

**Ohio Commission on Fatherhood (OCF)
Executive Director Report
September 2017- November 2017**

Funding:

Selection of New OCF Grantees:

OCF released and closed the request for grant application (RFGA) for the 2017-2019 TANF funding cycle. This grant will provide two levels of funding, designated as Funding Level A, for awards of \$120,000.00 per year for SFYs and 2019 and Funding Level B, for awards of \$50,000.00 per year for the same period. The application review team selected the following 7 programs for funding:

1. Action for Children (Level A)
2. Centers for Families and Children (Level B)
3. Coleman Profession Services (Level B)
4. ForeverDads (Level A)
5. Passages (Level A)
6. Talbert House (Level A)
7. WSOS (Level A)

TANF Grantee and OPNFF Purchase Orders Released: All seven TANF funded grantees as well as OPNFF (Ohio Practitioners' Network for Fathers and Families) purchase orders have been released, and services are underway. The grantees will receive ETO (Efforts to Outcome) training by OPNFF during the grantee orientation. The grantee orientation was scheduled when all programs received their purchase orders.

Third Year New Beginnings for New Fathers Award Received: OCF/NBNF staff received a notice from GrantSolutions that the third-year grant award will be released to ODJFS. OCF Executive Director forwarded the notice to OFAM fiscal and ODJFS leadership. The notice indicated another \$1,957,864.00.

State Agency Collaboration

Touch Base Meeting with Chip Weiant and Doug Lumpkin: OCF Executive Director met with Doug Lumpkin and Mr. Chip Weiant, Sagamore Fellow and Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives (GOFBI). Mr. Weiant introduced the Four-Point Model currently being implemented at GOFBI (Compassion Mapping, Bright Ideas) Ohio, identifying intermediaries and engaging intermediaries. Mr. Weiant is interested in advancing prongs three and four of the four point model.

Meeting with Chip Weiant and the Greater Good Ambassadors: OCF Executive Director facilitated a meeting between Mr. Chip Weiant from the Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives and the staff from the Greater Good Ambassadors. The group discussed

OCF Executive Director Report April 2017-September 2017, continued

how they can collaborate on some of the initiatives in Central Ohio, specifically in the space of the drug epidemic.

Ohio Equity Institute (OEI) All Team Meeting Webinar: OCF staff provided a power point presentation with an overview of the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, TANF funded Fatherhood programs, and services provided by NBNF in Ohio. Various OEI staff, partners and stakeholders were provided an opportunity to ask questions about the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, funding, initiatives, and, specifically, the New Beginnings for New Fathers project, with a large focus on expectant and new fathers in four of the nine OEI communities.

Child Support Strategic Workgroup Meeting: OCF Executive Director participated in the Child Support Strategic Workgroup meeting at the SOT. The meeting is held quarterly and provides an opportunity for leadership in Ohio's Child Support program to discuss how to implement processes and procedures more efficiently and effectively. Pending CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) as well as pending Child Support Guidelines and Case Closure Flex Regs were discussed. Lastly, the workgroup discussed how it would move forward, with the goal of aligning with Program changes.

Meeting w/ Ohio Department of Youth Services / Indian Rivers: OCF staff along with Dr. Brian Moore from Passages, and Carlos Christian facilitator, from Action for Children provided Indian River JCF staff with an overview presentation on the NBNF program. Carlos provided an overview from his facilitation perspective in working with Circleville JCF young fathers. The team also discussed services that could be provided to young fathers residing at Indian River JCF and next steps to move forward with starting the program.

General Fatherhood Outreach

Meeting with Mr. Phil Krause and staff from Connections-Safe Families: OCF Executive Director met with staff from Connections-Safe Families. This organization implements services in 100 cities, to include Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus. Churches join the Connection-Safe Families, which allows church families to host children in times of emergencies to include a surgery of the child's parent/s or caretaker, sudden travel requirements by the parent/s or caretaker, etc. The goal of the organization is to keep children out of Foster Care, place them in the community and support the children and their families during time of need.

Meeting with Mr. Dodson, Potential Commissioner Appointee: OCF Executive Director met with Mr. William Dodson at the recommendation of GOFBI Executive Director Kacy Bullard. Mr. Dodson is a candidate for appointment to the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood (Governor Appointment). OCF Executive Director looks forward to Mr. Dodson joining the Commission as the fifth Governor Appointee.

