

Franklin County, Ohio

Community Partnerships

Welcome Virginia
Representatives

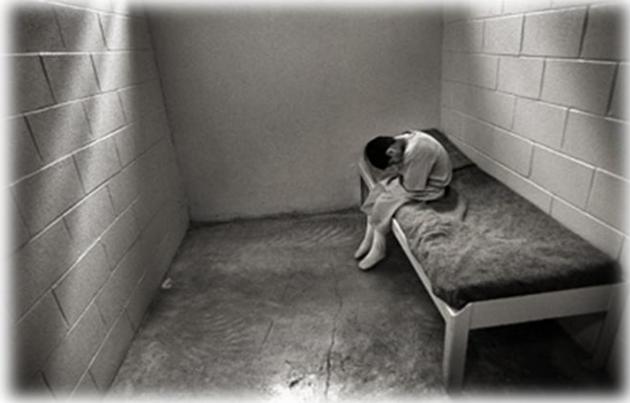


The Benefits of Collaborative Partnerships Between Child Support Programming and Fatherhood Programs

Fathers with child support obligations often face difficult issues such as:

- Navigating the Child Support system;
- Failure to participate in the Child Support Establishment or Enforcement process;
- Unrealistic Child Support orders;
- Missed opportunities for employment support and training;
- Arrearages (as a result of unwillingness, unemployment, or incarceration);
- Legal consequences that result from unpaid child support (e.g. jail time); and
- Missed visitation opportunities when they have visitation rights.

These issues can contribute to the ALIENATION and lack of engagement between fathers and their children.



Youths in father-absent households still had significantly higher odds of incarceration than those in mother-father families. Youths who never had a father in the household experienced the highest odds.

Source: Harper, Cynthia C. and Sara S. McLanahan. "Father Absence and Youth Incarceration." Journal of Research on Adolescence 14 (September 2004): 369-397.

Program Outcomes

- Identify the Issues & Barriers to Responsible Fatherhood
- Overcome Institutional Barriers; Access, Visitation, FCCSEA, Etc.
- Connection to Employment, Education, & Legal Resources
- Improve Parenting Attitude
- Increased Financial Contribution

Know Us By the Work We Do ...

F2F Program Structure

Peer Group Mentoring VS. 1 on 1 Coaching/Mentoring

8 Week 'Father Factor' Curriculum

Assistance W/ Access / Visitation / Child Support

'Introduction' to Community Resources

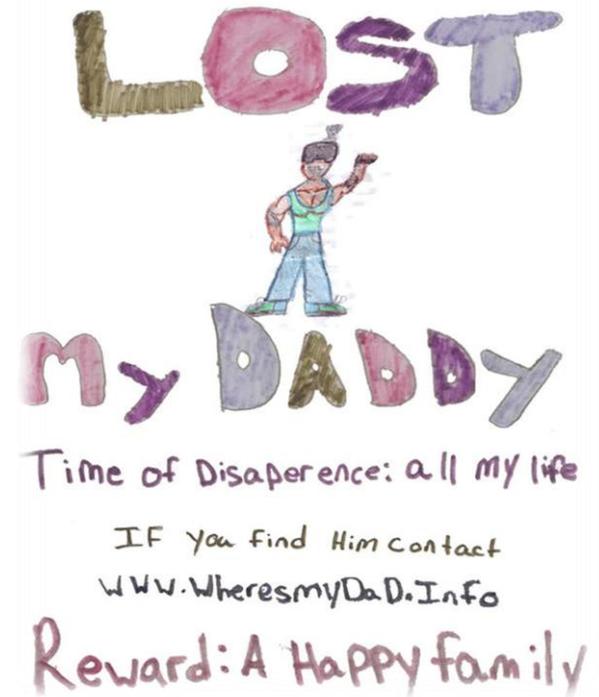
Community Outreach Events

Community 'Father / Child' Activities and Events

Advocacy for Responsible Fatherhood

Collaborative Fatherhood and Child Support Outcomes

- Educate fathers about how the child support system in your community and state operates. Empower fathers to participate in the case management of their cases.
- Invite Professionals (i.e. – Attorney, Child Development Spec., Employment Spec., Relationship Therapist, etc.) with expertise to address your fatherhood group.
- Encourage fathers to request visitation and whenever possible to be there emotionally and physically for their child.



Collaborative Fatherhood and Child Support Outcomes

Encourage fathers to make a serious effort to provide child support, even if it isn't possible to provide the full amount.

Encourage fathers to be involved, responsible, and committed in the lives of their children to as great a degree as possible.

Encourage fathers to acquire competent advice regarding child support matters – keep in contact with their support officer.



