

Notes from Region V
Collaboration Call
November 18th, 2008

During this call we heard from a number of Region V States regarding Fatherhood policy forums, fatherhood meetings and other activities in the area of working with fathers.

Ohio Commission on Fatherhood update – Dr. James Scott, Director of the Ohio Head Start State Collaboration Office, described the role of the Ohio Fatherhood Commission, which was reformed in 2008. Tracy Robinson is the Executive Director of the Commission, which is charged with hosting a State Summit on Fatherhood every two years, overseeing a TANF funding program for fatherhood services and developing father-friendly policies throughout state agencies.

Duane Wilson talked about the MI Policy forum and the large role that fathers played in the meeting. Fathers were on the panels and participated in other ways also. Laurie (?) spoke about the planning process for the MI forum. They had a lot of participation in the planning process, which was good. However, she mentioned that you need a lot of lead time in the planning process to really do a thorough job.

Lisa Marks, director of the Milwaukee County Child Support Agency talked about their annual Fatherhood Summit. While the County has suffered budget cuts due to the Deficit Reduction Act, they were able to continue this important outreach effort. This meeting consists of a fatherhood breakfast, medical screening, an overview of the child support enforcement program with questions and answers. This is a large meeting that attracted over 2600 participants in 2007.

The following are the links to the web sites that Sue Swayze of the Indiana Family Institute mentioned in her remarks on the call.

Mike,

Per the call this afternoon, these are the curricula that we're currently looking at. By the time we make a final determination (in January), we may expand this list:

8 Habits of A Successful Marriage – <http://www.franklincovey.com/tc/solutions/home-and-family-solutions/the-8-habits-of-a-successful-marriage>

PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) - http://www.prepinc.com/main/about_us.asp

Making Your Good Thing Better - <http://www.aafle.org/contentpage.aspx>

Family Skills to a Better Marriage – a four session 2-hour course. See http://www.famli.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=12&Itemid=1 and search for more info about their program.

Hope this is helpful!

Sue Swayze
Program Coordinator
Indiana Family Institute
155 E. Market Street, Suite #307
Indianapolis, IN 46204
317-423-9178 p
317-423-9421 f
<http://www.hoosierfamily.org>

This is the agenda from the Michigan Fatherhood Policy Forum that Duane Wilson and Mary Lovik of MI went over on the call.

Agenda

Michigan Fatherhood Policy Forum
Fathers in Transition: Building Pathways to Healthy Relationships

September 18- 19, 2008
Shanty Creek Resorts, Bellaire, MI

Thursday, September 18, 2008	
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm	Networking reception sponsored by the Michigan Fatherhood Coalition at Summit Village, Parlor C 7:30 pm - Remarks by Sen. Bill Hardiman
Friday, September, 19, 2008	
7:30 am to 9:00	Breakfast at Summit Village, Lakeview Dining Room

am	
9:00 am to 9:30 am	Registration at Summit Village, Parlor A/B
9:30 am to 9:55 am	Welcome/Introductions at Summit Village, Parlor A/B Remarks by Sen. Mark Jansen, Stanley Stewart and Joyce Thomas
9:55 am to 10:00 am	Video presentation
10:00 am to 10:30 am	Keynote address by Dr. Oliver Williams, University of Minnesota School of Social Work: <i>What is Responsible Fatherhood?</i>
10:30 am to noon	Session 1 – Panel discussion on issues affecting fathers in the child welfare system Panelists: Ted Forrest, Robin Wright King, Rich Tolman, Mikel Zank Moderator: Juan Carlos Arean
Noon to 12:15 pm	Buffet lunch in Promenade and return to forum in Summit Village, Parlor A/B
12:15 pm to 1:00 pm	Lunch “Dads Speak Out” moderated by Sen. Mark Jansen and Greg Roberts
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm	Session 2 – Panel discussion on issues affecting fathers in the child support system Panelists: Sen. Alan Cropsey, Dwayne Hoosier, Mark Jasonowicz, Hon. Lita Popke, Dennis Schrantz Moderator: Juan Carlos Arean
2:30 pm to 4:00 pm	Session 3 – Panel discussion on issues affecting fathers in the area of child custody and parenting time Panelists: Beth Arnovitz, Hon. Carol Hackett Garagiola, Suzanne Hollyer, Diego Morales, James Walters Moderator: Juan Carlos Arean
4:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Summary of policy recommendations. Wrap up/acknowledgments. Collect evaluations & payment vouchers.

The next Region V Collaboration Call is scheduled for either Tuesday, February 10th, 2009 or Tuesday, February 17th. The time will be 1:30 pm central time.

The topic we are considering is fatherhood legislation. If anyone has any thoughts or suggestions on this topic and would like to suggest another one, please contact Mike Vicars at 312 886-5339 or mvicars@acf.hhs.gov

Have a good Holiday season and Happy New Year.