

**Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Minutes from the Meeting of Thursday, Feb. 13, 2014**

Attendance	
Commissioners	<p> Senator Bill Beagle Deputy Director Kara Bertke-Wente Ms. Carri Brown Mr. Cedric Collins Representative Tim Derickson Mr. Chad Hibbs Mr. John Hurley Mr. Thomas Joyce Mr. Steven Killpack Dr. Randy Leite Representative Jeffrey McClain Mr. Scott Neely Mr. Luis Vazquez Representative Roland Winburn </p>
Designees of Commissioners	<p> Tracy Ensign for Kim Hettel Carrie Arblaster for Senator Eric Kearny </p>
Guests	<p> Director Gary Mohr, ODRC* Rona Dorsey, ODRC Gayle Bickle, ODRC Kathy Lamb, ODRC Jodi Starr, ODRC </p> <p> Jeffrey Wynnyk, ODH, Help Me Grow* Cassandra Holloway, ODH, Help Me Grow </p> <p> Dana Wright, Action for Children* Paul Williams, Action for Children* Glenn, Harris, Action for Children* Carlos, Christian, Starts Within Organization* </p> <p> Barry Sheets, The Ridge Project Matthew Cunningham, ODJFS, TANF </p>

OCF Staff	Director Kimberly Dent Ms. Monica Mahoney		
I. Call to Order & Welcome New Commissioners			
10:00 to 10:05	Senator Bill Beagle		
II. ODRC Fatherhood Initiatives			
10:05-10:45	Director Gary Mohr		
Discussion	Power Point presentation (PPP) was not working due to technical difficulties. Director Mohr offered to return and present at a future commission meeting. PPP posted on OCF website following the meeting.		
Questions	N/A		
Action Items	Person	Deadline	
N/A			
III. OCF Grantee: Action for Children			
10:45-11:05	Glenn Harris, Carlos Christian, Paul Williams & Dana Wright		
Discussion	Action for Children (AFC) is one of the six current grantees selected for funding by OCF. They serve fathers in central Ohio in Franklin, Fairfield, Delaware, Licking, Madison, Union, Marion and Pickaway Counties. Dana Wright, Director of Parent Services, spoke about the history and services provided by AFC. Glenn Harris, Paul Williams and Carlos Christian spoke about AFC's fatherhood programming. Williams and Christian were both formally incarcerated. Williams graduated from a fatherhood program and now is a fatherhood coach with ACF. Christian started his own fatherhood program called, "Starts Within" which works with incarcerated fathers as a subcontractor with AFC. PPP posted on OCF website following the meeting.		
Questions	N/A		
Action Items	Person	Deadline	
N/A			
IV. Help Me Grow			
11:05-11:15	Jeffrey Wynnyk, Home Visiting Program Mgr.		

Discussion	Jeffrey Wynnyk, Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program Manager spoke about their home visiting program. PPP posted on OCF website following the meeting		
Questions	Representative Winburn asked if Help Me Grow has data on the number of fathers involved in the program. Wynnyk said he would provide that information to the Commission.		
Action Items		Person	Deadline
Obtain data on number of fathers served by Help Me Grow		Monica Mahoney	4/17/14
In SFY 2013			
PROGRAM	FAMILY COUNT	FATHERS/PRIMARY CAREGIVER	
Help Me Grow	8125	107	
Maternal, Infant, Early Childhood Home Visiting (federal program)	1069	8	
V. Action Items			
11:15-11:35	Senator Bill Beagle		
Discussion			
1. Senator LaRose's bill: still not ready for review			
2. OSU proposal for collaboration with the Commission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monica Mahoney mentioned that OCF hired an outside evaluator, Dan Houston & Associates, to assist in data analysis of grantees' programs for the 2013 annual report. Perhaps OCF could work directly with a university who has professors with expertise and interest in data from responsible fatherhood programs. Steve Killpack pointed out that the RFGA for the last evaluator had a requirement that the vendor be a Minority owned Business Enterprise which is a decision made by ODJFS Office of Contracts and Acquisitions. Randi Leite noted that there are many good universities that would be potential partners with OCF including Ohio University. Kim Dent said she thinks we should continue to issue RFGAs so we give all universities an equal opportunity to apply. 			
3. OCF Mission Statement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New language was selected by the commissioners through online voting: Our mission is to enhance the well-being of Ohio's children by providing opportunities for fathers to become better parents, partners and providers. 			
Questions	N/A		
Action Items		Person	Deadline
N/A			

VI. Legislation		
11:35-11:45	Dan Fitzpatrick, ODJFS Office of Legislation	
	Dan Fitzpatrick, Director of ODJFS Office of Legislation was scheduled to speak in response to the question that arose during the Nov. 13 commission meeting about whether the Commission could endorse or oppose specific legislation. He did not attend the commission meeting. However, Director Dent spoke with Fitzpatrick and he recommended the following:	
Discussion	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is ok to track legislation. Fitzpatrick offered to assist with this. 2. It is ok to provide feedback to legislation when requested (i.e., Senator LaRose's bill). However, if there is pending legislation that we believe will be helpful or harmful to fathers and we have not been asked to provide feedback, we should have conversation with Fitzpatrick before reaching out. 3. OCF can neither endorse nor oppose legislation. 4. It is ok to attend an Interested Parties Meeting to receive information. 	
Questions	Commissioner Vazquez asked whether Dent could testify on behalf of the Commission during interested party hearings. Chairman Beagle said that would be appropriate.	
Action Items	Person	Deadline
Follow up with Fitzpatrick to see if Director Dent could testify on behalf of the Commission during interested party hearings.	Kimberly Dent	4/17/14
VII. Approval of Nov. 13 Minutes		
11:45-11:47	Senator Bill Beagle	
Discussion	The minutes from November 13 were approved as submitted.	
VIII. Executive Director's Report		
11:47-11:55	Director Kimberly Dent	
Discussion	Director Dent provided a written report summarizing OCF staff's activities from November 2013 to January 2104. Dent also shared a report on preliminary data from OCF grantees. Both reports are posted on the OCF website	
IX. Announcements & New Business		
11:55-12:00		

Discussion	Commissioner Carri Brown highlighted the findings from the National Health Statistics December 20, 2013 Report on Fathers' Involvement with their Children. The report is posted on the OCF website.
X. Adjournment	
12:15	Next meeting April 17