Collaborative Fatherhood and Child Support Outcomes

Strongly encourage fathers to go to every administrative or court hearing regarding their child support obligation.

Investigate whether your state offers a program that forgives some or all child support arrearages and, if it does, assist fathers to meet the criteria.

If fathers are struggling with the amount of support that they are paying, encourage them to request a review of their support order – and follow through!

Investigate what other parenting programs, training, or employment services are available through the CS program.



Collaborative Fatherhood and Child Support Outcomes

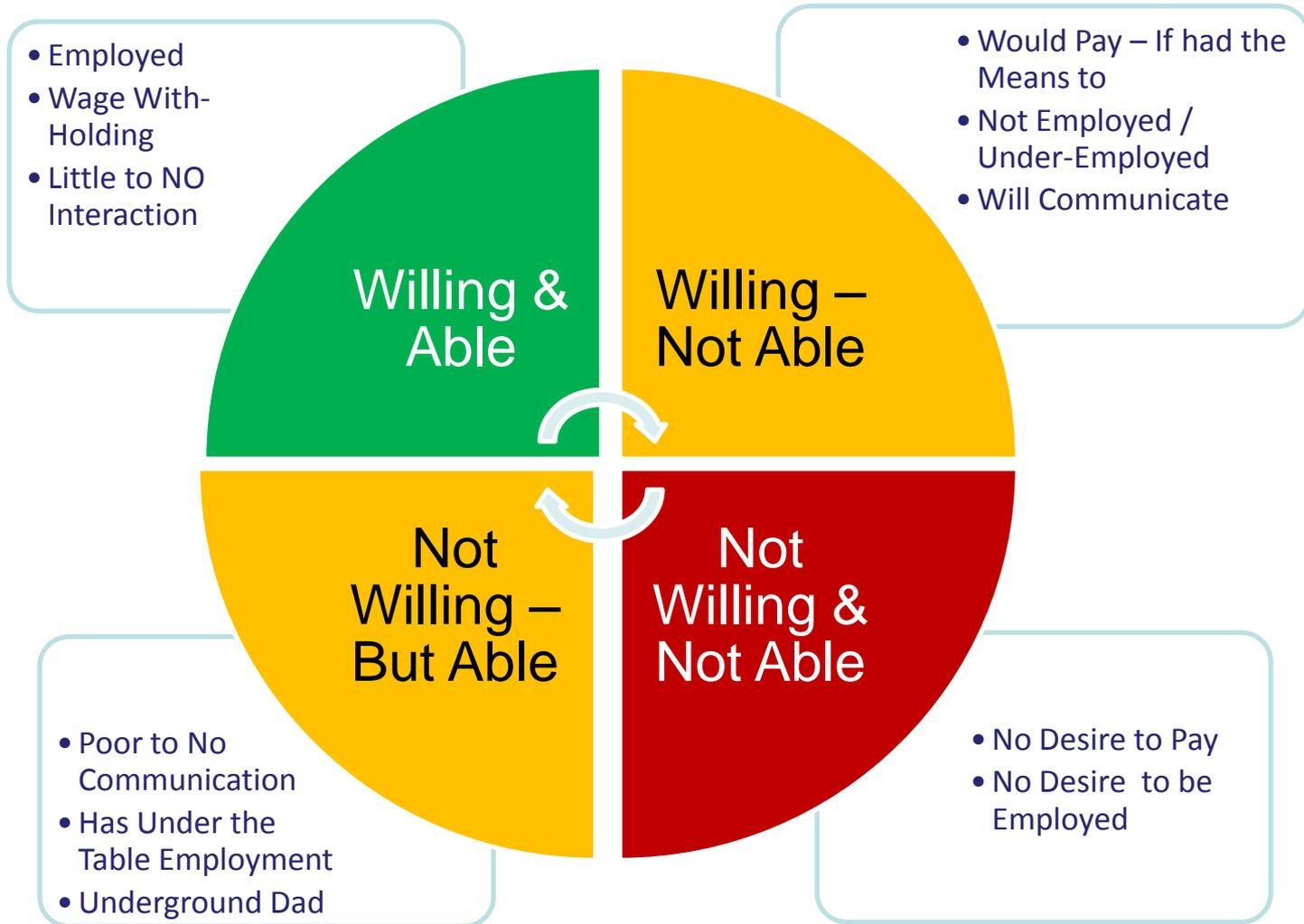


How to Help Fathers with Child Support Issues

<http://www.fatherhood.org>

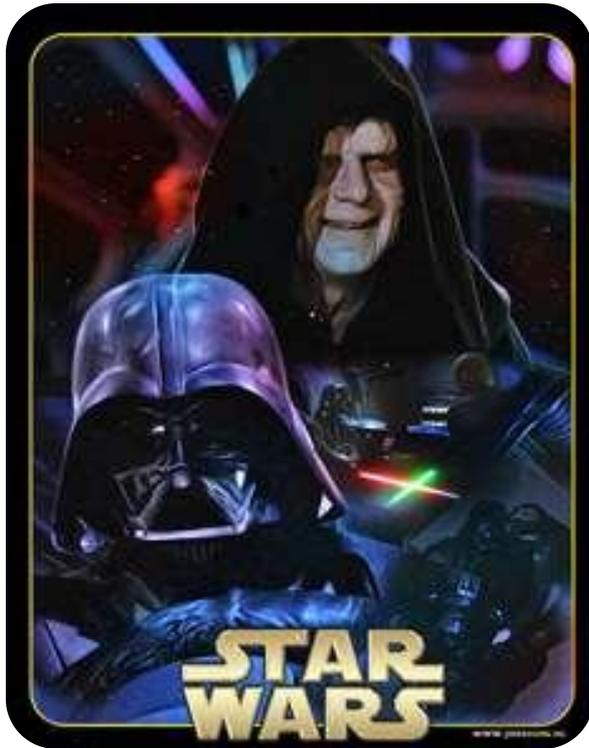
As you help fathers learn more about the child support system and how to effectively participate within it, they will be in a better position to connect with their children and more fully understand what it means to be a “24/7 Dad”.

Attitudes of Child Support Obligor



Change the ATTITUDE ..!

Non-Custodial Parents (Obligors) See Child Support as;



- The EVIL Empire
- Having a Secret Agenda
- Only having the interest of the Custodial Parent
- Strictly Punitive
- Dispel the Urban Myths / Misconceptions ...

Franklin County CSEA



- **The agency works with both parents to establish and enforce support orders.**
- **The program's goals are to ensure that all children are supported financially by both parents and to reduce the number of children receiving public assistance.**

- **The CSEA Can...**
 - **Enforce existing child support or medical support orders**
