

**Ohio Commission on Fatherhood (OCF)
Executive Director Report
January-April 2013**

OCF Grantees

Grantee Conference Calls and Monthly Meeting: In addition to monthly conference calls with mandatory participation by all grantees, OCF staff convened an in person grantee meeting in order for Dan Houston & Associates to provide training to all OCF grantees on the new assessment tool.

RFPs and Contracts

OCF Evaluator: OCF staff met staff members of Dan Houston and Associates to finalize evaluation tools and additional software needed to run comparative analysis. OCF staff is scheduled for training on software to run preliminary data analysis.

Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative Webinar: OCF staff met with OPNFF (Ohio Practitioner's Network for Fathers and Families) and all five counties on a webinar regarding expectations for the program and the timeline as it relates to the project plan.

Ohio County Initiative Training: OCF staff met with OPNFF (Ohio Practitioner's Network for Fathers and Families) regarding the timeline as it relates to the plan and contract. In March, OCF staff met with OPNFF (Ohio Practitioner's Network for Fathers and Families) and all five counties for a one day workshop on how to explore resources and opportunities in their respective counties and various assessments to conduct.

2014-2015 Fatherhood Grantee Request for Grant Application (RFGA): OCF staff met with TANF staff Matthew Cunningham, Sue Cook and Krista Kinchen to continue discussions regarding what should be included in RFGAs that will be released during the next biennium. The new 2014-2015 RFGA will be released any day now.

Meeting with OCS (Office of Child Support) Deputy Director Regarding Tracking of Child Support Payments for next RFGA – OCF staff met with the OCS Deputy Director to discuss a way to capture payments made by fathers who are in the Child Support system and enrolled in the Responsible Fatherhood programs funded by OCF. This is not scheduled to take place until the next round of funding (SFY 14 and 15).

Collaboration Station Pilot: OCF staff has convened with Cheryl Smith from collaboration Station in Trumbull County to test a pilot offering service for father who has children with disabilities. This is a deliverable base contract that disburses fund when Collaboration Station completes the following deliverables: 1.) Serve 30 fathers who have child/ren with disabilities; 2.) Provide a comprehensive report with key findings from the 30 fathers served; 3.) Develop an information packet that can be shared with fathers who have children with disabilities around the state to increase their involvement with their children; and 4.) Report findings on the potential impact a project of this type can have on a larger scale.

OCF Executive Director Report January-April 2013, continued

County Meetings

Stark County Fatherhood Coalition Meeting: OCF staff traveled to Trumbull County to Participate in the Trumbull County Fatherhood Coalition monthly meeting. They were interested in discussing the challenges that the coalition faces regarding the absence of a full-time county fatherhood liaison as well as marketing and awareness.

Muskingum County Fatherhood Event (Forever Dads): OCF staff attended the “ForeverDads Tribute to Fatherhood” event held in Zanesville on March 14th. Five community fathers were honored.

Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative: Lake, Perry, Cuyahoga and Hamilton Counties held Fatherhood Community Conversations. The conversations were facilitated by OPNFF Project Team Members contracted by OCF. The facilitator led participants in a series of questions and discussions around fatherhood. Among other things, the conversations produced information regarding perceptions about fathers and identified the Greater Purpose Statement and the thing their counties want to avoid.

The Lucas County Fatherhood Community Conversation is schedule for April 26.

Prison Outreach

Richland Correctional Facility: OCF staff participated in the Richland Correctional Facility Re-entry Resource Fair and shared information with inmates on responsible fatherhood, resources available once released and changes to collateral sanction laws.

Richland Correctional Facility: OCF staff visited Richland Correctional Institution to present on responsible fatherhood. Staff conducted workshops for inmates covering topics such as child support, father engagement and how to stay connected to their child/ren.

Warren Correctional Facility: OCF staff participated in the Warren Correctional Re-entry Resource Fair and shared information with inmates about responsible fatherhood, resources available once released and changes to collateral sanction laws.

Building Assets for Fathers & Families (BAFF)

Regional Trainings: OCF staff participated in several BAFF regional trainings. These regional trainings provide program cross-training to Assets for Independence and Child Support professionals as well as fatherhood practitioners.

Conference calls: OCF staff participated in the monthly Advisory Board conference calls with Ohio BAFF leadership team. In addition, OCF staff participated in a phone conference with Hamilton County JFS regarding the BAFF Public Service Announcement developed by the Office of Communications. The PSA will be aired on local radio stations and target fathers and Child Support obligors. OCF staff also met to discuss development of Ohio BAFF manual.

**OCF Executive Director Report
January-April 2013, continued**

Federal

Meeting with Office of Child Support Policy: OCF staff met with OCS Policy staff regarding PIQ-12-02 from the Federal Office of Child Support. The PIQ describes certain uses of IV-D (Child Support) Funding for activities outside of the typical IV-D functions (paternity establishment, support establishment, locate, enforcement, etc.). Guidance was provided in preparation for the upcoming Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative meeting scheduled for March 8th at the Air Center.

Other Meetings of Note

Teen/Young Adult Stakeholder Meeting (Fairfield County): OCF staff participated in a stakeholder meeting discussion on the needs of fathers in Fairfield County. Action for Children, a program funded by OCF, has begun services (Father Factor and Mothers Matter) in Fairfield County. The group also discussed a Fairfield/Franklin Fatherhood Summit, scheduled for June 14th at Nationwide Children's Hospital.

PTOC 12: OCF staff participated in the Parenting Time Opportunities for Children in Child Support (PTOC) monthly steering committee meeting. Meeting consisted of subcommittee updates and next steps for the grant.