



Child Health Advisory Committee

Minutes

July 10, 2025, · 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. · Hybrid

Call to order: 9:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting

**Present:** Shannon Borchert, Carole Garner, Lucas Harder, Jennifer Morrow, Dave Oberembt, Carmel Perry, Elaine Prewitt, Camille Richoux, Ray Samaniego, Chad Sanders, Jennifer Wessel, Tammie Works  
**Absent:** Ashten Black, Patrick Casey, Jerri Clark, Teresa Henson, Jazmine Martinez (member elect), Cheria McDonald, Nathan Morris, Bala Simon

**Staff:** Shanetta Agnew

**Guests:** Sarah Khativ, Lynette Slaughter, Rosemary Withers

**Review of June minutes:** L. Harder moved to accept the minutes, S. Borchert seconded. Motion passed.

**Act 1220 & Coordinated School Health Reports:** S. Borchert moved to accept the reports; L. Harder seconded. Motion passed.

**Act 1220 Coordinator Report (Shanetta Agnew & Shy Whitley):**

Shanetta and Shannon, met with ADH Epidemiologist Kulsoom Shaikh, on June 19<sup>th</sup> about current obesity programming within the state and what improvements need to be made or considered.

**Coordinated School Health Advisor Report (Lisa Mundy & Ariel Rogers):**

No updates.

**New Business:**

Camille Richoux, MPH, DrPH(c) Policy Director for Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families, presented on the “Kids Count” data book following information below:



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## 2025 KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK INTERACTIVE

We track overall child well-being along four domains. Start exploring data.

READ OR DOWNLOAD THE DATA BOOK [📄](#)

### Overall Child Well-Being

### Economic Well-Being

### Education

### Health

### Family and Community

Scroll to see how this location ranks and performs on 16 key indicators.

[< Select another location](#)

[🇺🇸 View U.S. Data](#)



### OVERALL CHILD WELL-BEING IN ARKANSAS

RANK  
**45**

In the *2025 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, New England states hold the top three spots for overall child well-being. New Hampshire ranks first, followed by Vermont and Massachusetts. Mississippi (48th), Louisiana (49th), and New Mexico (50th) are the three lowest-ranked states. A child's chances of thriving depend not only on individual, family and community characteristics but also on the state in which they are born and raised. States vary in their wealth and other resources. Policy choices and investments also influence children's chances for success.

Learn more in the *2025 KIDS COUNT Data Book*.

### ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

RANK  
**45**

#### Children in poverty

Total in AR: 144,000

22%  
2019

better

**21%**  
2023

#### Children whose parents lack secure employment

Total in AR: 194,000

29%  
2019

better

**28%**  
2023

#### Children living in households with a high housing cost burden

Total in AR: 168,000

22%  
2019

worse

**24%**  
2023

#### Teens not in school and not working

Total in AR: 17,000

7%  
2019

worse

**10%**  
2023

### EDUCATION

RANK  
**36**

#### Young children (ages 3 and 4) not in school

Total in AR: 43,000

51%  
2014–18

worse

**57%**  
2019–23

#### Fourth graders not proficient in reading

Total in AR: N.A.

69%  
2019

worse

**72%**  
2024

#### Eighth graders not proficient in math

Total in AR: N.A.

73%  
2019

worse

**80%**  
2024

#### High school students not graduating on time

Total in AR: N.A.

12%  
2018–19

same

**12%**  
2021–22



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HEALTH			RANK 47	FAMILY AND COMMUNITY			RANK 46
Low birth-weight babies Total in AR: 3,399	9.2%		worse	Children in single-parent families Total in AR: 239,000	37%		same
	2019	2023			2019	2023	
Children without health insurance Total in AR: 50,000	6%		worse	Children in families where the household head lacks a high school diploma Total in AR: 65,000	11%		better
	2019	2023			2019	2023	
Child and teen deaths per 100,000 Total in AR: 300	35		worse	Children living in high-poverty areas Total in AR: 68,000	12%		better
	2019	2023			2014–18	2019–23	
Children and teens ages 10 to 17 who are overweight or obese Total in AR: N.A.	34%		worse	Teen births per 1,000 Total in AR: 2,436	30		better
	2018–19	2022–23			2019	2023	

Arkansas is ranked as the 45<sup>th</sup> state for overall child well-being. C. Richoux, mentioned low-birth weight and lack of insurance are two main factors within the state for low percentages. The data book compares United States data to Arkansas data and gives a year comparison.

#### Old Business:

Sarah Khativ, an analyst at ACHI, will continue the work on the consolidated recommendation document. The layout will make the recommendations over the years more uniform and easier to locate within the document. Appendices will be attached to past recommendations. C. Garner mentioned 2005-2010 recommendations will need to be included. L. Harder will send S. Agnew the secretary of state link page for version of rules that have been submitted.

The tabled mental health recommendations will be moved from FY23 & FY24 and will be presented with the FY26 recommendations tentatively in September. The committee will need to review and discuss S. Agnew will circulate the recommendations with the committee prior to the August meeting.



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**Member & Non-Member Updates/Announcements:**

- S. Borchert, shared with the Arkansas Department of Health, submitted the Title V report for Maternal Child Health through Health Resources Services and Administration (HRSA) on July 8<sup>th</sup>. A link can be sent to the committee to view last year's report and application.
- C. Garner, shared by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics on the national level, are considering the changes the reconciliation bill will have on Medicaid and Snap.
- P. Casey shared two September pediatric conferences that will be coming up through UAMS. S. Agnew will send the registration information to CHAC members and guests.
- CHAC members will need to begin developing the FY26 recommendations, considering the current environment.



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Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83582295337?pwd=Uk1JZGxSUmdqYS9YeTF4TXNHdXJVQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 8229 5337 Passcode: 229369

One tap mobile: +1 646 931 3860 US, +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Next Meeting: Thursday August 14, 2025, from 9:00 am – 10:00 am.  
(rescheduled to August 21, 2025)

*State Board of Education are held monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday and Friday of each month.*

*July 10-11, 9:00 am*

*August 14-15, 9:00 am*

*September 11-12, 9:00 am*

*October 9-10, 9:00 am*

*November 13-14, 9:00 am*

*December 11-12, 9:00 am*

*State Board of Health meetings are held quarterly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month.*

*October 23, 2025, at 10:00 am*