

Executive Director Report November, December 2018, & January 2019

Funding

OCF Fiscal Funding Committee Review of OCF RFGA: OCF Staff met with OFA Fiscal staff and OCF commissioners who are on the Fiscal Funding Committee, Ann Ream, Chad Hibbs and later John Silverman. The OCF Fiscal Funding Committee reviewed, for feedback, the draft RFGA prior to the draft submission to ODJFS Office of Contracts and Acquisitions.

Call with Dr. Jessica Pearson Fathers Research and Practice Network (FRPN): OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with Dr. Pearson of FRPN regarding possibly modifying the time frame of the evaluation being conducted by Ohio University and expanding it from March 2019 thru June 2019. OCF would like to see the fourth quarter of the fiscal year included in the evaluation report. OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with staff from FRPN and Ohio University to discuss the progress of the secondary analysis of the data collected by the seven TANF funded Fatherhood grantee programs. FRPN funded OU to work with participant data in the ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) system. A final report will be provided by September 2019. OCF staff participated on a call with Dr. Spjeldnes regarding expanding the data collection time frame from March 2019 thru June 2019 to ensure a more thorough evaluation of the fathers served by the 7 TANF funded Fatherhood grantees. OU is open to the recommendation; however, the request must be approved by FRPN (Fatherhood Research and Practice Network). A call was scheduled for OCF Executive Director to discuss the option with Dr. Pearson of FRPN (Fatherhood Research and Practice Network).

General Fatherhood Outreach, Meetings and Phone Conferences

Conference Call with Chip Weiant: OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with Mr. Chip Weiant, longest serving member on the Governor's Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives (GOFBCI) regarding a meeting with the new GOFBCI Executive Director and the vision of OCF in the coming years.

Presentation at OCDA (Ohio Child Support Directors' Association) Membership Meeting: OCF Executive Director provided a presentation at the OCDA Membership meeting on the data collected from Dads by the 7 TANF funded Fatherhood programs. OCF Exec. Director also addressed the Informational Memorandum issued by HHS/ACF on October 17, 2018.

COTA Mobility Advisory Board (MAB) Meeting: OCF Executive Director attended the COTA (MAB) Mobility Advisory Board quarterly meeting where a new chair was voted in and members provided various updates from their respective organizations. Executive Director had a follow-up meeting with new COTA MAB member, Mr. Fred Points of Jewish Family Services. COTA staff provided a presentation on the various current projects and pending projects, to include an on-demand mobile app much like UBER and Lyft. MORPC (Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission) announced a new funding opportunity for organizations and agencies to provide mobile services to seniors and people with disabilities.

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Preparation Phone Conference with Aspen Institute’s ASCEND’s Fatherhood Convening Planner, Policy and Fatherhood Engagement in Washington, D.C.: OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with the planner and other plenary participants scheduled to present at the ASCEND’s Fatherhood Convening to be held on November 29, 2018. OCF Executive Director attended the ASCEND Fatherhood Convening Conference in Washington DC. The ASCEND organization was started by Jessica and Jerry Seinfeld 2001. OCF Executive Director participated in a panel discussion regarding Fatherhood and policy. The convening was well attended by academia, policy-makers, fathers and governmental agencies. Others were provided an opportunity to watch the day’s events via Facebook Live. OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with the Good Plus Foundation and ASCEND Fatherhood Convening staff regarding national policy as it relates to Fatherhood and Child Support. The team plans to begin working on a “white paper” to enhance or modify Child Support Policy that is more non-custodial parent friendly and inclusive.

Phone Conference/Meeting with Dr. Jean Wright, Director, (Behavioral Health and Justice Related Services Division, Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services in Philadelphia, PA): OCF Executive Director participated in a phone conference and met with Dr. Jean Wright at the Fatherhood Convening Conference held in Harrisburg, PA in October 2018. Dr. Wright was interested in hearing more about the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood, as well as, some of the work he implemented in Miami Valley, OH before moving to Philadelphia. OCF Executive Director met Dr. Wright at the Pennsylvania Fatherhood Summit in Harrisburg, PA. Dr. Wright was working with a non-profit organization in Miami Valley, Ohio focused on housing women who were in active addiction as they reconnect with their children and work on job skills and obtaining employment.

