

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

Coalition Name: Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention of Anderson County, Inc
(aka ASAP of Anderson County, Inc)

Location: Anderson County, TN

Community Description:

- Define your community

- Place, interest or experience. Please provide a rationale.

ASAP's community of interest is Anderson County, TN, including Clinton City Schools, Anderson County Schools, Oak Ridge School System and five law enforcement jurisdictions, including Lake City, Norris, Oak Ridge, Clinton, and the Sheriff's Department. The county as a whole was selected as the targeted community because while distinct in geography, there were so many levels of connectedness; the coalition thought it was most appropriate to include the entire county.

- Denominator / Level of the community. (Neighborhood, City, etc.)
75,233

- The other relevant "communities within your community."

Norris

Andersonville

Clinton

Briceville

Lake City

Oliver Springs

Oak Ridge

Faith communities

ORNL/Y-12 (Scientific/Technical) community

Bethel

Claxton

- Describe the community demographically.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau American Community survey 2011 data population of Anderson County is estimated at 75,233. Of the total population, 21.4% are under the age of 18 and 17.6% are over the age of 65. Caucasians comprise 92.6% of the total population. The Black population is the next highest with a total of 4.1%. Asians, Hispanic, and American/Alaskan Natives each comprise approximately 1.5% of the remaining population. In 2011 the United States poverty was 15.0%, Anderson County poverty rate was 16.8%. The poverty rate for children under 18 in United States was 21.9% Anderson County's rate was 24.6%. The poverty rate for single-parent families headed by mothers was almost eight times higher than the rate for married-couple families (42.1% to 5.3% for married couples). The rise in non-married birth rate is also a contributing factor to the growing number of single-parent families.

There are 7 unincorporated towns and 5 incorporated cities. The 5 major cities population data is as follows:

	Population	Median Age	Median Family Income	Total households	Average Household Size	Percent of Owner-Occupied Housing Units
Clinton	9841	45.6	\$42,444	4419	2.22	57.5
Lake City	1781	43.7	\$20,245	734	2.27	50.3
Norris	1491	49.2	\$53,419	669	2.19	74.6
Oak Ridge	29330	43.5	\$41,950	12772	2.26	64.4
Oliver Springs	3231	41.2	\$32,366	1336	2.42	71.1

- Describe the community economically.

The largest employer in the county is the Department of Energy with its contractors and subcontractors accounting for a majority of employment in the county. There are five industrial parks and other locations house more than 40 companies. Several of the companies are owned by foreign corporations. They represent Japan, Korea, Israel, Canada, Belgium and Italy. This international flavor reflects the county's aggressive and sophisticated recruitment efforts. Anderson County is within a day's drive to 75% of the United State's population. This location, available land and buildings, productive labor force, low business costs, technology assets and quality of life make Anderson County the perfect place to grow a profitable business.

Anderson County has a Labor force of approximately 41,637 persons in the county with another 495,396 available from the surrounding area. Unemployment rate is 6.9% as of December 2012.

Retail sales in 2007 were \$907,783,003

Estimated Per capita Income (2011)-\$24,618

- Describe the community geographically.

Anderson County was settled in the 1790's and formed in 1801. Anderson County has an area of 338 square miles and is in the northeastern part of Tennessee. It is bounded on the north by Campbell County, on the northeast by Union County, on the southeast by Knox County, on the west by Morgan County, and on the northwest by Scott County. The nearest major Metropolitan area is the city of Knoxville in Knox County.

Five towns comprise Anderson County; they include the Cities of Clinton (County seat), Lake City, Norris, Oak Ridge, and Oliver Springs. In addition to the 5 main cities there are 6 major communities that include Andersonville, Briceville, Claxton, Marlow, Medford, and Norwood.

