

# Beyond Blame

Program	Description and Details
<p><b>Returning Hearts Celebration</b></p> <p>Contact Information <a href="mailto:awanalifeline@awana.org">awanalifeline@awana.org</a> Phone: 630-213-2000</p>	<p><b>The Returning Hearts Celebration</b> rewards well-behaved fathers in maximum-security prisons with opportunity to restore relationships with their children. The annual event is a carnival of sorts for dads and their kids, held on the prison grounds.</p> <p>This is an annual event on the prison grounds that unites children and their inmate fathers for an unforgettable day of games, food, relationship building and Bible teaching. For one day each year, fathers have the opportunity to teach their kids about the Savior who offers freedom from sin and the cycle of crime and can be real dads to their children without a wall to separate them.</p> <p><b>Returning Hearts Celebration scheduled for March 28 at Angola</b> The annual event, which reunites kids with their inmate dads for a special day of fun and reconciliation, is slated for Saturday, March 28 at Louisiana State Penitentiary. <b>Volunteer training will take place on Friday, March 27.</b></p> <p><b>Sixty-Four Kids Led to Christ by Their Inmate Fathers at Hunt Correctional Center!</b> A total of 64 children accepted Christ as their Savior at the Returning Hearts Celebration at the Hunt Correctional Center in St. Gabriel, Louisiana. The first of its kind at this prison, the event attracted 68 fathers, 110 kids and 85 volunteers. This is just the beginning! Many are looking forward to participating in the Malachi Dads program at Hunt.</p> <p><b>Forty Kids Trust Christ at Avoyelles Correctional Center!</b> Forty-three inmate fathers waited anxiously to get an anticipated smile and a hug from their children. Sixty-eight kids enjoyed a day of games, hot dogs, balloons and time with dad. Thirty-five of the dads shared the gospel with their children, and 40 kids accepted Christ! Awana Lifeline is making a difference!</p>

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	<p>In 2007, the Returning Hearts event at Louisiana State Penitentiary attracted over 600 volunteers from churches in 21 states.</p> <p>Phil Zilinski from Fox Valley Baptist Church in Dundee, Illinois. "As a pastor it has been refreshing to see men who want to take the responsibility of fatherhood seriously again,"</p>
<p><b>Malachi Dads</b></p> <p>Contact Information  <a href="mailto:awanalifeline@awana.org">awanalifeline@awana.org</a>  Phone: 630-213-2000</p>	<p>This is a 52-week discipleship program for fathers in prison. Inmates attend weekly meetings, write regular letters to their children (including their testimonies), work on a GED, begin a vocational program, attend a weekly church service within the prison, and memorize Psalm 1—all with the support and supervision of local church volunteers.</p> <p><b>Malachi Dads Pledge</b>  <i>As a Malachi Dad, I solemnly pledge to glorify God and build His kingdom by prioritizing the raising of godly children, first in my family, then in the influencing of other men to do the same in theirs. I firmly believe that my transformed life in Christ — my life of integrity, pursuit of this vision and the pursuit of godly character — will allow me to impact my children, family and others toward this end. I will practice a life of daily discipline and dependence on God through prayer and the study of God’s Word for the wisdom in how to nurture my children in the admonition of the Lord. I will pursue this endeavor for a lifetime whether my children are in my home or not. Finally, I believe that my end goal is not only for my children to walk in the Lord but that this God-given vision would impact multiple generations to come. So help me God.</i></p>
<p><b>Faith Connections</b></p> <p>Contact Information  Rev. Roy Falgout  Faith Community Coordinator  Wilson County Dept. of Social Services</p>	<p>Faith Connections is an interdenominational, faith-based program in Wilson North Carolina that works with government agencies to provide assistance to working families. The program is Wilson’s first collaborative program linking churches and pastors to those with needs unmet through public assistance. Faith Connections was designed by the Wilson County Department of Social Services (DSS) and is an accessible call-in resource.</p>

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<p>252-206-4000</p>	<p>The program is staffed by local pastors who have acquired training from DSS and serve as volunteers receiving requests from individuals over the phone lines. Program goals are to assist working families by providing the resources needed to maintain employment while supporting the unemployed with provisions to help them manage from week to week.</p> <p>Faith Connections is often a service to individuals unable to access assistance from DSS. The program has provided individuals with computers donated by a local organization, clothing items, cars, car repairs and financial assistance averaging 50 – 100 dollars. In addition, pastors provide counseling services and link recipients to local churches while strengthening the faith-based community in the Wilson area.</p> <p><b>Results and/or Performance Measures:</b>  Since the program initially began, 10 pastors and 14 churches have participated in Faith Connections. The program has received national recognition and is part of a research project by the Charitable Choice Institute at the State University in New York.</p>
<p><b>Kairos Horizon</b></p> <p>Contact Information  Ike Griffin, Executive Director  Kairos Horizon Communities in Prison  130 University Park Drive, Suite 170  Winter Park, FL 32792</p>	<p>This community-based organization receives funding from fatherhood commissions, state Dept. of Corrections, local churches, individuals, and foundations.</p> <p><b>Clientele/Population Served:</b>  Incarcerated parents and their families; Kairos is active in most states</p> <p><b>Mission/Goal of the Program:</b>  To provide a year-long series of community-led, rehabilitative programs promoting personal responsibility, family responsibility, and employability, in a faith-based, residential community in prison. A focus on fatherhood is maintained throughout the year(in men's units.)</p> <p><b>Programs/Services Offered:</b></p>

