

**Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 14, 2019
10:00 – 12:00 noon**

Attendance

Commissioners

HHS Asst. Director Kara Bertke-Wente (absent)
Director Susan Brown, Franklin County Child Support
Senator Dave Burke
Senator Hearcel Craig
Dr. G. Mike Davis, ODRC
Mr. Joseph Hill, OMHAS
Mr. James Jackson, ODYS
Asst. Director Sarah LaTourette,
Dr. Randy Leite, Ohio University
Rep. Riordan McClain
Director Scott Neely, Children’s Hunger Alliance
Ms. Molly Rafeld, JFS Legislation (absent)
Director Ann Ream, Summit County
Dr. Michele Reynolds, GOFBCI
Rep. J. Todd Smith
Mr. Socrates Tuch, Esq.
Rep. Terrence Upchurch
Rep. Thomas West
Mr. Tarik White, ODE

OCF Staff:

Kimberly Dent, Exec. Director of Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Monica Mahoney, Program Admin.
Terri Simons, Admin. Prof. IV

Presenters:

Ms. Chelsea Cordonnier, Governor’s Children’s Initiative
Mr. William Liber, Passages
Mr. William Vincent, Passages
Dr. Brian Moore, Passages
Mr. Daniel Brenner, Passages Program Father

Guests:

Shawn Crable, Early Childhood Resource Center
 Gary Plauger, Early Childhood Resource Center
 Jak Taylor, Early Childhood resource Center
 Frank Williams, Exec. Dir. Man2Man Fatherhood Program
 Charles Harrison, Facilitator, Williams Challenge, Man2Man Fatherhood Program
 Darryl Jones – Leg. Aide to Rep. Terrence Upchurch
 Margaret Simmons, Leg. Aide to Senator Hearcel Craig
 Jacob Dowling, Legislative Aide to Senator Dave Burke
 Sean McCann, Legislative Aide to Rep. Thomas West
 Jay Schindler, Miami Valley Leadership Foundation
 Nichelle Shaskus, Exec. Director for After School Network
 Charlie Adams, Exec. Director Joint Legislative Committee, Correctional Institutional Inspection Committee
 Rachelle Brown, Franklin County Public Health
 Mycal Brown, Passages, Connecting Fathers and Families
 Jordan Wack, Passages, Connecting Fathers and Families
 Daniel Brenner, Passages Program Father
 Rachel Helbing
 Marvin Sharp, Connecting Fathers and Families
 Kimberly Booth, Children’s Hunger Alliance
 Lillian Clossman, Program Admin. To Assistant Director Kara Wente
 Shawn Crable, Early Childhood Resource Center
 Jak Taylor, Early Childhood Resource Center
 Gary Plauger, Early Childhood Resource Center
 Reba Collins, United Methodist Church, Mason, Ohio, West Ohio Conference
 John Turner, Community Father
 Kimberly Elliott, The Four Seven
 David Kiefer, Community Father
 Matthew Cunningham, Chief of Bureau of Technical Assistance & Support (for Asst. Director Kara Bertke-Wente)
 Wanda Ellis, Deputy Director, Office of Family Assistance
 Laura Gilmore, Personal (Family Consultant)
 Andrea Dingess, Admin. Asst. GOFBCI (Governor’s Office of Faith Based Community Initiatives)
 Kent Ring, Intern for Rep. Thomas West
 Carla Stokes, Transformational Life Coach, Personal Life Coach, Facilitator
 Kevin Conwell, Cuyahoga County Community Leader
 Bernard Jones, Jr.

I.	Call to Order & Welcome
10:00 – 10:05	State Representative Thomas West

State Representative Thomas West began the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

I.	Introductions/Welcome
10:05-10:10	State Representative Thomas West

State Representative Thomas West welcomed everyone to the commission meeting and asked the visitors to introduce themselves. The Commission had a quorum based on membership.

II. Approval of November 14, 2019 Minutes

10:10-10:20 State Representative Thomas West

The September 12, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as submitted with no changes. Mr. Socrates Tuch motioned to approve the September 12, 2019 meeting minutes and Dr. Mike Davis motioned to second the approval of the minutes.