The geography of the county divides it into three areas via the Clinch River and the Cumberland Mountains. The Clinch River cuts through the county in roughly north-south direction separating the area known as Norris and Clinton South census divisions from the remainder the county. The second area, Walden's Ridge, is a mountain ridge and escarpment and marks the eastern edge of the Cumber plateau. Walden's Ridge is the beginning of the sharply rising Cumberland Mountains which cuts though the county in roughly north-south direction separating the areas known as New River, Lake City West and part of Walden's Ridge division from the rest of the county. The third and central portion of the county is located between the Clinch River and Walden's Ridge. The central portion of the county is made up of the areas known as Lake City East, Clinton, Clinton North, Oak Ridge, and the southern portion of the Walden's Ridge.

The geography of Anderson County brought two significant projects to this area. The first dam built by the Tennessee Valley Authority was completed in 1936, bringing flood control and cheap power to the valley. During World War II the United States was looking for a site to build a secret city. Because of the valley and the cheap electricity, they chose a site now known as Oak Ridge: 75,000 workers were imported to build the city and create the first atomic bomb.

Community Needs:

Data and sources that answer questions about:

- Consequences

Source: Kids Count Data Center, Annie E. Casey Foundation (TN data provided by the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth), 2009.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Percent cohort dropouts					
Tennessee	10.6%	9.8%	9.6%	10.2%	10.4%
Anderson	12.7%	11.5%	11.1%	7.2%	7.2%
Hispanic population <18					
Tennessee	58,237	66,566	80,150	93,119	
Anderson	323	379	483	563	
School expulsion rate					
Tennessee	2.0	3.1	3.8	2.4	1.1
Anderson	2.9	2.0	2.3	2.2	3.9
Youth committed to state custody					
Tennessee	8,077	7,373	7,171	8,200	
Anderson	108	148	310	359	
Infant mortality rate					
Tennessee	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.0	
Anderson	5.7	12.5	4.2	2.3	
Population <18					
Tennessee	1,448,299	1,456,364	1,445,006	1,453,670	
Anderson	16,459	16,405	16,268	16,225	
Percent special education students					
Tennessee	11.0%	10.7%	11.2%	11.1%	11.1%
Anderson	14.4%	14.4%	14.3%	14.7%	14.1%
Number of event dropouts					
Tennessee	7287	7877	8966	10007	8594
Anderson	132	123	53	56	71
Percent event dropouts					
Tennessee	2.6%	2.7%	3.0%	3.5%	3.0%
Anderson	3.4%	3.1%	1.3%	1.2%	1.8%
Per capita income					
Tennessee	\$29,844	\$30,969	\$32,172	\$33,395	\$34,833
Anderson	\$29,007	\$30,218	\$31,077	\$33,367	
Percent free and reduced lunch					

Tennessee	41.5%	42.6%	38.8%	43.9%	46.0%
Anderson	33.0%	34.6%	34.0%	36.4%	38.9%
Recorded divorce rate					
Tennessee	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.3	
Anderson	3.7	4.3	3.6	3.7	
Percent births to unmarried females					
Tennessee	40.1%	41.4%	42.8%	44.0%	
Anderson	38.1%	38.6%	40.4%	40.8%	
Teen pregnancy rate					
Tennessee	33.8	35.0	34.3	33.6	
Anderson	33.5	30.1	23.2	20.6	
Infant death rate					
Tennessee	8.8	8.7	8.3	8.0	
Anderson	5.7	12.5	4.2	2.3	
Child death rate					
Tennessee	22.6	21.8	20.2	20.0	
Anderson	32.0	16.1	24.7	0.0	
Teen violent death rate					
Tennessee	60.5	69.2	67.1	53.3	
Anderson	41.5	82.5	59.0	19.5	
STD rate					
Tennessee	20.0	21.2	22.5	21.2	
Anderson	8.8	11.3	12.6	7.6	
Substantiated child abuse/neglect cases					
Tennessee	12.2	11.7	11.6	8.4	
Anderson	12.1	13.7	22.2	17.4	
Juvenile court referrals					
Tennessee	83,171	83,596	90,553	91,832	
Anderson	542	838	1,281	1,485	
Rate of youth in state custody					
Tennessee	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.0	
Anderson	5.9	8.2	17.1	19.9	
Rate of youth remaining in state custody					
Tennessee	6.1	5.7	5.2	5.0	
Anderson	9.3	10.1	17.1	20.9	