Meeting with Mr. Fred Points of Jewish Family Services: OCF Executive Director met with Mr. Fred Points of Jewish Family Services to discuss the services provided by the agency as well as the history and purpose of the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood. Mr. Points was also interested in reviewing various evidence-based Fatherhood curricula.

Presentation to the Central Ohio Parent Leadership Training Institute Cohort: OCF Executive Director attended and presented at the PLTI meeting at Asbury United Methodist Church in Columbus, OH. The PLTI are a group of community parents who commit to a 20-week training program regarding how to implement various projects in their neighborhoods for the betterment of their communities. PLTI invited Executive Director to the graduation, scheduled for March 31, 2019 at the State House.

Policy Meeting Arlington, VA: OCF Executive Director attended the HHS/Administration for Children and Families policy meeting in Arlington, VA. OCF Executive Director participated on the “Innovative Partnerships” panel with staff from Good Plus Foundation, National Fatherhood Initiative and Public Strategies.

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Conference Call with Mr. Anthony Slosser: OCF Executive Director spoke to Mr. Anthony Slosser regarding his challenging journey with Franklin County courts in obtaining and maintaining a relationship with his son. Mr. Slosser attended the most recent OCF Commission meeting in November 2018, where he voiced his concerns about the court system supporting the rights of fathers. A follow-up call regarding Mr. Slosser's November 29th hearing was scheduled for Monday, Dec. 3, 2018. OCF Executive Director spoke to Mr. Anthony Slosser regarding his hearing update. Mr. Slosser hearing was rescheduled to January 2019, and he plans to continue to update OCF regarding the outcome. Mr. Slosser appreciated the connection to Action for Children, and would consider joining the Fatherhood program, Father Factor, at a later.

Central Ohio Rotary Club Presentation: OCF Executive Director presented at the Central Ohio Rotary Club in the Short North. The presentation informed the attendees on the structure, purpose and activities of the Commission on Fatherhood. Attendees asked questions and various connections were made to include a request to provide blankets from "My Very Own Blanket" organization to fathers whose children are in foster care. The goal is for fathers to be able to provide blankets to their children. OCF Executive Director will connect the Central Ohio Rotary Club to Families and Children to ensure they are aware of the organization.

Conference Call with Idaho Senator Thayn and Former Idaho Senator, Mr. Durst: OCF Executive Director participated on a conference call with Senator Thayn and Mr. Durst from Idaho, who were interested in hearing more about the Commission's structure, funding and return on investment. OCF Executive Director forwarded the information from the Fatherhood Research and Practice Network regarding the \$10,000 grant award for states interested in mobilizing Fatherhood. Ohio's Senator Bill Beagle, the Commission's chair, also participated on the call.

Meeting with Alicia Wilkes, Columbus Urban League (CUL): OCF Executive Director met with Ms. Alicia Wilkes of the Columbus Urban League. Ms. Wilkes, who provided oversight to the CUL Fatherhood programs, has moved to a new position. Ms. Wilkes provided information on the CUL structure changes as well as the Youth and Fatherhood program changes. The "Choose2Change" (restored citizens) program is now under Workforce. The "Father2Father", "I am my Brother's Keeper" and the "Neighborhood Violence Prevention" programs are now under Youth & Family Empowerment Services. OCF staff attended the Columbus Urban League's AAMI (African-American Male Initiative) Fatherhood Graduation. Fathers who completed the Father2Father and Choose2Change programs were honored by their families and CUL staff as they received their certificates of graduation.

Health Policy Institute of Ohio Employment Workshop: OCF staff attended the Health Policy Institute of Ohio workshop in Dublin, OH. OCF staff connected with various organizations and explored state policy strategies that can strengthen support for Ohio learners and jobseeker, thereby increasing the likelihood that Ohioans with low incomes will find better employment opportunities and eventually become self-sufficient.