Representative Thomas West asked for a motion to approve the 2020 Commission Meeting Dates. Mr. Socrates Tuch motioned to approve the Commission Meeting dates and Dr. Mike Davis motioned to second the approval of the Commission Meeting dates.

III. State Fatherhood Summit 2020

10:20-10:35 Exec. Director Kimberly Dent and Commissioner Joseph Hill

Director Dent discussed the State Fatherhood Summit which is planned for May 20-21, 2020.

Day 1- Wed. May 20, 2020:

Ohio Practitioners’ Network for Fathers and Families (OPNFF) will offer a Fatherhood Training, and OCF will fund a Fatherhood Grant Writing training for 70-80 attendees during the day and there will be a celebration of fathers in the evening. Hors d’oeuvres and beverages may be served during the evening event

Day 2- Thurs. May 21, 2020: 8 Breakout Sessions

Trauma	Mental Health and Addiction
Ohio County Fatherhood Mobilization Project	Faith-based
Poverty – to Self Sufficiency	Child Protective Services
Infant Mortality	Incarcerated parents

Venues: Exec. Director Kimberly Dent is reviewing the Venues and waiting for the last quote from Crowne Plaza Hotel North. The Hilton Easton Hotel was unavailable for the dates requested. She will develop the justification for the Venue that is selected by the Committee. The Quest Conference Center and Ohio University Dublin were unable to accommodate the 200 participants due to limited meeting room space.

Audio/Visual: Exec. Director Kimberly Dent had a site visit with Live Technologies. Exec. Director Dent went over the Audio/Visual details with Ms. Sarah Joyce and told her about the required specifications for the State Fatherhood Summit in May 2020. Ms. Joyce said she would send us a budget quote by the end of the week. Bartha and Hughie’s agreed that they could accommodate our requests. However, the budget quotes from both vendors are very different in price. We will review all three Audio/Visual Quotes and determine who is providing the best services and price for the State Fatherhood Summit.

Plenary Session Update: Exec. Director Kimberly Dent stated that she contacted Jessica and Jerry Seinfeld’s team member from the Good+ Foundation and asked them to come to the Summit or if they

could send a video. Exec. Director Kimberly Dent stated that she contacted someone at Mayor Ginther's Office who has a connection with LeBron James' best friend to find out if he is available in May 2020 to attend the Summit or if he could send us a video.

We confirmed two keynote speakers: Mr. Chris Brown and Mr. Ken Braswell. The Fatherhood and Government Plenary Session will consist of State Department Directors and the six Legislators on the Commission

The Committee will meet once a month via conference call regarding the planning of the State Fatherhood Summit.

IV. Governor's Office, Children's Initiative

10:35-11:05 Chelsea Cordonnier

Ms. Cordonnier stated the Children's Initiative Goals are to coordinate and align the states children's programming. Their Office wants to advance policy and innovation in children's programming from birth to Kindergarten and to provide support services for all children and their families. She provided performance data report for year 2018 showing that about 32 out of 50 percent of Women and Children have Health Care in the U.S. In 2018, Kids Count Overall Child wellbeing is 25 out of 50 percent.

The types of data collected were Children in Poverty: Forty-one percent (41%) of children living in Ohio live in or near poverty. The Ohio total population of children under the age of 18 years old were 2,612,172. The U.S. total population of children under the age 18: 73,658,812.

Gaps in performance: Race for Results of African-American children were 42 out of 44 who lacked health care, while Caucasian children's data showed 31 out of 50. Chelsea provided data regarding women who are pregnant but are not getting the required health care to have a healthy child. Studies showed that 15.2 percent of African-American babies die before their 1st birthday; versus 5.8 percent of Caucasian babies.

Lead Exposure Risk in Ohio's Largest cities: 2012-2016. 5.5 percent average across the city's health dashboard's 500 U.S. Cities: Parma had 6%, Columbus had 7%, while Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dayton, Toledo and Youngstown all had 10 percent.