First Breath Initiative (FBI) Council Meeting: OCF Executive Director attended the quarterly FBI Council Meeting with various stakeholders in the community, focusing on pregnant women and homelessness. Executive Director was tasked with three follow-up activities: Provide the Franklin County PRC information guide that references rent payments, follow-up with Franklin Children Services regarding kinship care and rent payments and, lastly, provide the group with

OCF Executive Director Report April 2017-September 2017, continued

the PowerPoint presentation from the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio that was provided at the last COTA Mobility Board meeting.

Presentation to Delaware County Child Support: OCF staff traveled to Delaware County with State Office of Child Support staff to discuss opportunities to collaborate with prison Q&A presentations near Delaware County. Delaware County CSEA staff and State Office of Child Support staff discussed Delaware County Child Support procedures and documents.

Meeting with Scott Leach / New York City Fatherhood: OCF Executive Director met with New York City, NY Fatherhood Director, Mr. Scott Leach. The meeting focused on the structure and purpose of the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood as well as the various programs funded. Mr. Leach attended a subsequent meeting with Action for Children (funded by OCF) to talk with the Fatherhood practitioners delivering direct services to fathers and families in Central Ohio.

OCF Meetings, Outreach, Calls, Events & Projects

Region V Fatherhood Conference Call: OCF staff participated in the quarterly Region V Fatherhood Conference Call. Featured speakers included Franklin County Child Support Agency and Chicago Regional Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services of HHS. The speakers focused on Trauma Informed Care and the Opioid Epidemic.

Meeting with Thell Robinson: OCF Executive Director met with Mr. Thell Robinson from the Community House. Mr. Robinson works with young men in the community who are involved in reckless activity, which can be detrimental to their lives to include gang activity. Mr. Robinson inquired about resources for young men and fathers in Franklin County.

2018 Fatherhood Summit Teleconference: The 2018 Fatherhood Summit committee met to discuss: funding and focus, State Term venue locations, potential workshops and vendors for the 2018 Fatherhood Summit. The Summit committee selected May 23rd as the tentative date for the summit and discussed potentially scheduling a summit “kick-off” the evening of May 22nd. Future meetings will be scheduled to visit potential venues and compare pricing.

OCPIM and other OCF Infant Mortality Initiatives

OCPIM Quarterly Meeting: OCF and NBNF staff attended the quarterly OCPIM meeting at the Ohio Department of Transportation. The second half of the meeting provided time for Action Groups to meet and review strategies. The Fatherhood Action Group will continue the discussion during the upcoming phone conference, scheduled for Sept. 26th.

OCPIM (Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality) Fatherhood Workgroup: OCF Executive Director participated in a meeting with the Engaging and Empowering Fathers in Maternal, Child and Family Health OCPIM Action Group. The team met during the second half of the quarterly OCPIM meeting and discussed the action items under the current five strategies. The group also discussed a possible sixth strategy. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for the end of October/first of November to conclude the strategy discussion and update the co-chairs of the OCPIM Taskforce.

**OCF Executive Director Report
April 2017-September 2017, continued**

OCPIM (Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality) Fatherhood Workgroup Meeting:

OCF Executive Director co-facilitated the monthly OCPIM Fatherhood workgroup meeting where the members continued the discussion of the activities currently being implemented under the six Fatherhood strategies identified as part of the State Infant Mortality Reduction Plan. The workgroup completed discussing the activities under strategies 4, 5 and 6, respectively. Notes were provided to OCPIM co-chairs, Lisa Holloway and Dr. Arthur James.

Governor's Office Weekly Infant Mortality Call: OCF Executive Director participated in the weekly Infant Mortality call with ODH, ODM and the Governor's Office. The state team provides updates to the Governor's Office and specific action items are addressed. All ODJFS action items are closed to date. The group provided updates as related to the recent meetings in the OEI communities. OCF Executive Director provided an update on the recent Stark County IM THRIVE meeting and presentation

CUL/Moms2B Conversation Update: OCF/NBNF staff participated in a meeting between CUL and Action for Children to continue the discussion of implementing a contract for Action for Children to fund CUL to provide NBNF services to fathers connected to Moms2B, the OSU motherhood program.

CelebrateOne/State Team Meetings: OCF Executive Director participated in the State Team Infant Mortality Coalition meeting in Franklin County. Franklin County is one of the nine "hot spots" with high and disproportionate African-American Infant Mortality. Celebrate One was provided an opportunity to update the State Team (ODH, ODM, ODJFS and the Governor's Office) regarding how ODH and ODM Infant Mortality prevention dollars are being focused on various activities in the county.