 - **Collect and disburse child & spousal support payments**
 - **Modify child support orders**
 - **Go through the Agreed Entry process between the parties to waive arrears owed to the custodial parent**
 - **Enter into a Waiver & Compromise Agreement to reduce assigned arrears owed to the state**
 - **Re-instate drivers, professional, and recreational licenses through a seek work agreement**

Change in Enforcement Strategy

Examples of Philosophical Changes



- Using outreach programs such as the Father 2 Father Program & the August Child Support Awareness Event
- Modifying orders to zero once incarcerated as to not build up arrearages they cannot afford to pay
- Take down wanted posters in the lobby; no longer the use of “deadbeat dad”
- Waiver and Compromise: Reducing Assigned Arrears
- Changing how Support Officers positively interact with clients during the economic downturn

Program Outcomes / Data

In 2011, 709 Fathers Interacted w/ Father 2 Father

Since 2008, More than 360 Fathers have Graduated - 95 In 2011

AAPI Results - Actual Client Example

80% of Fathers report increased Parenting Relationship/Role

Evidenced by: Doctor and School Visits, F2F Events, and AAPI Results

42 Fathers Connected to Employment and/or Educational/Training opportunity

Fathers increased financial contribution to FCCSEA by at least 15%



Program Outcome



“In the six months prior to starting the Father 2 Father Program from 2008-2011, the fathers paid only 19% of their child support. After completing the program, the fathers child support payments increased to 34%, which is an increase of nearly 15%. During the same period of time, over \$200,000 of support arrearages were waived.”