Source: Rigeview Hospital Treatment Admissions Data (provided by Amy Olson), 2009.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Youth A&D Treatment Data					
Referrals					30
Admissions					18

Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Fatalities by Person/Crash Type, 2007.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Fatalities					
Alcohol-Impaired Driving (BAC=.08+)	4	7	6	3	2
Fatalities by county(ALL)	16	18	17	10	14
Percent alcohol-related fatalities	25.0%	38.9%	35.3%	30.0%	14.3%

Source: TN Dept of Safety, Office of Records and Statistical Management, 2008.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Fatalities					
Known alcohol-related traffic crashes	109	99	85		
Traffic crashes involving the use of drugs	34	23	27	24	14

Source: Anderson County Sheriff's Department, SRO Yearly Activity Report, 2008/2009.

INDICATOR	2005-6	2006-7	2007-8	2008-9	2009-10
SRO Yearly Activity Report					
Drugs Seized/Found				13	39
Classroom lectures				20	187
School walk through				3087	6951
Vandalism				48	45
K9 searches					31

Source: Department of Children's Services, CPS Investigation, 2008.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Reasons for Custody by County					
Abandonment				14	
Alcohol abusing parent				4	
Caretaker's inability to cope				27	
Child's behavior problem				44	
Drug abusing parent				101	
Inadequate housing				3	

Incarceration of parent(s)				2	
Multiple custody reasons				11	
Neglect				53	
Physical abuse				13	
Relinquishment				1	
Sexual abuse				18	
Truancy				11	
TOTAL				302	

- Behaviors

Source: PRIDE Risk and Protective Factor Questionnaire, Spring 2012.

INDICATOR	2008	2009	2010	2012
Lifetime use				
Alcohol				
Tennessee				
Anderson	32.5%			39.60%
Tobacco				
Tennessee				
Anderson	34.5%			34.60%
Marijuana				
Tennessee				
Anderson	12.1%			20.00%
Prescription Drugs				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			13.5%	

INDICATOR	2008	2009	2010	2012
Age of first use				
First drink of alcohol before age 11				
Tennessee				
Anderson	36.7%			13.1%
First cigarette before age 11				
Tennessee				
Anderson	45.0%			12.4%
First use of marijuana before age 11				
Tennessee				
Anderson	25.6%			13.7%
First use of prescription drugs before age 11				
Tennessee				

Anderson				
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INDICATOR	2008	2009	2010	2012
Perception of risk ("great risk")				
Alcohol				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			35.5%	46.17%
Tobacco				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			62.6%	59.60%
Marijuana				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			68.0%	58.47%
Prescription Drugs				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			58.2%	

INDICATOR	2008	2009	2010	2012
Perception of parental disapproval ("very wrong")				
Alcohol				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			74.1%	58.07%
Tobacco				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			79.9%	76.20%
Marijuana				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			79.9%	85.40%
Prescription Drugs				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			79.9%	

INDICATOR	2008	2009	2010	2012
Ease of access ("very hard")				
Alcohol				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			54.1%	26.72%
Tobacco				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			54.1%	36.65%

Marijuana				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			54.1%	23.37%
Prescription Drugs				
Tennessee				
*Anderson			54.1%	

Source: Anderson County Coordinated School Health, Alcohol and Drug Violations, 2009

INDICATOR	2008/2009		2009/2010	
Alcohol and Drug Violations				
	drug	alcohol	drug	alcohol
Anderson County High School	7	0		
Clinton High School	10	2		
Clinton Middle School	13	0		
Lake City Middle School	0	0		
Norris Middle School	2	0		
Norwood Middle School	1	0		

Source: Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force, Lab Seizure Incidents, 2009.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Meth Lab Seizures						
Seizures	47	44	60	104	96	86
Rank	9	3	1	1	3	T7

Source: Tennessee Crime Online, TIBRS Report, accessed by CPT Penny Baker, 12/2010.