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	<p>Active in 3 states in 2002, programs include community mentoring, anger-management, communication and relationship skills, parenting and fatherhood programs; Crown Financial Ministries, faith-specific studies, a Family Day, letter-writing, and computer skills.</p> <p><b>Results and/or Performance Measures:</b>  Quantitative: reduction of disciplinary infractions and reduced recidivism. Qualitative: family restorations, testimonies of work supervisors, families members, and corrections officials.</p>
<p><b>Strong Father-Strong Faith Programs for Churches</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.strongfathers.com/forprofessional/facts.html#Faith">http://www.strongfathers.com/forprofessional/facts.html#Faith</a></p>	<p>Strong Fathers-Strong Families will design and implement father and/or family strengthening programs for churches and other faith communities.. Programs and events may be focused on strengthening fathers in the area of faith formation , strong manhood , answering your destiny as a dad , lay church leadership , family leadership , and becoming a community of fathers and men of faith. Facilitation may include initial program consultation, staff training, development of promotional materials, program structure, set-up and facilitation, provision of materials and curricula, and follow-up reports and assessments.</p> <p><b>Typical programs may include but are not limited to:</b></p> <p><b>Strong Fathers-Strong Families</b>  Building a Strong Family on a Biblical Foundation</p> <p><b>Strong Front on the Storm Front</b>  Men and families in spiritual warfare</p> <p><b>Strong Homes</b>  Building the Home God Would Have for You</p>

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	<p><b>Strong Church</b> The Role of Men as Leaders and the Strength of Their Faith Community</p>
<p><b>Nurturing Fathers Program</b></p> <p>Contact Information First Presbyterian Church Poncha Boulevard Salida, Colorado 81201 Phone: (719) 539-6422 Fax (719) 539-7438 Church E-mail: <a href="mailto:presby@qwest.net">presby@qwest.net</a> Website: <a href="http://www.salidapresbyterian.org">www.salidapresbyterian.org</a></p>	<p>This program features a 13-week curriculum, which has become a national fatherhood education model, also hosts two day workshops such as one held in August 2007 by First Presbyterian Church of Salida in Chafee County Colorado.</p> <p>Local educators learn how they can utilize the program with the fathers they work with every day, advocates, counselors, family workers and faith-based educators.</p> <p>The nurturing fathers program is designed to develop attitudes and skills for male nurturance. Groups of eight to 16 fathers meet weekly for two and a half hours to address issues such as discipline without violence, balancing work and fathering and dealing with feelings. The fathers are also given interactive workbooks to use throughout the course of the program.</p> <p>“Male nurturance is not something fathers are often taught growing up,” said Rich Batten, fatherhood specialist for the Colorado Department of Human Services. “By learning to be patient and take their time to connect with their children in life’s daily moments, fathers are able to establish meaningful relationships with their children.”</p> <p>In addition to his training work, Perlman is currently the director of the Connecting Fathers and Family Initiative. He is the past executive director of the Family Counseling Center, the Child Protection Center and Fathers United Network (FUND) of Sarasota, Florida.</p> <p>The Nurturing Fathers Program facilitation workshop is being funded in part by the Colorado Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Community Access Grant. In October 2006, the Colorado Department of Human Services, Colorado Works Division was awarded a \$10 million federal grant over five years to strengthen father/child relationships and improve parenting. Colorado is one of two locations nationwide, including Washington, D.C., to receive this federal grant.</p>

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	<p>The Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative has distributed community awards of up to \$100,000 each to 19 agencies throughout the state to provide programs and direct services to fathers.</p> <p>To learn more about the Nurturing Fathers Program facilitation workshop, please call 719.539.6386. For more information about the Promoting Responsible Fatherhood Initiative, please visit <a href="http://www.cdhs.state.co.us/coworks/prf.htm">www.cdhs.state.co.us/coworks/prf.htm</a>.</p>
<p><b>Fathers in Touch and 24/7 Dad</b>  Capital Youth Empowerment Program  <a href="mailto:info@cyep.org">info@cyep.org</a>  (703) 337-4390</p>	<p>CYEP is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing the Washington, DC Metropolitan area with a fatherhood and a mentoring program. Our organization was founded to address the issue of the fatherless home and to enhance the lives of youth through education and career development. CYEP will combine the resources of government, corporations, and community organizations to address the issue of the fatherless home, unite families, and empower children to reach their full potential.</p> <p>The fatherhood program "Fathers in Touch" was developed to address the problem of the fatherless home epidemic that plagues our communities. It is composed of a 12 week parenting course using the 24/7™ Dad curriculum and three supervised visitation activities to promote strong relationships between fathers and their children. This is CYEP's inaugural program which is now accepting referrals from service providers and registration from fathers interested in strengthening their skills as a parent.</p> <p>The 24/7™ Dad parenting class kicked off Tuesday, February 17, 2009 at 6:30 PM</p>
<p><b>FIT Dad</b></p> <p>Contact Information  Facilitator: Ward Williams  Inverness Vineyard Church  Call: 533-7852 for directions and more</p>	<p>F.I.T. DAD (Fatherhood Initiative Training) Program</p> <p>The F.I.T. DAD Program is provided to noncustodial fathers in Shelby County. This is a second chance program for men to be successful fathers by supporting their families financially, morally and emotionally. The program works with men to help them overcome the obstacles that have hindered them and caused them to not meet their obligations as</p>

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details

Vineyard Family Services at:  
4733 Valleydale Road  
Birmingham, AL 35242  
(205) 533-7852

fathers. FIT Dad helps men find employment, obtain their GED, know their legal rights, work through past and present issues as well as help them make better life decisions.