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Keys to Degrees Project Advisory Committee Interest Meeting (Sisters of Charity Foundation): OCF Executive Director participated on a conference call with Dr. Penny Smith, Project Manager of Keys to Degrees, which is a research project funded by Sisters of Charity in Cuyahoga County. Dr. Smith has been working with several community organizations and agencies throughout Ohio to develop technology (web-based tool) that will reduce childhood poverty by helping low-income fathers find and maintain, not only jobs, but careers.

Bi-monthly call with Job Developers: OCF staff led a conference call with all OCF TANF funded grantee job developers. The focus of the call was year-to-date data on fathers who listed needing help finding a job or a better paying job compared to fathers who received employment services and found jobs. Individual follow-up calls were held with grantees who could not participate in the group conference call.

Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative Conference Call with Steve Killpack and Coaches from OPNFF (Ohio Practitioners' Network for Fathers and Families): OCF staff participated on a conference call with Steve Killpack and coaches from OPNFF to discuss updating the PowerPoint presentation to be used during the Mobilization kick-off webinar. The Ohio County Fatherhood Mobilization project consisted of four counties Morgan, Ross, Scioto and Warren. The webinar was held on January 30, 2019. OCF Staff and Steve discussed and provided the names of the assigned coaches for the Ohio County Fatherhood Mobilization project. OCF staff will facilitate a phone conference with the four coaches to ensure consistency throughout the project. Scheduled a webinar with the four County Contacts and OPNFF Coaches and they provided an overview of the Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative process.

Phone Conference with NFI's (National Fatherhood Initiative's) President and CEO, Chris Brown: OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with NFI President and CEO, Chris Brown regarding the domestic violence (DV) curriculum, "Understanding Domestic Violence". OCF staff are interested in the SFY 20/21 grantees implementing a consistent DV curriculum, infused with their respective evidence-based Fatherhood curriculum. OCF Executive Director vetted the request through ODJFS/Office of Contracts and Acquisitions, and approval has been received.

Conference Call with Ohio Head Start Association Staff: OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with Ohio Head Start Association's Director of Professional Development, Ms. Julie Stone. Ms. Stone was interested in offering Fatherhood breakout session at the upcoming Ohio Head Start Association Conference, scheduled May 12-14, 2019. OCF Executive Director also provided the names of Steve Killpack (Ohio Practitioners' Network for Fathers and Families), and Shawn Crable (Stark County Early Childhood). OCF Executive Director, Dr. Solveig Spjeldnes, and Mr. Sean Crable provided a three-hour breakout session that will include policy, research and practice as it relates to fathers and children in Head Start.

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Meeting with Angela Thompson of CareSource: OCF staff met with Life Coach in JobConnect Ohio program to learn more about how the program works and the possibility of referring eligible fathers for services.

National Fatherhood Stakeholder Meeting Innovative Partnerships Conference Prep Call with Deloitte: OCF Executive Director participated on a conference call with staff from Deloitte and others scheduled to participate on the “Innovative Partnerships” panel at the HHS/Administration for Children and Families Fatherhood policy meeting in Arlington, VA.

State Agency Collaboration

Office of Families and Children (OFC) Hope Banquet: OCF Executive Director attended the HOPE Banquet, hosted by OFC. Various foster family advocates and supporters attended and provided messages of thanks and hope for families involved in the foster care system. Foster parents and organizations received pertinent information and heard compelling stories from foster parents who were once involved in fulfilling plans as required by Children Services to now supporting and advocating for foster parents.

Child Support Workgroup Meeting: OCF Executive Director participated in the quarterly Child Support Strategic Workgroup at the SOT. Various staff from ODJFS/Office of Child Support, as well as directors from metro, large, medium and small county child support agencies discussed strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to Ohio’s Child Support program. Teams were created to focus on specific topics. The workgroup discussed the items listed under the S.W.O.T. analysis, specifically focusing on the weaknesses and opportunities. The group categorized the list into a more condensed list by combining various S.W.O.T. items under four specific categories.