INDICATOR	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Drug-Related Offenses						
Drug/Narcotic Violations (cleared)					250	
Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations (cleared)					113	
Drug-Related Arrests						
Drug/Narcotic Violations					310	
Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations					121	
Alcohol-Related Arrest						
DUI					50	
Drunkness					26	
Liquor Law Violations					20	

- Root causes
 - a. Prescription medicine is easily accessible

- b. There is a lack of enforcement regarding prescription medicine
 - c. Alcohol is easily accessible
 - d. Alcohol is acceptable to use
- Local conditions
 - a. Prescription medicine is easily accessible
 - i. Youth access meds sold at fast food restaurants
 - ii. Youth steal meds from unsecured medicine cabinets in homes
 - iii. Doctor shopping is prevalent
 - b. There is a lack of enforcement regarding prescription medicine
 - i. Use is not monitored in the community or at school
 - ii. Consequences are not sufficient enough to deter undesired behavior
 - iii. There is too much leniency (a brotherhood among medical professionals)
 - c. Alcohol is easily accessible
 - i. Youth access alcohol at retail outlets
 - ii. Youth access alcohol in the home
 - d. Alcohol is acceptable to use
 - i. Underage alcohol use is seen as a rite of passage (prom/graduation)

Community Resources

Resources that promote:

- Positive consequences
- Positive behaviors
- Protective factors
- Local conditions that build protection
- Assets that can be used to change poor local conditions
 - ACCESS/Breakaway
 - Prevention adventure counseling at the Learn Center
 - Ridgeview climbing tower
 - Greenways/walking trails
 - Boys & Girls Club of Oak Ridge
 - Girls, Inc.
 - Strong ties to church/faith community
 - Coordinated School Health
 - Head Start
 - Free medical clinic

- Athletic programs at schools, churches, and in community
- Organized school clubs
- School drug testing policies
- Bright Starts
- Child Advocacy Center
- Free Dental Clinic
- Remote Area Medical
- Choices
- Contact Helpline
- Alpha House
- Genesis Recovery
- Drug court
- College-bound mentor program
- Clinton/Oak Ridge community centers
- Aid to Distressed Families in Appalachia
- Children's Defense Fund
- Food ministry
- AA and Al-anon
- Celebrate Recovery
- East Tennessee Regional Medicine Collection Coalition
- Habitat for Humanity, Goodwill, and Salvation Army
- Legal Aid Society
- Girl Scouts
- Boy Scouts

Community History

- Historical origins of community generally.

Coal Mining:

- Post-war railroads opened up coal fields to major mining operations.
- Coal towns created:
 - Pioneer coal operators had to develop communities to house their labor supply.
 - Experienced Welsh miners and iron workers started the Knoxville Iron and Coal Company creating jobs in both Knoxville and at their mines in Coal Creek. Coal Creek Valley developed into lucrative coal mining region, with coal mines springing up between Coal Creek (Lake City) and Briceville.
 - The “coal town” provided efficient, expedient and inexpensive housing for a large labor force, and it contained the added prospect of company control over the activities for the miners themselves.
 - Company owned house was a social control. A landless miner would become homeless if he left his job.

- The mining company controlled nearly every essential aspect of community life, from work, shopping, education, retail merchandising, and medical care.
 - The Welsh built schools and churches with Coal Creek becoming home to as many as 150 Welsh families by the early 1870s. Coal Creek became the largest city.
 - The mining and removal of coal became the one purpose to which all others were subordinated.
- Mining created demand for cheap labor.
- 1866 convict leasing began.
- Formation of unions forbidden.
- Little financial incentive to provide safe working conditions for miners. If a convict miner died, the state would furnish a new convict to replace the convict who died at no cost to the mine owner or the state.
- Miners struggled and began to organize in the 1880s.
- Foreign mining corporations created changes in land ownership in Appalachia and the Cumberland Plateau. Change in traditional land ownership patterns translated not only into coal production, but also into the displacement of the native population.
- The independent Appalachian farmer would be transformed into an incidental industrial worker in just fifty short years.