Top ten leading causes of death for Ohio children ages 1-17; by total count, Year: 2012 and 2017.

Total deaths in 2012 were 504; In 2017 the total deaths were 594.

1. Unintentional Injuries: Car accidents, drowning, other non-transport accidents: (total in 132 people in 2012 vs. 174 people in 2017)
2. Suicide (53 people in 2012 vs. 80 people in 2017)
3. Homicide (63 people in 2012 vs. 80 people in 2017)
4. Cancer (55 people in 2012 vs. 54 people in 2017)
5. Congenital malformations** (33 people in 2012 vs. 39 people in 2017)
6. Heart Disease (18 people in 2012 vs. 23 people in 2017)

Three types of ACEs include the following:

- **Abuse** is shown using Physical, Emotional, Sexual.
- **Neglect** includes physical and emotional abuse.
- **Household dysfunction:** mental illness, incarcerated relative, mother treated violently, substance abuse and divorce.

Adverse Childhood Experiences has lasting impacts on the child’s life:

- a. **Injury:** Traumatic Brain injury, fractures, or burns;
- b. **Mental Health:** Depression, anxiety, Suicide, PTSD,
- c. **Infectious Disease:** HIV and STDs;
- d. **Chronic Disease:** Cancer or Diabetes;
- e. **Risky Behaviors:** Alcohol and Drug Abuse or Unsafe Sex;
- f. **Opportunities:** Education, Occupation, Income

Child’s Brain Development: Ninety percent of a child’s brain development happens before age five. Ten percent of the brain is developed after age five.

For more information about the Children’s Initiatives presentation, please visit our website:
<https://fatherhood.ohio.gov/Our-Commission/Commission-Meetings#2019-11-15-090330-200>

V.	Passages
11:05-11:40	Mr. William Liber, Mr. William Vincent, and Dr. Brian Moore

Mr. Liber and the Passages Team gave a presentation about Connecting Fathers and Families which drives positive change for families by stabilizing, supporting and empowering fathers to be successful through fatherhood and workforce development training, holistic case management, and access to resources to obtain employment and to grow a healthy family life. Collaborating with The Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, Passages’ goal is to provide Responsible Fatherhood services, build Healthy Relationships and teach economic stability to the fathers they serve.

Passages has been working with fathers and families since the year 2000. They provided data analysis regarding their Fatherhood Program. Passages provided services to 441 Fathers. 67% of fathers are from the Community. They also provide services for the incarcerated fathers which represents about 33% of the population. They provide families with access to resources that are needed to take care of their children. They assist fathers with employment, so they can take care of their financial responsibilities. They teach parents how to parent a child in a separate household. Passages Staff help families reach and maintain self-sufficiency and end dependency on public assistance. Passages plan and host free community events that foster fatherhood engagement. Lastly, Passages provides intensive long-term case management.

Two out of three children live in a home without a father. Forty-four percent (44%) of children were born to unmarried mothers (slightly above national average). There are 9,251 Active Child Support Cases in Portage County. There are 31,000 Active Child Support cases in Lorain County.

Passages has provided services to over 5,721 families. Passages provided Child Support Workshops and 662 sessions were taught to fathers.

Passages provided Counseling referrals to 75 fathers; 43 fathers needed Addiction and Recovery referrals; 45 fathers received their GED/High School/Vocational School; 254 fathers received social services/emergency referrals. Employment: 116 Fathers were employed.

Access, Visitation and Custody: Passages taught 510 Individualized Sessions ranging from 30-120 minutes.

Fifty-seven fathers received parenting time orders. Seventeen fathers established paternity and 83 fathers were coached on how to see their children more often. Over 305 fathers completed the Fatherhood Development program since 2016 in both Portage and Lorain Counties.

1,180 parents were served at the Community Events to recognize the importance of father/child activities by sponsoring various fatherhood celebration events in Portage County.