Lucas County Infant Mortality Coalition Meeting: OCF Executive Director attended a series of meetings in Lucas County along with ODH and ODM staff to assist in developing a plan to address African-American Infant Mortality in Lucas County. With the release of the 2016 IM data, the rates are not going in the desired direction. Lucas County identified a leader of the local efforts along with a vision and mission statement. OCF Executive Director was tasked with reaching out to the Pathways Fatherhood Program Executive Director, Ms. Avis Files. Ms. Avis Files has been invited to the Bothers United infant mortality table.

Infant Mortality Meeting-ODJFS Human Services Innovation and ODH: OCF Executive Director facilitated a meeting with Human Services Innovation Director Doug Lumpkin and ODH Home Visiting Bureau Chief, Jye Breckenridge, and his supervisor Sandy Oxley. The discussion included a presentation by ODH regarding the centralized data collection tool currently being developed and how this tool can assist ODJFS in data measurements. Additionally, the group discussed how some of the requirements under CCMEP as it relates to pregnant young women could have a negative impact on Infant Mortality throughout the state. Work requirements for prenatal and postnatal high-risk women could lead to stress and be in violation of direct doctor's bed-rest orders as well as the inconsistent work requirements post-natal that exists throughout the state.

**OCF Executive Director Report
April 2017-September 2017, continued**

Meeting with Greater Good Ambassadors & Moms2B: OCF Executive Director facilitated a meeting with Stacy Yeager from Greater Good Ambassadors and Ms. Twinkle Schottke at the Franklinton Moms2B location (Mt Carmel West). The meeting included participation in the Sister/Brother Circle and a meeting afterward to discuss how Greater Good Ambassadors can connect pregnant women addicted to drugs/alcohol to the Moms2B Program.

ODH Conference Call to Release State Infant Mortality Numbers: OCF Executive Director participated in the state conference call to release the 2016 IM rates to the OCPIM membership. There is a slight increase in the IM rates in both Caucasian and African-American infants with 1,100 less births statewide. Positive news includes a decrease in sleep related deaths and an increase in African-American women breastfeeding.

Medicaid Funding Meeting at Celebrate One: OCF Executive Director participated in the meeting at the Jerry Hammond Building in Columbus. ODH and ODM provided information regarding the upcoming request for proposals due December 1, 2017 (recently changed to December 8th). Medicaid plans to fund the OEI (Ohio Equity Institute) communities, focusing on African-American Infant Mortality. Various community partners and stakeholders were provided an opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions.

THRIVE Community Advisor Committee Quarterly Meeting (Canton / Stark County): OCF Executive Director attended the Infant Mortality Coalition Community meeting in Canton. The Coalition leadership decided to focus on Fatherhood services that were funded under previous Medicaid dollars. Rob Pierson, Director of the Stark County Child Support Agency provided a presentation along with Mr. Shawn Crable and Gary Plauger from the Early Childhood Resource Center. The presentation included a special project focused on parenting time orders, Stark County demographics, the curricula provided to dads in Stark County (24/7 Dads and Dr. Dad) as well as the implementation of a Parent Café.

NBNF Meetings, Presentations, Trainings and Conference Calls

NBNF Biweekly Implementation Team Meeting: Staff met with the Implementation Team to discuss how to re-engage hospitals in starting Boot Camp for New Dads program, implementing changes to core fatherhood curriculum delivery as well as needed modifications to incentives. Next meeting will include a discussion regarding the referral and recruitment plans, getting surveys completed and changes to incentive waivers.

New Beginnings for New Fathers (NBNF) Implementation Team Meeting: OCF NBNF staff facilitated the NBNF Implementation Team meeting. The NBNF Project Manager selected various employees from the four partner Fatherhood organizations, representing various job descriptions, to meet monthly and discuss the successes, challenges and strategies of the NBNF project.

NBNF Biweekly Conference Call: Staff met with NBNF team to discuss inventory tracking, upcoming changes to *Efforts to Outcomes* case management system, implementation team discussions and share Fatherhood success stories.

**OCF Executive Director Report
April 2017-September 2017, continued**

NBNF Biweekly Conference Call: OCF staff met with NBNF team and discussed new time management tracking that will be implemented. All Fatherhood agencies are required to designate one person to be responsible to ensure all NBNF staff time is tracked on a weekly basis. The team also reviewed marketing processes related to social media updates and who at each agency will be responsible to ensure weekly updates are made. As a marketing tool, the NBNF partners were provided t-shirts and daddy back packs to provide to fathers enrolling or graduating from the program. State OCF/NBNF staff also want partner staff to wear the t-shirts to community events. Fatherhood agencies will be responsible for creating an excel spread sheet to track the back packs and t-shirts provided including sizes. The tracking will also assist when placing future orders. The team discussed program successes and recruitment strategy meetings that will be held with Public Strategies.