Men enter this program with the goals of being current on their child support payments, being committed to spending more time with their children, striving to better their relationship with their child's custodial mother, find and maintain employment, and to obtain a GED, if needed. Currently, this program has helped bring in over \$35,000 in child support payments—money that helps custodial mothers and children to exist.

This program is provided in hopes of breaking the cycle of father absence by helping to become the catalyst for change in these men's lives. The cycle, or perhaps better stated as THE CYCLE that has gripped not only our city, but our state and that of our nation is wreaking absolute destruction on the lives of children. Whether we as a society recognize it or not, having a loving and nurturing father is as important to a child's happiness, well-being and social and academic success as having a loving and nurturing mother (statistics from The National Fatherhood Initiative).

Prior to this fatherhood program:

- 83% of the fathers reported their commitment level to making full child support payments as "poor." After the program, 100% reported their commitment level as "good," or "excellent."
- 67% of the fathers reported their ability to use several forms of positive discipline as "poor" or "fair." After the program, 83% of the fathers reported their ability as "good" or "excellent."

Since August, FIT Dad has taken in more than \$35,000 in child support payments—money that helps custodial mothers and children to exist. Additionally,

- 40% of our Foster Families have reported an increased ability to handle potentially volatile situations.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>80% of our Foster Families have reported an increased ability to navigate the Alabama social service system.</li> </ul>
<p><b>WATCH D.O.G.S.</b></p> <p>Contact Information  National Center for Fathering  P.O. Box 413888  Kansas City, MO 64141  800-593-DADS  <a href="http://www.watchdogs.net">www.watchdogs.net</a></p>	<p>To reconnect dads outside of church to their kids, Go the Distance Ministries recommends a nationwide program called WATCH D.O.G.S. Across America® (Dads Of Great Students).</p> <p>The goal of WATCH D.O.G.S. is to provide schools with positive male role models that include fathers, grandfathers, uncles, step-dads and big brothers to spend a day (or more!) in a school year as an extra set of eyes and ears. They will serve as an unobtrusive fathering presence in the hallways, on the playgrounds and in the classrooms. This is a program that was built for men to lead in their schools.</p>
<p><b>Healthy Fathering Collaborative of Greater Cleveland</b></p> <p>Healthy Fathering Collaborative  c/o Community Endeavors Foundation  P.O. Box 606194  Cleveland, OH 44106</p> <p>216.502.4795</p> <p>Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center  2226 West 89th Street  Cleveland, OH 44102  216.651.8236  216.651.8235 (fax)  Executive Director Rev. Max Rodas, MA  <a href="mailto:pastormax@hotmail.com">pastormax@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>The Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center is a Faith Based Holistic Health Ministry of the New Light Community Church of the Nazarene.</p> <p>The collaborative hosts the Black and Brown Dialogues, a series of conversations between African American fathers and sons and Latino fathers and sons. This community gathering happens once every two months and rotates locations on Cleveland's East and West sides. Nueva Luz Urban Resource Center, on the West side and Passages Inc on the East side collaborated to develop the Dialogue series in 2007. Both of these community-based organizations prioritize fatherhood and family in their missions and work. The goal of the Black and Brown Dialogues is to bring together urban minority fathers and sons to explore cultural and racial themes, life skills, fatherhood and self identity.</p> <p>Other programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Citizen Circles</li> <li>Re-entry Means "Going Home to Stay"</li> </ul> <p><b>Citizen Circles</b> are groups of community members committed to helping offenders make</p>

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the change from offender to citizen. Citizen Circles create partnerships that promote positive social interaction and accountability to help offenders become productive citizens. Citizen Circles, offenders and their families develop relationships with community members and jointly develop a plan to help the offender become a productive citizen. Citizen Circles communicate to offenders the belief that their debt has been paid and the community is willing to accept them as a restored citizen. Citizen Circles provide the opportunity for developing partnerships, making a difference in an offender's behavior while promoting community safety.

#### **How do Citizen Circles work?**

1. Offenders seek involvement of their own free will.

2. Acceptance into a Citizen Circle is contingent on:

- Completing the Application Process
- Accepting responsibility of past criminal behavior and acknowledging the harm the offender has caused others
- Accepting agreed upon recommendations
- Participating in community services
- Setting goals focused on law abiding and productive community behavior

3. Citizen Circles focus on the future rather than the past.

4. Circles create an environment aimed at fostering acceptance and focusing on the offender's personal strengths.

The **Cleveland Eastside Ex-Offender Coalition** is an interfaith, non profit partnership of churches, social services organizations, businesses, and other non-profit service providers. The agency's mission is to provide compassionate services to Ohio's incarcerated population and their families and minor children to improve their overall quality of life

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	<p>socially, financially, academically, emotionally and spiritually.</p> <p>Services include, but are not limited to, mentoring, case management, tutoring, literacy, homework assistance, workforce development, job readiness and prison video visitation services to strengthen Ohio families via our Project I.M.P.A.C.T. program. The acronym stands for Incarcerated Mothers, Parents And Children's Televisitation. Currently, the organization targets low income families of Ohio State inmates; their family members, the minor children of incarcerated parents and at-risk youth aging out of foster care in Cuyahoga County.</p> <p>Program Contact and Referrals:</p> <p>Caroljean Gates  Cleveland Eastside Ex-Offender Coalition  3030 Euclid Ave Suite 300  Cleveland Ohio 44115  PHONE: (216) 426-9012  FAX: (216) 426-9014</p> <p><a href="mailto:info@clevelandeastside.org">info@clevelandeastside.org</a>  <a href="http://www.clevelandeastside.org">www.clevelandeastside.org</a></p>
<p><b>The Alabama Fatherhood Initiative (AFI)</b></p> <p>Contact Information  Department of Human Resources  64 North Union Street</p>	<p>In 2002, the Alabama Department of Human Resources was instrumental in the formation of the Alabama Fatherhood Initiative (AFI), a unique and broad collaboration of public, private, non-profit and faith-based organizations that are networking to enhance the ability of non-custodial fathers and mothers to support their children and to have greater and more constructive involvement in the lives of their children. The AFI is committed to</p>