Coal Mining Disasters:

- About 300 Coal Creek miners, many of them veterans of the Coal Creek War, perished in mine disasters.
 - Fraterville in 1902 where 216 were killed left only three adult men in the town. Hundreds of women widowed and over a thousand children left fatherless. Education was not a priority since mothers needed children to work to sustain the family without a father.
 - Cross Mountain in 1911 where 84 men died.
- These mine disasters raised public awareness of the hazards of mining, resulting in advances in mine safety practices.

Coal Mining/Labor uprising:

- Coal Creek War in the early 1890s.
 - Owners of Coal Creek watershed attempted to replace free coal miners with convicts leased by the State government.
 - Free miners attacked and burned prison stockades, and freed hundreds of convicts.
 - Briceville was the site of a major lockout of coal miners in 1891, which resulted in the town of Coal Creek being occupied by the state militia

for over a year after miners attempted to force an end to the use of unpaid convict labor in the mines.

- Dozens of miners and TN militiamen killed or wounded. Hundreds of miners arrested.
- Most violence centered around Briceville, Coal Creek, and Oliver Springs.
- When convict-lease contracts ended in 1896, the TN government refused to renew them. (First Southern State to do so.)
- Coal Creek War provided inspiration for some of the earliest Appalachian coal mining protest music.

Post Coal-Mining/Results of:

- Former mountaineers were now miners and socially integrated within the new industrial era and economically dependent upon it as well.
- Artificial “coal towns” all but abandoned after coal played out.
- A few people became fabulously wealthy, a larger number did not.
- The persistent poverty of Appalachia/Anderson County Coal Towns has come not from any inherited laziness but rather from the particular kind of modernization that accompanied coal mining in the years 1880 to 1930.
- Consequences of coal mining by these mining communities:
 - The loss of the mastery of their own destinies and loss of self-control.
 - The exclusion of such mining communities from the mainstream of American democratic, social, civic, and economic development.

Education and desegregation in Anderson County:

- Union Academy, established in Clinton in 1806, began admitting female students along with males in 1817.
- By the 1840s Clinton Seminary and Clinton Grove Academy had opened and were affiliated with the Baptist and Methodist churches.
- New education laws in the post-Civil War era prompted County Education Superintendent Charles D. McGuffey to campaign for funding for schools in Anderson County.
- By 1892 Anderson County was operating fifty-eight public schools, five for black students.
- Anderson County again garnered national attention in the wake of federally mandated school desegregation in the 1950s.
- A January 1955 directive from the Atomic Energy Commission ordered desegregation in Oak Ridge with the first integration of Southern schools occurring in September 1955. 100 black students started attending the city's high school and Robertsville Junior High School.
- When Clinton High School opened its doors to black students (the dozen black students now known as the Clinton 12) in 1956, a riot ensued, and

Governor Frank Clement called out the National Guard to restore order in Clinton.

- White students boycotted classes, and in 1958 the high school building was bombed.
- Clinton High School students attended classes in Oak Ridge while their school was rebuilt.
- The events in Anderson County received national television coverage when Edward R. Murrow and CBS television analyzed the desegregation trouble in Clinton.