NBNF Monthly Managers Meeting: OCF NBNF staff facilitated a meeting with the leadership of the four partner Fatherhood organizations currently being funded by the NBNF federal grant. The team discussed various local site recruitment strategies as well as required report updates.

NBNF Subsidized Employment Meeting: Staff met with Fatherhood job developers to discuss the lack of participation in the subsidized employment program. Based on feedback received it was decided to end this part of the NBNF program due to lack of participation received from participants and employers. NBNF staff will, instead, focus on connecting fathers with existing programs like OJT, Workforce development, Job Corp and CCMEP to build referral relationships.

ACF HHS Monthly Call: Staff met with Health & Human Services Federal Program Specialist to discuss the year three budget, proposed changes to eliminate subsidized employment, and the proposed contract between AFC and CUL. The staff also reviewed outstanding questions related to implementing incentive plan changes and using Skype or Google to incorporate some fathers into monthly group cohorts.

HHS/ACF Monthly Call: OCF NBNF staff participated on the monthly HHS/ACF call with the assigned FPS (Federal Program Specialist). The staff discussed the pre-corrective action plan letter as well as outstanding inquiries that have been submitted to the FPS as well as the Technical Assistance team, Public Strategies. Responses as well as the Technical Assistance Plan will be discussed in more detail on Monday, October 30th during a scheduled call.

Ohio University Monthly Call - Updates and Continued Quality Improvement (CQI) Review: Staff met with Ohio University to discuss follow up from the NBNF annual training breakout sessions. Overall the breakout sessions were a big success and various topics were covered in the hour time frame. The team will have a wrap up session in the monthly case manager and job developer meetings next month to finish discussions and review handouts. The team also discussed time frame delivery of annual NBNF reports and the preliminary financial literacy data requested to determine the impact of the Money Smart (financial education) models provided by the Ohio State University Extension office.

Ohio University Monthly Call - Updates and Continued Quality Improvement Review: OCF staff discussed the annual report format and approach for reviewing the first full year of data

**OCF Executive Director Report
April 2017-September 2017, continued**

from the NBNF project. OCF/NBNF staff will analyze the data and use it to come up with an approach for CQI as the project moves into year three. Staff also discussed survey participation and Ohio University's next round of in-person site visits.

NBNF Job Developer Monthly Meeting: OCF NBNF staff project manager facilitated the NBNF Job Developer Monthly meeting, wrapping up the Annual Training (August 2017) discussion regarding challenges with drug use as well as the impact of bad decisions during employment.

Grantee Peer Conference Call (HMRF Grantees): Staff met with other Responsible Fatherhood Grantees to discuss challenges related to recruitment and how other states were implementing inventory control.

HMRF (Healthy Marriage Responsible Fatherhood) Federal Grant Peer to Peer Conference Call: OCF (Ohio Commission on Fatherhood) NBNF (New Beginnings for New Fathers) staff participated in the HMRF monthly conference call. The programs that participate on the calls are provided opportunities to share challenges, successes as well as make recommendations to each of the program directors.

Brothers United / Avis Files Meeting: OCF, NBNF staff as well as NBNF staff from Passages (Cleveland) were invited to visit the HMRF funded Fatherhood program in Toledo, OH, Passages Brothers United. Staff observed the morning programming and was provided an opportunity to sit with the project director and recruiter to discuss marketing, recruitment and retention strategies.

ULM (Urban Light Ministries) Training at Ohio Commission on Fatherhood: OCF/NBNF staff met with NBNF staff from ULM to review the NBNF program, process flow, and data entry using both the nFORM and ETO systems. Staff also reviewed the new data touchpoints that will launch in October 2017.

Action for Children Site Visit: Staff met with NBNF management team to discuss program changes being implemented in regards to the year three budget, incentive plan, new reduced weeks cohort model, annual inventory of equipment and supplies, as well as the recruitment plan and how AFC is implementing their strategic action plan.

Talbert House Site Visit: NBNF staff met with NBNF management team at Talbert House to discuss program changes being implemented in regards to the year three budget, incentive plan, new reduced weeks cohort model, annual inventory of equipment and supplies, recruitment plan and how Talbert House is implementing their strategic action plan. Also met new hire job developer staff member.

NBNF Sub-Grantee Passages Site Visit: OCF staff completed a site visit with Passages NBNF team in Cleveland, Ohio. The team reviewed the revised incentive plan, new cohort model and core curriculum being provided. Security protocol was discussed and reviewed, several small changes need to be incorporated into Passages' written plan. The team discussed NBNF inventory and the fact that Passages is required to account for an additional 100 porta-crib sets

OCF Executive Director Report April 2017-September 2017, continued

delivered to their agency. The team discussed the need for an updated recruitment plan, Dr. Moore is finalizing now. Staff reviewed Passages' strategic action plan, in which all three processes have been put into motion. The team also discussed the budget and the need to review on a quarterly basis to determine any needs for adjustments.