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Montgomery, AL 36130

helping non-custodial fathers and mothers to develop and maintain positive relationships and to support their children by providing counseling, education, training and employment opportunities.

### **The Alabama Fatherhood Initiative Short-Term Skills Training Pilot Project**

In 2003, through the AFI network, DHR organized the AFI Short-term Skills Training Pilot Program in partnership with the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs Workforce Development Division and the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education. This initiative provides short-term skills training and employment assistance to non-custodial fathers and mothers who are unable to meet their child support obligations due to underemployment or unemployment.

Working with the pilot programs at Gadsden State Community College – Gadsden Campus and Gadsden State Community College – Ayers Campus and Calhoun Community College, DHR provides technical assistance, performance monitoring and TANF funds to the institutions for short-term skills training assistance. Over ½ million dollars in child support have been collected from DHR non-custodial parents who have participated in this program.

### **Year 2004 Alabama Fatherhood Resource Directory**

In 2004, DHR collaborated with Alabama Fatherhood Initiative member agencies and organizations to develop the Alabama Fatherhood Resource Directory. The Directory is a compilation of many of the fatherhood programs and resources across the state. The purpose of the Directory is to assist fathers and families to find programs and services in their local communities that address fatherhood needs and issues. It is available in hard copy to the public by calling telephone number 334-242-1773 and online at [www.dhr.alabama.gov](http://www.dhr.alabama.gov).

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	<p>DHR also publishes the AFI Fatherhood and Healthy Families Quarterly Newsletter that is electronically distributed to AFI members and others to enhance communication about fatherhood happenings across the state throughout the year. The Newsletter is posted and archived at the DHR web site <a href="http://www.dhr.alabama.gov">www.dhr.alabama.gov</a></p> <p>Year 2004 The Alabama Conference on Fatherhood and Healthy Families</p> <p>DHR has been a leader in the planning and implementation of the Alabama Conference on Fatherhood and Healthy Families. The first Conference with held in 2004. It is an annual event that attracts approximately 400 fatherhood and family practitioners, faith-based and secular organizations, parents, educators and counselors from throughout the state. Hosted by the National Institute for Human Development, a non-profit faith based organization, the conference offers an array of outstanding speakers, panelist and workshop presenters that provide valuable skills and information to strengthen fathers and families. Approximately 160 DHR county and state staff attend the conference each year</p>
<p><b>Fathers Resource and Networking Center</b> Hillsborough County, Florida</p>	<p>FRANC is a family-strengthening program developed by the Child Abuse Council of Hillsborough County, Florida. It is a multi-functional service center that provides a hub for community-wide fatherhood initiatives, activities and programs. FRANC services are available to any father of infants and young children in Hillsborough County, regardless of educational background, family status or level of risk.</p> <p>Bay Area Legal Services, Inc., (BALS) collaborates in this program by providing legal services that are pivotal in building a comprehensive and integrated system of care. BALS has developed an educational curriculum for fathers and provides legal information and written materials to the participants of the Fatherhood Resource Center. BALS has also contracted with the Child Abuse Council to provide up to 40 hours per year of legal advice and counseling to fathers accessing the center on issues of paternity and child support.</p>

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	<p>Through legal education and assistance fathers can better achieve the goals of responsible parenting behavior, positive relationships with their children, family strengthening, and in cases where the family is no longer living together, shared parenting responsibilities with the mothers of their children. FRANC has been selected by Florida's Commission on Responsible Fatherhood as one of two sites statewide to provide the "Equipping Fathers to Strengthen Families" program.</p>
<p><b>Ohio Commission on Fatherhood</b></p> <p>For information contact  J. Tracy Robinson, Executive Director of  the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood  (614) 752-0583  <a href="mailto:Tracy.Robinson@jfs.ohio.gov">Tracy.Robinson@jfs.ohio.gov</a>.</p>	<p>The Ohio Fatherhood Commission (OCF) has funded 10 fatherhood programs through the state using \$225,000.00 million in Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds.</p> <p>Ohio Fatherhood Initiative (OFI) grants assist organizations working to promote strong, healthy relationships between fathers and their children. OFC has partnered with faith-based and community organizations throughout Ohio who work to ensure fathers have the resources they need to play a positive role in the lives of their children: L Alvis House, Urban Light Ministries, WSOS Region 2, WSOS Region 6, Forever Dads, ARCA Inc, Cleveland Ex-Offender, East Toledo Family Center, Columbiana Action Agency of Head Start.</p> <p><u>2008-2009 Ohio Fatherhood Initiative Grantees:</u></p> <p><b>Alvis House:</b>  Based in Franklin County, will serve seven Ohio counties: Delaware, Fairfield, Franklin, Fayette, Licking, Logan, and Madison. Alvis House will provide fatherhood programs to low income and incarcerated fathers. Their program services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Father to Father Mentoring</li> <li>▪ Increasing the number of positive/constructive family activities</li> <li>▪ Improving family conflict/communication styles</li> </ul> <p>Contact:  Ms. Lois Hochstetler 614-252-8402 <a href="mailto:lhochstetler@alvishouse.org">lhochstetler@alvishouse.org</a></p>