To read more about the Passages' presentation, please go to the OCF website:

<https://fatherhood.ohio.gov/Our-Commission/Commission-Meetings#90966-2019>

VI.	Executive Director's Report
11:40 – 11:50	Executive Director Kimberly Dent

Director Dent discussed the Executive Director's Report and highlighted the following topics.

OCF Fiscal Funding Phone Conference for State Fatherhood Summit: OCF Executive Director and the Chair of the Commission on Fatherhood participated in a phone conference with commissioners who volunteered to participate on the Fiscal Funding Committee. The OCF Executive Director and the OCF chair provided the duties of the committee and the various OCF funded projects.

Meeting with Dr. Mike Davis (ODRC) Ohio Dept. of Rehabilitation and Corrections and OCF Collaboration Discussion: OCF Executive Director met with Dr. Davis, the ODRC Director designee to the Commission. Executive Director and Dr. Davis provided updates regarding upcoming initiatives, pilot projects and the ODRC Family Engagement Advisory Council.

ODRC (Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction) Family Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting: OCF Executive Director attended the ODRC Family Advisory quarterly meeting. The council was formed from a two-year project that involved surveying various incarcerated adults and their loved ones to determine how ODRC can better engage and empower those incarcerated at ODRC as well as their loved ones supporting the inmates both in the facility and during re-entry. A couple of goals were implemented to include the barrier of transportation and questionable attire when a loved one travels to the prison for a visit (all facilities will have scrubs x-small to 4X. ODRC is exploring other recommendations provided in the two-year project report.

Meeting with Director Ryan Gies (ODYS) Dept. of Youth Services: OCF Executive Director met with the new ODYS Director to welcome him to the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood as a statutorily appointed commissioner. OCF Executive Director provided pertinent information regarding the mission of the Commission, the outreach materials, the By-laws, padfolio and lapel pin to the ODYS Director. The ODYS Director was interested in how his agency can more collaboratively work with OCF. OCF Executive Director sent information regarding the counties who showed an interest in the Ohio County Fatherhood Mobilization Project. Director Gies shared the project with various judges and magistrates in these counties and other counties that have not received the training.

Preparation for the Dismantling the Community to Prison Pipeline (Columbus) - Building Bridges of Opportunity Planning Team Meeting at West Ohio Conference Center United Methodist Church with Reba Collins and ODRC: OCF Executive Director met with the planning team from the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church to discuss the plans, agenda, etc. for the upcoming Dismantling the Community to Prison Pipeline event at the United Methodist Church on Bethel Road in Columbus.

Preparation for Dismantling the Community to Prison Pipeline (Mason, OH) - Building Bridges of Opportunity Planning Team Meeting with Reba Collins in Mason, Ohio and ODRC: OCF Executive Director met with the planning team from the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church to discuss the plans, agenda, etc. for the upcoming Dismantling the Community to Prison Pipeline event at the Crossroads United Methodist Church in Mason, OH. OCF Executive Director also met the mentors who were providing services to restored citizens on parole in Hamilton County under the JIYA (Justice Involved Young Adults) mentoring program. The participants are 18-22 years of age.

Hamilton County Fatherhood Collaboration Meeting with Calvin Williams: OCF Executive Director presented at the newly re-introduced Hamilton County Fatherhood Collaborative. The Collaborative was inactive for years, and county leadership decided to give the Collaborative new direction. Prior to the Collaborative meeting, Director Dent met with various community partners to include representatives from ROBE (Reaching Our Brothers Everywhere), which is an organization that promotes breastfeeding in the African-American communities. Two ROBE representatives are from Louisiana and Georgia.

VIII.	Announcements and New Business
11:50-12:00	Rep. Thomas West

1. Exec. Director Michele Reynolds has Faith Friday events and GOFBI Regional Event in Toledo next week on the Nov. 19th.
2. State Rep. Thomas West said there is a Minority Business Job Fair going on next week LLBC is the organizers.
3. Senator Craig mentioned they offered internships to high school students and college interns.

The next Commission Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. NEW Conference Room Location: Riffe Building, 77 S. High Street, 19th Floor, Conference Room, 1960