Oak Ridge National Lab

Oak Ridge was established in 1942 as a production site for the Manhattan Project—the massive U.S. government operation that developed the atomic bomb. Scientific development still plays a crucial role in the city's economy and culture in general. Starting in October 1942, the United States Army Corps of Engineers began acquiring the Oak Ridge area for the Manhattan Project. Unlike TVA's land acquisitions for Norris Dam—which were still fresh on the minds of many Anderson Countians—the Corps' "declaration of taking" was much more swift and final. Many residents came home to find eviction notices tacked to their doors. Most were given six weeks to evacuate, although several had as little as two weeks. Some were even forced out before they received compensation. By March 1943, the area's pre-Manhattan Project communities had been removed, and fences and checkpoints had been established. Anderson County lost one-seventh of its land and \$391,000 in annual property tax revenue. The manner with which the Oak Ridge area was acquired created a tense, uneasy relationship between Oak Ridge and the surrounding towns that lasted throughout the Manhattan Project.

In 1942, the United States Federal Government chose the area as a site for developing materials for the Manhattan Project. Maj. Gen. Leslie Groves, military head of the Manhattan Project, liked the area for several reasons. Its relatively low population made acquisition affordable, yet the area was accessible by both highway and rail, and utilities such as water and electricity were readily available due to the recent completion of Norris Dam. Finally, the project location was established within a 17-mile (27-km) long valley, and the valley itself was linear and partitioned by several ridges, providing natural protection against disasters between the four major industrial plants—so they wouldn't blow up "like firecrackers on a string."

The location and low population also helped keep the town a secret. Although the population of the settlement grew from about 3,000 in 1942 to about 75,000 in 1945, and despite the fact that the K-25 uranium-separating facility by itself covered 44 acres (178,000 m²) and was the largest building in the world at that time, Oak Ridge was kept an official government secret. It did not appear on maps, and wasn't formally named until 1949, only being referred to as the Clinton Engineer Works (CEW). All workers wore badges, and the town was surrounded by guard towers and a fence with seven gates.

Beginning in late 1942, the United States Army Corps of Engineers began acquiring more than 60,000 acres (240 km²) for the CEW under authority of the Corps' Manhattan Engineer District (MED). The K-25, S-50, and Y-12 plants were each built in Oak Ridge to separate the fissile isotope uranium-235 from natural uranium, which consists almost entirely of the isotope uranium-238. During construction of the magnets which were required for the process that would separate the uranium at the Y-12 site, a shortage of copper forced the MED to borrow 15,000 tons of silver bullion from the United States Treasury to fabricate into wire for the electromagnet coils as a substitute. The X-10 site, now the location of Oak Ridge National Laboratory, was established as a pilot plant for production of plutonium.

Because of the large number of workers recruited to the area for the Manhattan Project, the Army planned a town for project workers at the eastern end of the valley. The time required for the project's completion caused the Army to opt for a relatively permanent establishment rather than a camp of enormous size.

The architecture firm Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM) was contracted to provide a layout for the town and house designs. SOM Partner John O. Merrill moved to Tennessee to take charge of designing the secret buildings at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. He directed the creation of a town. Prefabricated modular homes, apartments, and dormitories, many made from cemento (bonded cement and asbestos) panels, were quickly erected. Streets were laid out in the manner of a "planned community." Main arteries were generally named for states (e.g., "Pennsylvania Avenue"), and smaller streets running off of these all began with the same letter (e.g., Pelham Rd., Pocono La.). A "lane" could be expected to be a dead-end way, while a "road" usually went through to another street. This made it considerably easier for the city's new residents to find each other.

Housing for families was constructed according to a series of templates, identified by letters. Thus an "A" house was the smallest lettered design, with one bedroom. A "B" house featured two bedrooms, a "D" house three bedrooms with a larger living space, an "E" was a two-story four-unit structure, and an "F" was the largest type home. The smallest homes were called "flat tops"; originally intended to be only temporary structures, they proliferated atop the ridges in the west end of town.

More spacious homes were awarded by the government based upon family size and the status of the worker. If a couple became divorced, they would usually be "demoted" in terms of their housing allocation, and a worker who became unemployed would usually lose his or her home altogether.