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**Urban Light Ministries**

Based in Clark County, will serve eight Ohio counties: Montgomery, Clark, Green, Miami, Clinton, Darke, Shelby, and Champaign. Urban Light Ministries will provide fatherhood program services to all fathers. Their program services include:

- Nurturing Father curriculum NFL & Wise Guy curriculum
- Measure the interaction and number of visits Dads have with children
- Decrease domestic violence relations

Contact:

Mr. Eli Williams      937-328-0122 [ewilliams@urbanlight.org](mailto:ewilliams@urbanlight.org)

**WSOS Community Action Commission Region 2; (WSOS):**

Based in Huron County, will serve nine Ohio counties: Seneca, Huron, Wyandot, Crawford, Richland, Ashland, Marion, Morrow, and Know. WSOS will provide fatherhood programs to low income fathers. Their program services include:

- Family Work & Father Connection Program Curriculums
- Strengthening the ties of Fathers and Children
- Increase/enhance communications with children
- Refer fathers to programs to overcome obstacles and barriers for Fathers (i.e. employment, domestic violence etc.)

Contact:

Mr. Neil McCabe      419-333-6019 [njmccabe@wsos.org](mailto:njmccabe@wsos.org)

**Forever Dads**

Based in Muskingum County, will serve five Ohio Counties: Muskingum, Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Perry, and Licking. Forever Dads will provide fatherhood programs to low income fathers and high school males. Their program services include:

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- Using the National Standards and Fathers Curriculums in a variety of training programs to strengthen father family relations
- Provide outcome of gainful employment and/or entrepreneurial services to fulfill financial responsibility
- Increase public awareness of the critical role of fathers

Contact:

Mr. Burl Lemon      740-450-3275 ext 123 [burl@foreverdads.com](mailto:burl@foreverdads.com)

**ARCA Inc.:**

Based in Cuyahoga County, will serve four Ohio counties: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain. ARCA Inc. will provide fatherhood programs to non-custodial and at risk premature fathers. Their program services include:

- Using IMPACT as Curriculum
- Increase Father involvement
- Improve Father Parenting Skills
- Increase service accessibility for Fathers

Contact:.

Ms. Gladys V. Hall      216-432-3310 [gladysh@araca-cleveland.org](mailto:gladysh@araca-cleveland.org)

**Cleveland Eastside Ex-Offender:**

Based in Cuyahoga County, will serve four Ohio counties: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, and Lorain. Cleveland Eastside Ex-Offender will provide fatherhood programs to incarcerated fathers. Their program services include:

- Using Project IMPACT as Curriculum
- Improving and enhancing the well-being of children with fathers, while promoting stable families in urban communities
- Measuring the number of fathers from incarceration spending time with children

Contact:

Ms. Carloyn Jean Gates      216-426-9012 [cjgates@clevelandeastside.org](mailto:cjgates@clevelandeastside.org)

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**East Toledo Family Center:**

Based in Lucas County, will serve nine Ohio counties: Defiance, Erie, Fulton, Henry, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, Williams and Wood. East Toledo Family Center will provide fatherhood programs to new fathers and low income fathers. Their program services include:

- Increase community support
- Decrease service gap of fathers
- Increase long-term sustainability of all fatherhood programs

Contact:

Ms. Kim Partin 419-691-1429 [kpartin\\_etfc@hotmail.com](mailto:kpartin_etfc@hotmail.com)

**Columbiana Action Agency of Head Start:**

Based in Columbia County, will serve four Ohio counties: Columbiana, Carroll, Harrison, and Tuscarawas. Columbiana Action Agency of Head Start will provide fatherhood programs to all fathers. Their program services include:

- Nurturing Fathers Program as Curriculum
- Measure the increase of "parental" attitudes/actions of fathers
- Teen Father mentors monitoring their interaction/building relationship with children as a father

Contact:

Ms. Carol Bretz 330-424-7221 [kshaver@caaofcc.org](mailto:kshaver@caaofcc.org)

**WSOS (Region 6):**

Based in Wood County, will serve nine Ohio counties: Wood, Sandusky, Ottawa, Erie, Lucas, Fulton, Henry, Williams, and Defiance. WSOS will provide fatherhood programs to low income fathers. Their program services include:

- VIP (Very Important Padre (DAD) Curriculum
- Enhancing parenting skills and communication skills with children
- Mentoring matches for support of "at risk" fathers who are soon to be Dads, or