Love Notes Training Agenda Meeting: Staff met with Dibble Master trainer to discuss upcoming new staff training needs. Training dates were established for October 23&24 to provide newly hired staff with Love Notes core curriculum training.

OCDA (Ohio Child Support Director's Association) Presentation: OCF, NBNF staff and NBNF Action for Children staff provided a presentation at the OCDA Fall Conference. State NBNF Project Manager provided information on the structure, oversight and evaluation of the grant project. Action for Children provided the detailed service delivery implementation in Franklin County. The audience was provided an opportunity to ask questions about the Franklin County delivery as well as the service delivery in the four additional counties, Cuyahoga, Clark, Montgomery and Hamilton.

Be There Marketing Campaign Discussion and Review: OCF NBNF dollars purchased the "Be There" marketing campaign from NFI (National Fatherhood Initiative). Each of the four NBNF Fatherhood programs were provided a flash-drive and directions to make the marketing their own with the understanding that the state OCF and NBNF logos as well as the "Be There" logo are required messages on all marketing material. T-Shirts and daddy back-packs (various colors associated with each of the four partner agencies) have been ordered and delivered to the office with plans to distribute them during the upcoming Love Notes training in Columbus.

NBNF "Love Notes" Training: New NBNF sub-grantee staff attended a two-day *Love Notes* curriculum training. *Love Notes* is one of the required curricula for the grant. All NBNF staff are required to be trained in all service delivery curricula.

Initial Researcher II Interviews Meeting: OCF Executive Director and NBNF project manager met to review and discuss applicants for the vacant NBNF Researcher 2 position. After reviewing the applicants, the two of them decided the best applicants suited for the position and scheduled interviews for the weeks of November 6th and 13th.

NBNF Enrollment Progress: Since the beginning of the new FFY, the NBNF program has enrolled 25 fathers for the month of October 2017, and has a total enrollment of 325 since program start in July 2016. Action for Children has a total enrolled 68 fathers. Passages has a total enrollment of 139, Talbert House has 66 enrolled, and Urban Light Ministries has 52 fathers enrolled.

B3 / MDRC Meetings

MDRC / B3 / NBNF Monthly Update: OCF NBNF staff participated in the Building Bridges and Bonds (B3) Monthly update meeting. MDRC oversees the special federal B3 project at Passages (Cuyahoga County) tied to the New Beginnings for New Fathers grant. The monthly update meeting allows both projects to remain connected as well as troubleshoot any issues.

TANF Grantee Meetings, Events and Conference Calls

OCF TANF Grantee Orientation and Training: OCF staff provided an all-day training for the 2017-2019 TANF funded grantees. OCF staff reiterated contracted expectations for the grant, and provided extensive training on the Efforts to Outcomes (ETO) database. Grantees will be expected to keep track of client data with the system and it will also allow OCF staff to check progress and address any issues with the data.

Prison & Restored Citizen Outreach

Southeastern Correctional Complex Reentry Fair: OCF staff traveled to Fairfield for a prison reentry fair. OCF staff disseminated OCF material and spoke with soon-to-be restored citizens about fatherhood programs in their area, child support, paternity testing and other father specific information useful to the incarcerated fathers.

Madison Correctional Institution (MaCI) Reentry Fair: OCF staff attended a resource fair at MaCI. OCF staff disseminated OCF material and spoke with soon-to-be restored citizens about fatherhood programs in their area, child support, paternity testing and other father specific information useful to the incarcerated fathers.

Grafton Correctional Institution Q&A: OCF staff traveled with State Office of Child Support staff to GCI to conduct a question and answer session for the inmates. OCF staff disseminated OCF material and spoke with soon-to-be restored citizens about fatherhood programs in their area, paternity testing and other father specific information useful to the incarcerated fathers. State Office of Child Support staff discussed county child support policy and documents.

Warren Correctional Institution (WCI) Reentry Fair: OCF staff went to WCI to speak with soon-to-be released inmates about fatherhood resources and programming. OCF staff passed out information about TANF and HHS funded programming to fathers that met the criteria for each program.

Reentry Fair at Belmont Correctional Institution (BECI): OCF staff went to BECI to speak with soon-to-be released inmates about fatherhood resources and programming. OCF staff passed out information about TANF funded programming to fathers that met the criteria for each program.