Meeting with Tom Hutter (OWD) Regarding Dr. Penny Smith (Keys to Degrees): OCF Executive Director met with Tom Hutter from Workforce-OMJ discussed the upcoming meeting with Dr. Penny Smith with Keys to Degrees. Dr. Smith conducted research to develop a mobile application that will assist non-custodial parents with parenting and employment. Dr. Smith connected with Fatherhood programs and local Child Support Agencies in Cuyahoga, Franklin and Stark counties.

Meeting with ODRC Southwest Regional Administrator, Darryl Graves: OCF Executive Director met with Mr. Darryl Graves, ODRC Southwestern Regional Administrator regarding plans to implement a Human Trafficking prevention event replicated from the event held at the Fairfield Medical Center. Mr. Graves highlighted various topics presented at the summit and discussed options regarding how to begin preparation. OCF Executive Director participated on a webinar and provided a presentation regarding the OCF SFY Annual Report data. The PowerPoint included data regarding fathers served by the seven TANF funded Fatherhood programs and included topics such as demographics, child support collections, to include first time payers, outcomes and quotes from dads.

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November 15, 2018 OCF Commission Meeting Update: OCF Executive Director, staff, Commissioners, and guest attended the November 15, 2018 Commission Meeting. The attendees heard presentations from the ODH Director, Mr. Lance Himes, a representative from the Clinton County DADZ program, and the TANF funded Fatherhood program, The Centers for Families and Children from Cuyahoga County. The Commissioners also celebrated Senator Bill Beagle and thanked him for his support.

TANF Grantee Meetings, Events and Conference Calls

Region V Empowering Fatherhood Conference Webinar on January 8, 2019: OCF Executive Director facilitated a call with Ms. Lois Rakov and the Ohio team who presented during the Region V Fatherhood Webinar on January 8, 2019. The Ohio presenters included Stark County Child Support/Fatherhood Coalition, Child Protective Services and Health as it relates to Infant Mortality Prevention; (Matthew Lytle), Passages/Cuyahoga, Lorain and Portage counties (Dr. Brian Moore), Talbert House/Hamilton County (Harold Howard) and ForeverDads/Muskingum County (Burl Lemon). Region V HHS/ACF staff opened the webinar by referencing the Father Engagement Informational Memorandum issued by HHS/ACF in October 2018. The group had a conference call to discuss the PowerPoint presentation.

Update on Fatherhood Staff Changes at AFC (Action for Children): OCF Executive Director attended a meeting at Action for Children where leadership staff provided information on the changes in the Father Factor staff and management. The changes take effect immediately. OCF Director and staff traveled to AFC to meet with Judy Williams and Ashiko Hudson to review Efforts to Outcomes reports and data trends from July 1, 2018- Dec 31, 2018, the first 6 months of the final fatherhood grant year. The purpose of the meeting was to identify positive trends and adjust where needed. Also reviewed grant requirements because Ashiko and Judy replaced previous program managers as of December 18th.

Coleman Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from Coleman's Fatherhood program to discuss the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

ForeverDads Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from ForeverDads Fatherhood program to discuss the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

Noble Corrections Inside-Out Dads Graduation Hosted by ForeverDads: ForeverDads invited OCF Executive Director to provide comments at the Noble Corrections Inside-Out Dads graduation ceremony as the Commencement Speaker. United Healthcare sponsored the food and

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various community volunteers assisted with other supports. OCF Executive Director sent a “Thank You” email to Noble Correctional Facility’s Warden, Mr. Tim Buchanan.