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	<p>premature fathers</p> <p>Contact: Ms. Jacqui Wells      419-334-8911 <a href="mailto:jwells@wsos.org">jwells@wsos.org</a></p> <p><b>Ironton-Lawrence County CAO Head Start:</b> Based in Ironton-Lawrence County, will serve seven Ohio counties: Adams, Brown, Gallian, Ross, Sciote, Lawrence, and Vinton. Ironton-Lawrence County CAO Head Start will provide fatherhood programs to pre-mature fathers, low income and incarcerated fathers. Their program services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 24/7 DAD AM/PM Curriculum to be used</li> <li>▪ Self awareness of Dad in being a parent recognizing building upon strengths and working on weaknesses as a parent</li> <li>▪ Teaching fathers cooking/planning a healthy meal and interactive with children.</li> <li>▪ Measuring the outcomes of activities to see how Dads used activities with children.</li> </ul> <p>Contact: Mr. D.R. Gossett      740-532-3534 <a href="mailto:drgossett@ilcao.org">drgossett@ilcao.org</a></p>
<p><b>National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families</b></p> <p>Contact Information 1003 K Street, NW, Suite 565 Washington, D.C. 20001</p> <p>(800) 34N-PNFF / (202) 737-6680 / (202) 737-6683 (Fax)</p>	<p>The National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families (NPNFF) is a national membership organization whose mission is to strengthen support for children in fragile families by enhancing the involvement of fathers and by fostering communication, professional development, education, and collaboration among service providers. The role of NPNFF is to ensure that the perspectives of community-based responsible fatherhood program practitioners—the individuals who are working on a day-to-day basis with low-income non-custodial fathers—are included in the consideration of federal and state policy development.</p> <p><a href="http://www.npnff.org/downloads/policyagenda2003.pdf">http://www.npnff.org/downloads/policyagenda2003.pdf</a></p>

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<p>Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization</p>	<p>a Washington organization that runs programs in five cities.</p> <p>By contrast, those seeking to help "fragile families" argue that marriage is not a viable goal until the men become more marriageable.</p>
<p>Engaging Non-Resident Fathers  Primary Contact:  Stephanie Yoder  Stephanie.Yoder@dcs.in.gov</p>	<p>Fathers and Families Center &amp; Indiana Department of Child Services  Engaging Non-Resident Fathers</p> <p>The Indiana Department of Child Services, in Indianapolis, will collaborate with an array of partners to offer the 20-week peer-led support group in the program designed by the QIC-NRF Supplemental Project team.</p> <p>Partners include:</p> <p>Indiana Fathers and Families Center started in 1993 as an organization supporting young fathers in their efforts to gain a GED. Incorporating as a 501(c)3 in 1998, the organization has expanded the range of its services to young fathers and will house the project and provide a full-time staff member to lead.</p> <p>Indiana University School of Social Work will provide the external evaluation for the project.</p> <p>Indiana Dept. of Child Services Child Support Bureau-Tiffany Mitchell, Program Manager, will assist in locating non-resident dads and will work with dads who need additional supports.</p> <p>To supplement the peer-led support group, fathers in the intervention group will be offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal support-advocacy letters to the courts,</li> <li>• Legal fees;</li> <li>• Transportation-reinstatement of a driver's license, car repair, bus ticket;</li> <li>• Assistance in finding housing, child care, clothing, food, education;</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical training, and</li> <li>• Mental health and other referrals.</li> </ul>
<p>Fathers Engagement Project  Primary Contact:  Natasha Grossman  natasha@u.washington.edu</p>	<p>The Division of Children and Family Services (DCFS), which is a division of the Department of Social and Health Services for the State of WA: Region IV (King County, Washington) Fathers Engagement Project</p> <p>Under the management of the Northwest Institute for Children and Families, University of Washington, School of Social Work, two local fatherhood programs Divine Alternatives for Dads (DAD) &amp; Fresh Start Fatherhood Program, will offer the fatherhood support groups. The work of this program will be supplemented by the Fatherhood Advisory Group, to be convened by the Catalyst for Kids Program.</p> <p>Collaboration partners have a history of productive work in child welfare and in father engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Divine Alternatives for Dads was founded in 2003 to provide services for non-resident dads in the Seattle area. Among the services provided are: Child Support Management, child support management, parent involvement (visitation, parenting plans), reunification, parenting training, support groups and case management;</li> <li>• The Fresh Start Fathering Program offers a range of services to families and fathers, including classes and support groups, case management, home visitation and assistance in life skills development;</li> <li>• The Catalyst for Kids is a statewide collaboration of DCFS, the Superior Court, attorneys, educators/researchers, community service providers, and constituents working in partnership to strengthen the child welfare system;</li> <li>• The Northwest Institute of Children and Families, University of Washington, School of Social Work, has educated, trained, evaluated and informed the social program community with its research since 1979. The Institute will provide project</li> </ul>

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	<p>management and evaluation.</p> <p>The evaluation team, housed at the Northwest Institute for Children and Families, University of Washington, School of Social Work will use a mixed methods approach to collect extensive demographic, process, and outcome data to examine how this set of interventions promotes desirable child welfare outcomes.</p> <p>Primary Contact:     Natasha Grossman                                   natasha@u.washington.edu</p>
<p><b>New Day Services for Children and Families</b></p> <p>Tarrant County, Texas</p>	<p>New Day Services for Children and Families is a faith-based non-profit that offers help and hope to families and individuals involved in Tarrant County Family and Juvenile Courts. New Day Services will house the peer-led support groups.</p> <p>The Texas DFPS Child Protective Services (CPS) Division will partner with members of the Tarrant County Fatherhood Coalition to provide the model intervention program to non-resident fathers with the aim of determining the impact of non-resident fatherhood involvement on the outcomes for children in the care of DFPS. The Tarrant County Fatherhood Coalition consists of about 40 organizations working to promote responsible fatherhood in Tarrant County.</p> <p>NewDay Services is a Texas Non-Profit Corporation with 501 (c)(3) standing. NewDay has been in the Family Law Center (formerly the Civil Courts) since 1997 and in the Juvenile Justice Center since 2000.</p> <p>Financial support is received in the form of charitable donations from churches, businesses, community organizations &amp; individuals. Occasional program support is received from foundation or government funding sources. NewDay's latest 990 and financial information can be found at <a href="http://www.guidestar.org">www.guidestar.org</a></p>

