

**Ohio Commission on Fatherhood
Minutes from the Meeting of Thursday, September 24, 2015**

Attendance	
Commissioners	<p> Senator Bill Beagle Representative Michael Ashford Ms. Kara Bertke-Wente Director Susan Brown Representative Nicholas Celebrezze Mr. Jamoya Cox Director Kim Hettel Mr. Chad Hibbs Representative Stephen Huffman Mr. Scott Neely Ms. Ann Ream Mr. Socrates Tuch Mr. Luis Vazquez Mr. Tarik White </p>
Presenters	<p> Mr. Erik Vecere, National fatherhood Initiative Ms. Judy Williams, Action for Children Ms. Dana Wright, Action for Children </p>
Guests	<p> Kevin Conwell, former OCF commissioner Robert Cummings, Cincinnati Community Action Agency Nick Derksen, LA Rep Huffman Beth Incorvaia, Fathers Right Organization Ryan Miday, Center for Families and Children Sam Smith, LA Rep Hayes Eric Wagner, Single Dads United Eli Williams, Fatherhood Clark County </p>
OCF Staff	<p> Director Kimberly Dent Ms. Monica Mahoney </p>

I. Call to Order & Welcome New Commissioners	
10:00 to 10:10	Senator Bill Beagle
Senator Beagle welcomed our guests, called the meeting to order, and introduced new commissioners: Rep. Nicholas Celebrezze and Ms. Ann Ream.	
II. Approval of Minuets	
10:10-10:15	Senator Bill Beagle
The minutes from April 23, 2015 were approved as submitted.	
III. OCF Grantee, Action for Children	
10:15-10:45	Judy Williams & Dana Wright
<p>Judy Williams and Dana Wright from Action for Children presented the grantee report for the Father Factor program. The Power Point presentation can be found on the OFC website.</p> <p>Topics covered in the presentation include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information about Actin for Children; 2. Counties where services offered and community partners; 3. Father Factor program components and curriculum; 4. Case management and coaching support protocol ; 5. Accomplishment from July 2014 through June of 2015; 6. Class participation percentages; 7. New initiatives, program strengths and challenges; and 8. Highlights and success stories. 	
IV. National Fatherhood Initiative Curriculum: Understanding Dad	
10:45-11:10	Erik Vecere
<p>Erik Vecere gave a presentation on the NFI Curriculum, “Understanding Dad”. His presentation addressed why moms are so critical to responsible fatherhood programs. His Power Point presentation can be found on the OFC website.</p> <p>The presentation covered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The benefits of having moms understand the importance in the lives of children of active and responsible fathers; 2. The definition, behavioral aspects, affects and reasons for maternal “Gatekeeping”; 3. Barriers dads face with moms; 4. Implementation of curriculum; and 5. Resources for moms. 	
V. Legislative Update	
11:10-11:35	Deputy Director Dan Fitzpatrick and Commissioner Kara Bertke-Wente
<p>ODJFS Deputy Director for Legislation provided information on the TANF reauthorization and the elements of the reauthorization that ODJFS Director Cynthia Dungey emphasized in her testimony before the US House Ways and Means Committee, Subcommittee on Human Resources on July 15, 2015.</p>	

V. Legislative Update (continued)

TANF Expires on September 30, 2015. Congress must act to extend or reauthorize the program. This is an opportunity for actual bi-partisan reform. ODJFS believes that two major obstacles to self-sufficiency must be addressed: Work participation rates are process measures focused on attendance, not outcomes; and currently strict federal rules, not individual needs, drive work activities.

Ohio's biennial budget bill included a new program that will integrate components of the Ohio Works First TANF program with the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to create a better coordinated, person centered case management system.

ODJFS Recommendations regarding TANF Reauthorization:

1. Remove the distinction between "core" and "non-core" activities.
2. Increase the vocational education training time limit from 12 to 36 months.
3. Increase job search and job readiness time limits from six to 12 weeks, and remove the four-consecutive week limit.
4. Remove the 16-hour monthly cap on good-cause hours (but maintaining the 80 - hour annual cap) credited toward work participation.

In response to US Representative Danny Davis's request that the Commission support Julia Carson Responsible Fatherhood and Healthy Families Act (HR 3005) that he reintroduced this Congress, Mr. Fitzpatrick suggests that the Commission neither support nor oppose the legislation but instead focus on specific provisions of the proposed bill that align with Ohio's interests.

VI. Report from the Director

11:40-11:55 Director Kimberly Dent

Director Dent shared her report of the work accomplished by OCF staff since the last OCF meeting in February. The Director's Report is posted on the OCF website.

Items of note that Director Dent spoke about include:

1. OFC Grantees by the numbers
2. Federal Grant: New Beginnings New Fathers
3. State Fatherhood Summit May/2016
4. Safe Sleep report - Socrates will present at the next OFC meeting - father involvement decreases the chances of a child living until one year of age.
5. Kim asked 2-3 commissioners to volunteer to select champions with OPNFF Board (Scott and Luis)
6. Cost of Summit: In 2014 the summit was free to attend but the cost of food was excessive. A proposed cost of \$50 per person for the summit in 2016 would offset the excessive balance.
7. The OPNFF board has pledged \$100 per person. This needs to be an agenda item.
8. OCPIM handout
9. Kim attended a seminar in Maryland on Fathers' Health
10. Kim will do a Power Point at a future OFC meeting that will include the list of prisons served

VII. Adjournment

12:00 Meeting Adjourned