The Centers for Families and Children Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from the Centers for Families and Children’s Fatherhood program, FAFT (Fathers and Families Together) to discuss the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

GLCAP Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from GLCAP’s Fatherhood program to discuss the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

Passages Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from Passages’ Fatherhood program and discussed the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

Talbert House Midyear Review Conference Call: OCF staff participated in a conference call with staff from the Talbert House’s Fatherhood program to discuss the data collection successes and challenges SFY 2019 midyear. OCF staff connected with all seven grantees to ensure that ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) data is correctly reflected in the system.

Monthly Conference Call with Program Managers: OCF staff facilitated the monthly OCF TANF funded program managers call, which allows program managers from the seven funded programs, Ohio University staff and OCF staff an opportunity to discuss successes, challenges as well as any modifications necessary to ensure effective and efficient programming across all components of the grant requirements. Staff from ODJFS/Office of Families and Children joined the call to discuss the programs and how they can assist OFC and the local Children Services agencies with fulfilling the requirements of engaging fathers in case plans.

Bi-monthly Conference Call with OCF Funded Fatherhood Grantee Case Workers: OCF Staff conducted a call with the TANF funded Fatherhood grantee staff in the role of case workers. The team discussed data trends in ETO (Efforts to Outcomes) and ensured the data collection process is up-to-date.

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Ohio Collaborative to Prevent Infant Mortality (OCPIM) and other OCF Infant Mortality Initiatives

Bi-weekly Infant Mortality Call: OCF Executive Director participated on the bi-weekly Infant Mortality call with ODM, ODH and the Governor's Office. OCF Executive Director provided an update on the connection between Birthing Beautiful Communities and Passages Fatherhood program. ODH Director Lance Himes provided information from the official 2017 Infant Mortality report. OCF Executive Director provided an update regarding the OCPIM State Summit that occurred in Cincinnati and attended two of the four Fatherhood breakout sessions.

OCPIM Executive Steering Committee Meeting Conference Call: OCF Executive Director participated on the OCPIM Executive Steering Committee conference call. The OCPIM leadership team heard presentations from the OCPIM co-chairs regarding a regional approach to OCPIM. A draft of a five-region map was provided, and the OCPIM Executive Committee provided feedback and asked a series of questions. The co-chairs reviewed the OPQC (Ohio Perinatal Quality Committee) six-region map and considered changing the OCPIM draft five-region map to correlate with the OPQC map. Various members of the Exec. Committee provided updates. The OCPIM Co-chair, Dr. Stacy Scott, provided updates on the upcoming OCPIM Summit, scheduled for Dec. 11th and 12th as well as plans for the dissolving of the action groups. OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with Steve Killpack of OPNFF (Ohio Practitioners' Network for Fathers and Families) to discuss the action group documents related to strategy successes and challenges and due back to the Ohio Department of Health by December 1, 2018.

WIC Breast Feeding Summit Conference Call: OCF Executive Director participated on the Breast-Feeding Summit committee conference call with ODH/WIC Program staff and other state and county stakeholders and partners. The group focused on various strategies to promote breastfeeding throughout the state. OCF Executive Director reached out to Steve Killpack of OPNFF (Ohio Practitioners' Network for Fathers and Families) regarding the inclusion of Fatherhood strategies in the Ohio's First Steps project to eliminate duplicated efforts. Mr. Killpack forwarded information and resources developed for fathers under the project.

Conference Call with Birthing Beautiful Communities (Cuyahoga County): OCF Executive Director participated on a phone conference with Ms. Christin Farmer and Mr. Donnell (Neal) Hodges. Ms. Farmer provided information regarding the Doula program and the newly implemented Doula and Dude'La programs (supports fathers during childbirth), which was led by Mr. Neal Hodges and was introduced to others during the OCPIM State Summit. OCF Executive Director facilitated a meeting between Mr. Hodges and Dr. Brian Moore of Passages in Cleveland on December 5, 2018. OCF Executive Director attended a meeting at Passages in Cleveland to connect the Birthing Beautiful Communities, Doula and Dude'La programs to staff at the Passages, Connecting Fathers and Families program. Each program worked together to ensure that expectant fathers and fathers of infants are supported with community resources.