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<p><b>The Fatherhood Collaborative of San Mateo County</b></p>	<p>This is a policy and advocacy group whose mission is to provide a forum to address and support the importance of men and fathers taking an active role in the well-being of children and families. This group believes that fathers must be involved in the lives of their children, regardless of the family’s composition or legal status.</p> <p>Fatherhood is not only a biological condition; more importantly, it is a uniquely necessary and essential bond that creates a life-long evolving relationship--a relationship that must be continually nurtured and cherished by fathers, their partners, families, and the community at large. The FC was formed ten years ago, and continues to expand its visibility in the community, its ability to spread its message, and its advocacy for increased father involvement.</p> <p>The collaborative distributed three Partners in Service awards totaling \$20,000 to community-based organizations for father-related programs. FC also held a highly-regarded Fatherhood Conference entitled Building Better Families With Developmental Assets, attended by more than 60 family case managers and social workers, and featuring a truly collaborative panel of practitioners.</p> <p>The Fatherhood Collaborative sponsored 19 Dad &amp; Me @ the Library programs, attracting a total attendance of 1,861 people. Our annual Dad &amp; Me @ the Park once again exceeded past attendance records, this year attracting more than 700 family members. Dads Count Breakfast returned, featuring the legendary football great, Jim Plunkett as keynote speaker</p>
<p><b>Institute for Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization</b></p> <p>National Office</p>	<p>The Institute for Responsible Fatherhood &amp; Family Revitalization was established in March 1994. Its mission is to encourage fathers to become involved in the lives of their children in a loving, compassionate, and nurturing way. The national organization was based on a model program established in Cleveland, OH. The Institute now has six sites across the country.</p>

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<p>9500 Arena Drive, Suite 400  Largo, MD 20774  Tele: 301-773-2044  Fax: 301-773-4298:  <a href="mailto:CharlesBallard@responsiblefatherhood.org">CharlesBallard@responsiblefatherhood.org</a>  <a href="http://www.responsiblefatherhood.org">www.responsiblefatherhood.org</a></p>	<p>The organization provides an innovative non-traditional, home-based service to fathers and their families, including one-to-one outreach; one-to-group outreach; and family outreach. The goal is to begin connecting fathers with their children, their families, and with their communities. To make the most in transforming communities, IRFFR targets the community in each city where the need is greatest. Using a city's demographics of highest rates of female-headed households, out-of-wedlock births, teenage pregnancy, truancy, crime, violence, drug and alcohol abuse, domestic violence, and mostly female-headed households, a community is thereby chosen.</p>
<p><b>National Fatherhood Initiative</b></p> <p>Roland Warren  President  <a href="mailto:info@fatherhood.org">info@fatherhood.org</a>  p: 301.948.0599  f: 301.948.4325</p>	<p>The National Fatherhood Initiative's Mission is to improve the well-being of children by increasing the proportion of children growing up with an involved, responsible, and committed father.</p> <p>The NFI strategy includes working with local, state and national organizations across the country, we have a unique strategy to "go where the dads are," reaching fathers at their point of need with skill building resources to help them be the best dads that they can be.</p> <p>The initiative offers a wide variety of resources - brochures, curricula, and CD ROMS, are used by a wide variety of non-profit and for-profit organizations in all 50 states in what we call our six key sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community-Based: Organizations that are the backbone of our local and state communities, including YMCAs, schools, Head Starts, family resource centers, and others</li> <li>• Healthcare: Hospitals, pregnancy resource centers, parenting centers, and other places that ensure the health of children and their families</li> <li>• Military: All branches of the military are using our resources, in the United States and overseas</li> <li>• Corrections: Our programming is used in pre-release centers, long stay facilities,</li> </ul>

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	<p>youth programs, and prison ministries in all 50 states</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christian: Both churches and para-church organizations and ministries utilize our resources to equip fathers and strengthen families</li> <li>• Work-Family Balance: We consult with a variety of Fortune 500 companies, including Verizon, IBM, KPMG, BP, Pacific Life and Blue Cross and Blue Shield to mention a few</li> </ul> <p>In order to help organizations succeed, we offer a variety of capacity-building events - workshops, trainings, and webinars</p>
<p><b>Crown Heights Jewish Community Council's Focus on Fathers Program</b></p> <p>365 Kingston Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11213-4311 Phone: (718) 221-8168</p>	<p>parenting program created especially for men . Hundreds of fathers have found new ways to address family issues with the help of experienced professionals. Each week at 9:00PM, our father's group meets to share pizza and discuss various topics pertaining to being a man, a father and a husband in Crown Heights. Until further notice we will be meeting at the Shalom Center 483 Albany Avenue, between Empire Blvd. and Lefferts Ave. Please join us for these lively and meaningful discussions. For more information about the Focus On Fathers program call Richard Gins, 718 221-5485.</p>
<p><b>National Center for Strategic Non-profit Planning and Community Leadership</b></p> <p>2000 L Street, N.W. Suite 815 Washington, DC 20036 Telephone: 1-888-528-NPCL or 202-822-6725 Fax: 202-822-5699 Email: <a href="mailto:info@npcl.org">info@npcl.org</a> URL: <a href="http://www.npcl.org">http://www.npcl.org</a></p>	<p>National Center for Strategic Non-profit Planning and Community Leadership (NPCL) is a national non-profit corporation which designs, manages and evaluates initiatives that aim to help young people, especially those from poor families, increase their capabilities to lead productive lives. 2000 L Street NW, Suite 815, Washington, DC 20036, (888) 528-6725. Information line: (248) 799-9933</p> <p>One of NPCL's initiatives is The Partners for Fragile Families Project (PFF). PFF is the first comprehensive national initiative designed to help poor single fathers pull themselves out of poverty and build stronger links to their children and their children's mothers. PFF was established in 1996 to provide support for these "fragile families," which are defined as low-income, never-married parents and their children. Pilot programs have shown that many of the fathers in these families are involved with their children during the early childhood years. However, research indicates that this involvement tends to dissipate over</p>

