; F.A.C.T. Family Support Program; Troy R-III School District's Social Skills Interventionist; and the Elsberry R-II School District's Mental Health Support Room.

LCRB Selection & Review Committee members considered each application against the LCRB's **funding statute** and the LCRB's **strategic plan**. Needs were validated through the LCRB's various reports and data sources, including the 2023 Needs Assessment; School-based Assessments of Students'

Behavioral Health Needs (these reports can be found on the [LCRB website](#)); our provider reports, which demonstrate clinical outcomes and performance; as well as our LCRB utilization and program performance assessments.

The LCRB asks our community to please [Shop Local](#). The LCRB's funding is derived from a voter-approved 1/4 cent sales tax to "Put Kids First in Lincoln County."

## 2023 Needs Assessment: A Closer Look

### Prepared by Dr. Cynthia Berry

The LCRB 2023 Needs Assessment offers a global view of our county's demographics and trends; considers the LCRB funding statute and associated funded programs; and identifies areas of progress and need within our system of care.



**This month, the LCRB presented relevant Needs Assessment findings to the Troy R-III School Board of Education, including:**

- **Student needs: Increasing disability types with the most prevalent reported as “specific learning disabilities” with 329 children (2023).** This was followed in order by these diagnoses: language impairment (188), emotional disturbance (163), autism (162), young children with a developmental delay (130), and speech impairment (117).
- **Community indicators: Highlighting areas of LCRB focus and partnership, including Reported & Substantiated Cases of Child Abuse and Neglect** (C.A.N. Plan initiative launched with Lincoln County's multidisciplinary team); **Substance Use Trends/Juvenile Drug Offenses** (meeting with school partners and LCRB-funded providers, working to restore school-based delivery of intervention services); and **School-Attendance Rates** (participating in meetings with the 45th Judicial Circuit, funded providers and school partners, including the Upstream state training program scheduled for April 29 and 30).
- **Attracting and retaining educational staff: Reviewing child-care capacity rates, which directly impact local workforce capacity. Lincoln County stands out for having one of the most significant reductions in the number of children with access to licensed childcare from 2007 to 2021.** From 2007 to 2021, the capacity of licensed childcare facilities (per 1,000 children) witnessed a substantial decline from 37.4 to 16.0, marking a noteworthy decrease of 21.4%.

During the presentation, the LCRB also reviewed its significant school-based investments in mental health services--from in-school therapy, case management, therapeutic mentoring and care coordination to prevention programming--and thanked the district for its partnership in identifying and

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To read or download the full report, click the following link:  
[LCRB's 2023 Needs Assessment.](#)

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### Regional Media Report on Lincoln County's Child Abuse Rates

According to a recently released 2023 Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect report, Lincoln County's



substantiated child abuse rate surged to 8.43, which is more than double the Missouri state average of 3.15 cases per 1,000 children. In 2022, Lincoln County's substantiated child abuse rate was reported as 5.73 cases per 1,000 children (Missouri's average was reported as 3.08), according to the 2023 LCRB Needs Assessment.

The disturbing trend and growing child abuse rates inspired the LCRB C.A.N. (child abuse and neglect) Plan and garnered media attention from the *Lincoln County Journal* and KMOV-TV this month.

The C.A.N. Plan includes two primary initiatives:

1. A special report, led by Dr. Cynthia Berry, to conduct a more in-depth analysis of our local child abuse and neglect rates, cases and multi-disciplinary team response.
2. A public awareness campaign, called Justice for Kids Lincoln County, to educate our constituents about crimes against children to promote child safety and justice.

C.A.N. Plan surveys are due to Dr. Berry this month. Once the data is compiled and analyzed, the LCRB will work to reconvene members of the Lincoln County multidisciplinary team to assess the findings and develop a county action plan.

Justice for Kids' billboards have been installed off South Lincoln Drive with a digital billboard on Highway 47 in Troy. The [Justice for Kids Lincoln County](#) Facebook page is active and includes posts of the *Lincoln County Journal* and KMOV stories. Follow Justice for Kids Lincoln County for timely information about the C.A.N. Plan progression and report findings.

## Assessment of Student Behavioral Health

As we approach the end of the 2023-24 academic year, the LCRB asks our Lincoln County schools to complete the spring school-based assessment of student mental health needs.



The end-of-year assessment presents a focus on the LCRB-funded prevention-based services. Lincoln County school personnel are asked to respond to the electronic survey ([https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LCRB2024End\\_of\\_School\\_Survey](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LCRB2024End_of_School_Survey)) by Tues., May 7.

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**The Lincoln County Early Childhood Task Force** has launched its **2024 Shower of Love campaign**. The LCRB can accept the following donations. Shower of Love collects critical baby care items for Lincoln County's fragile families as a child abuse and neglect prevention strategy. **Contact the LCRB** to learn more.





# How Can You Help?

## Baby's Most Wanted:

Diapers (esp. newborn and sizes 3, 4, 5 and up)

Pull-Ups (larger sizes)

Formula (esp. sensitive formula)

Baby Wipes

Diaper Rash Ointment

Laundry Detergent

Your donations benefit local nonprofits, including:



## LCRB Meetings

Join the LCRB on the fourth Wednesday of the month (Wed., May 22) for our monthly meeting, **featuring a provider brief by funded partner Compass Health Network.**

The meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. at the [Cuivre River Electric Cooperative Community Room in Troy](#), with a Zoom option for virtual attendance.

Visit our [website and its meetings page](#) for more information and instructions.



All LCRB meetings, unless otherwise posted on the LCRB website, are held the fourth Wednesday of the month at Cuivre River Electric Cooperative (Troy), Community Room. **Please note our new meeting time: 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.**



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