Director Susan Brown - FCCSEA

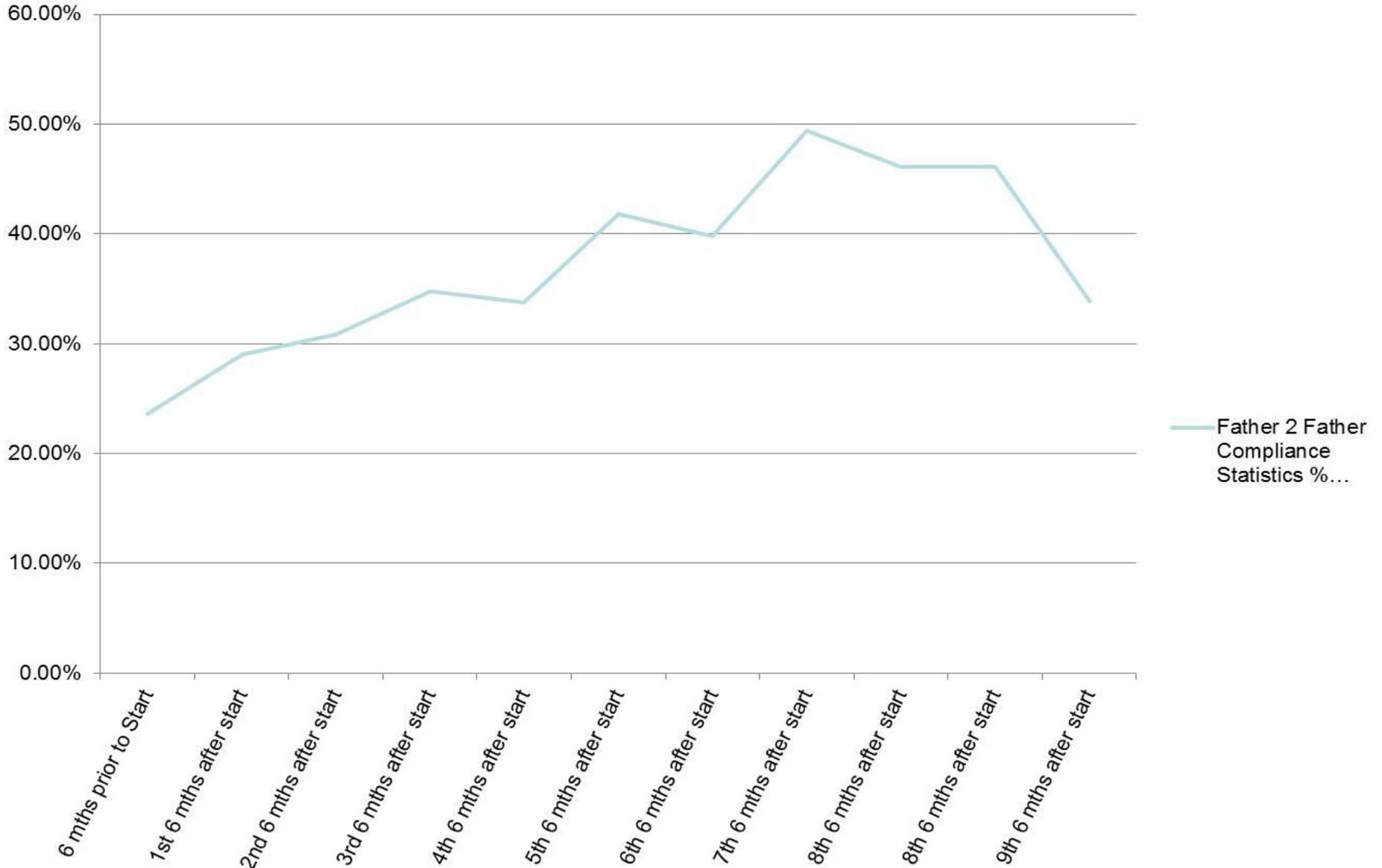
Annual Amounts Paid Statistics

- In the 6 month period prior to starting class, participants in classes 1 - 13 paid a total of \$180,802 in support.
- In the 6 month period after starting class and graduating, participants in classes 1 - 13 paid a total of \$229,872 in support, an increase of 27%.
- For classes 1 - 13, total support arrears waived to date by custodial parents equals \$???.

Father 2 Father Compliance Statistics

Class Time Period	Total Owed	Total Paid	% Compliant
6 mths prior to Start	826,017.55	194,925.40	23.60%
1st 6 mths after start	793,137.18	229,871.59	28.98%
2nd 6 mths after start	669,711.76	206,403.55	30.82%
3rd 6 mths after start	538,834.84	187,380.99	34.78%
4th 6 mths after start	478,775.40	161,495.56	33.73%
5th 6 mths after start	335,147.70	140,122.50	41.81%
6th 6 mths after start	274,039.85	109,004.27	39.78%
7th 6 mths after start	178,874.91	88,448.31	49.45%
8th 6 mths after start	141,593.92	65,309.28	46.12%
8th 6 mths after start	141,593.92	65,309.28	46.12%
9th 6 mths after start	26,935.35	9,129.58	33.89%
Total after start	3,437,050.91	1,197,165.63	34.83%

Father 2 Father Compliance Statistics





**Franklin County Child Support
Enforcement Agency**

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Columbus, Ohio 43215

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<http://support.franklincountyohio.gov/>

Director

Susan A. Brown

Hours of Operation

Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Action for Children



YOUR SOURCE

For Early Learning and Child Care Services

Glenn A. Harris
Action for Children

Father Factor Program

614.224.0222 Ext. 137

GlennHarris@ActionforChildren.org