Oak Ridge was developed by the federal government as a segregated community. Black residents lived only in an area known as Gamble Valley and lived predominantly in government-built "hutments" (one-room shacks) on the south

side of what is now Tuskegee Drive. Oak Ridge elementary education prior to 1954 was totally segregated; black children could only attend the Scarboro Elementary School. Oak Ridge High School was closed to black children, who had to be bussed out to Knoxville for an education. It took the Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of Education to change the federal government's stance in this matter.

Construction personnel swelled the wartime population of Oak Ridge to as much as 70,000. That dramatic population increase, and the secret nature of the project, meant chronic shortages of housing and supplies during the war years. The town was administered by Turner Construction Company through a subsidiary named the Roane-Anderson Company. For most residents, however, their "landlord" was known as "MSI" (Management Services, Inc.).

The news of the use of the first atomic bomb against Japan on August 6, 1945 revealed to the people at Oak Ridge what they had been working on.

General Culture

- Pre-teens and teens in Anderson County that are struggling with drug use and abuse are most often living in homes where parents or guardians struggled with the same issues in the 1970s and all too often continue struggle
- Teens being seen in Anderson County Juvenile Court have a high percentage of parents that are of have been incarcerated for drugs or drug related issues
- Culture in Anderson County is influenced by peoples beliefs
- Culture affects whether a person thinks mental health services such as rehab are needed
- The highly fragmented family unit affects how little family support one receives
- Anderson County culture may dictate how a drug abuser/addict would seek help and whether it would be a primary care doctor, a mental health professional, minister, etc
- Culture of Anderson County places a stigma on how someone attaches to mental health programs and how much trust is placed in the provider
- Because of the tremendous cultural diversity from Oak Ridge to Andersonville and Briceville, programs need to adapt to the various needs of each community
- In the Lake City and surrounding area, the closing of the coalmines led to an impoverished lifestyle, which is thought to be directly related to the beginning of a drug culture in that area
- Some of the more impoverished area of the county have become places where more money is spent for drugs
- The Ohio Youth Problem, Functioning and Satisfaction scales which have been used in Anderson County at the Learn Center for alternative students for the last four years. The hopefulness section of the scale has revealed a

very low score for hopefulness. Over 80% of the students placed at the alternative school are there for drug/alcohol related issues. The culture of hopelessness seems to precede drug abuse.

- DCS interim director in 2008: “Parent involvement in making and using meth has created a real crisis in Anderson County for placing children in an appropriate home”.
- The racial, ethnic, and cultural demographics of the population in Anderson County presents a unique challenge for law enforcement, drug prevention educators, and other professionals combating the alcohol and drug issues
- The attitudes and policies a community holds about drug use and its resultant crime are communicated in a variety of ways: through laws and written policies; through informal social practices; and through the expectations parents and other members of the community have on young people. Anderson County has passed more laws allowing and protecting the sale of alcoholic beverages in the past 25 years.
- Students in trouble for drug violations often cite the “double standard” that exists in Anderson County as they know of local attorneys and others in local government that use illegal drugs.

- Historical origin of related issues.

The historical drug culture in Anderson County has survived generations. Beginning with moonshine production, which was critical to survival, as a community, Anderson County has shifted toward methamphetamine production. In addition, close proximity to major thoroughfares provides an easy avenue for drug trafficking.

- History of organizing for community improvement.

The Anderson County Health Council organized to improve the health and quality of life for residents of Anderson County, Tennessee. Addressing issues from access to healthcare to increasing resources to addressing troubled teens, the Health Council paved the way for ASAP to find its niche in the community.

- History of organizing on related issues.

The Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention of Anderson County branched off the Anderson County Health Council in September of 2008. After two years of planning and preparation, the coalition applied for funding from the Office of National Drug Control Policy’s Drug-Free Communities Support Program in the spring of 2010. The coalition received that funding and hired an executive director in October, 2010.

Problem / Goal Statements

Anderson County ASAP needs to increase capacity to become sustainable in the future

Too many Anderson County youth use alcohol

Too many Anderson County youth abuse prescription medications