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	<p>time, often with negative consequences for children.</p>
<p><b>Black Family Ministry Project</b></p>	<p>This effort is sponsored by the National Council of Churches' Black Family Ministry Project.</p> <p>A total of 39 persons now have completed intensive training for church leaders in Effective Black Parenting and have been credentialed to teach this new curriculum, which draws on faith resources and on the Black family's history and strengths.</p> <p>These consultants are committed to recruiting at least two churches in their home communities across the nation to provide at least two Effective Black Parenting seminars apiece during the coming 12 months. A first group of 20 was trained in February and March in Atlanta, and a second group of 19 in May and June in Nashville, Tenn., toward a total of 50 consultants in this first phase of the program.</p> <p>The Effective Black Parenting training is a tried and true program created by the Center for the Improvement of Child Caring (CICC). "We are pioneering this faith-based adaptation, testing how it can move into congregations and help people present it from a Christian perspective," said Josselyn Bennett of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Chicago, Chair of the NCC Black Family Ministry Project Staff Team.</p> <p>The local seminars will be evaluated between now and December 2000, with an eye to recommending the model for wider use by churches.</p> <p>The Black Family Ministry Project: Effective Black Parenting Training initiative is made possible by a \$134,760 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. and is sponsored by the NCC Commission on Family Ministries and Human Sexuality in cooperation with 10 of the NCC's 35 member denominations, including historic African American churches and other denominations with significant African American membership. The grant also enabled two</p>

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national Black Family Ministry Conferences.

The trainer, the Rev. Dr. Bennie C. Thompson of Chicago, a psychotherapeutic counselor and United Methodist pastor, is no stranger to a faith-based perspective. But this is the first time that Dr. Thompson – an experienced trainer of Effective Black Parenting instructors – has done trainings exclusively with church leaders, said the Rev. Karen Bernstine, Coordinator, NCC Black Family Ministry Project. "Usually he works with agencies and with parents mandated to take the training. Neither have church leaders interfaced before with this kind of training."

Dr. Thompson developed the faith-based adaptation at the NCC's request, and his Nashville and Atlanta training were rich in scriptural principles for child-rearing and for nurturing spiritual development in children. He draws on those principles as he works through the Effective Black Parenting training, which includes modules on how to praise, confront and ignore effectively; modern self-discipline; setting family rules; pride in Blackness; preventing drug abuse, using chit-chat and special incentives.

He also led the consultants in considering ways to bring the Effective Black Parenting training into churches. "Have a role play during worship, as part of your sermon; for example, on how you do a family discussion on drugs," he urged. "Now, some churches will resist that, and say, 'You are bringing the streets into the church.' I say, 'Sometimes the streets are already in there.'"

The focus on parenting grew out of work from 1989-95, funded in part by a Lilly Endowment grant, that aimed at strengthening Black families in many areas of life. During those years, 100 consultants were trained to help congregations be more aware of the needs of Black families and to be more intentional in ministering to them. The project also published a manual, Church and Family Together, edited by Karen Bernstine (Valley Forge,

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Judson Press 1996).

Experience led the project team to believe that there is a critical need to address faith formation in African American households, to provide places for parent education in Black congregations and to develop new resources to undergird programs of Black family ministry.

The Rev. Bernstine, who was trained as a consultant for the National Baptist Convention USA, Inc., during that first project, is project coordinator for this second project. She is currently serving as a chaplain in the Office of Pastoral Care at New York Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Participating denominations in the Black Family Ministry Project are: African Methodist Episcopal, African Methodist Episcopal Zion, American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Christian Methodist Episcopal, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc., Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), United Church of Christ, United Methodist.

Newly credentialed to lead the Black Family Ministry Project faith-based Effective Black Parenting workshops are:

- Karen Bernstine, National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., Brooklyn, N.Y.
- Billye Bridges, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Indianapolis, Ind.
- Mary Carpenter, National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., Nashville, Tenn.
- Diana Chambliss, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Birmingham, Ala.
- Michelle Ellison, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, New York, N.Y.
- Betty Esters, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Detroit, Mich.
- Stephany Graham, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Louisville, Ky.
- Evelyn Holden, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Park Forest, Ill.

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- Raymon Hunt, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Charlotte, N.C.
- Rod Lattie, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Lumberton, N.C.
- Laveeta LaVant, Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Macon, Ga.
- Ramonia Lee-Shopshire, American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A., Suitland, Md.
- Darlene Love, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Hawthorne, Calif.
- Jesse Neely, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Memphis, Tenn.
- Shandell Northern, United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tenn.
- Addison Shields, Jr., United Methodist Church, Chicago, Ill.
- Claudine Smith, National Baptist Convention U.S.A., Inc., Metro Head Starts, White Creek, Tenn.
- Cathryn Teer-Hodge, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), North Carolina Department of Corrections, Fayetteville, N.C.
- Debra White, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Indianapolis, Ind.

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