

Including Fathers in State Programs and Policies: Why Child Support Agencies Should Play a Leadership Role & Availability of FRPN Planning Grants

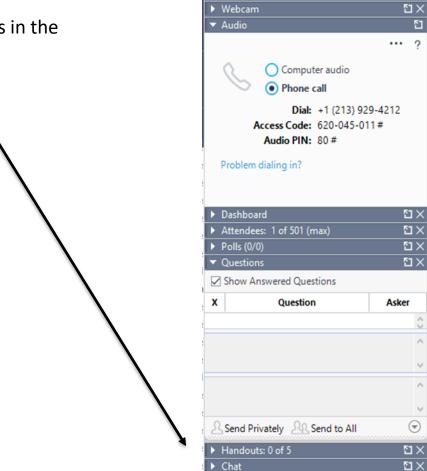
**November 1, 2018** 





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Start





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#### Who is FRPN?

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Jay Fagan, Ph.D. Temple University FRPN Co-Director



Jessica Pearson, Ph.D.
Center for Policy Research
FRPN Co-Director

#### What is FRPN?

- Six-year, \$4.8 million cooperative agreement to Temple U & CPR
- Funding by U.S. DHHS, ACF, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, 2013-2019
- Targets fatherhood researchers & programs serving low-income fathers







#2
Build
Evaluation
Capacity





#### Fatherhood | Research & Practice

#### **Presenters**

Colorado Jessica Pearson, Director of CPR and Co-Director of **FRPN** 



<u>Ohio</u> Kim Dent, Executive Director, Ohio Commission on Fatherhood

> Susan Brown, CSEA Director, Franklin

Rob Pierson, CSEA Director, Stark County



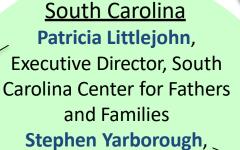
Assistant Director, Office of Policy and Training, **Child Support Services** Division, SCDSS











## Why a Webinar on Approaches to Including Fathers in State Programs & Policies and Why CSE Should Lead

- Father engagement important
- Few states fund fatherhood
- HMRF grants (\$55 million/year) are project specific (39 orgs in 19 states) & time limited (5 yr)
- Fatherhood & jobs programs not allowable costs for CSE agencies w/regular CSE funds
- Jobs programs do not address parenting and co-parenting; 2generation initiatives focus on custodial parents and children.
- Some states use discretionary TANF funds, IV-D incentive funds, and direct monies from state legislatures
- Child support agencies have 14.5 million cases, 18-22 year orders, incentives, ability to support fathering





#### **Fatherhood Commissions**

- Ohio, Connecticut, Illinois, Hawaii
- Legislation, 1999-2003, bi-partisan
- State gov't agency base; members from multiple agencies & orgs
- Engaged in policy, education, services, events, fundraising
- TANF funding (Ohio)
- Disbanded in FL and MA, Tried in MN in 2015, Being created in PA
- An organizational "home" for coordinated initiatives to improve child wellbeing by helping fathers be better parents, partners and







## Panel Discussion #1: Fatherhood Commissions

Brief description of Ohio Commission on Fatherhood

- Background
- Activities
- Benefits and Advantages
- Challenges
- Evaluation

Impact on Father-Inclusion Policies
Impact on Fatherhood Services
Role of the Ohio Child Support Agency



#### **State Initiatives in Human Services Agencies**

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#### Fathers as economic providers

- Model program: Texas NCP Choices
- Focus on assessing, providing workforce services and monitoring compliance
- Child support, workforce & court collaboration
- Court-ordered for delinquent NCPs

#### Fathers as providers, parents & partners

- Model program: CSPED
- Focus on: case management, workforce services, fatherhood classes, enhanced child support
- Staffing by mix of child support staff, workforce personnel & CBOs
- Voluntary and court ordered at all stages of case processing





Panel Discussion #2: Initiatives Led by the State Child Support Agency: South Carolina CSSD & SC Center for Fathers & Families

- How, when & why?
- Client referral & engagement
- Program approach & services
- Desired outcomes
- Benefits/challenges of CBO collaboration
- Benefits/challenges of IV-D collaboration



## Panel Discussion #3 The Stark and Franklin County Experiences

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- Start & growth of the CSE and fatherhood relationship
- Impact of the OH Fatherhood Commission
- How CSE Agencies work with fatherhood programs (Referrals, Funding, Incentives, Services)
- Benefits of fatherhood programs for CSE agencies
- Challenges, lessons learned, advice, recommendations





#### **Funding Programs and Services**



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#### TANF, TANF state maintenance of effort (MOE)

- Discretionary TANF funds to promote or sustain marriage, promote responsible parenting and foster economic stability
- TANF-ACF-IM 2018: States may use TANF funds to serve NCPs in job programs
- In 2016, 20 states used TANF funds for "Fatherhood and Two-Parent Family Programs;" national average of 0.5% of total TANF, but spent for other things

#### **Child Support Incentive Funds**

- Regular CSE funds cannot be used for NCP job services or fatherhood
- Child support incentive funds for job services but funds lower (DRA of 2005)
- 4 states have waivers from HHS to use incentive funds for job services
- OCSE-IM-18-02: States should ask to use incentive funds for NCP jobs

#### **Direct legislative appropriation**

MN S.F. 1504 appropriated \$1.1 million per year for FY 2018-19 for FATHER
 Project to assist fathers to overcome barriers





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#### **Assessing Program Benefits & ROI**

- Texas NCP Choices returns \$8.31 for every \$1 spent and saved State of Texas \$12 million in SFY 2016 due to: child support collections, employment & earnings, reductions in unemployment insurance claims & avoided TANF & SNAP benefits (Child Support Division of TX OAG)
- ROI study for FATHER Project MN documented: Return of \$3.41 for every \$1 spent for child support, earnings and tax revenue; and \$6.06 for every \$1 on estimated savings due to reduced criminal activity, paternity establishment, increased child literacy & father engagement in early childhood education (Wilder Research, 2009)





## Panel discussion #4: Funding Father Initiatives & Benefits

What have you tried?

What works?

- Obtaining TANF funds
- Using child support Incentives?
- Legislative appropriations
- Other sources of funding?
- What data helps with funding?

What benefits or returns on investment do you get from fatherhood programming

South Carolina Ohio



## Why Child Support Agencies Should Play a Leadership Role in Fatherhood Initiatives

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- Child support agency deeply involved with fathers & families (14.5 million cases & 15.5 million children, 1.5 million paternities and 1 million orders/year, legal involvement of 18-22 years)
- Child support needs to improve collections from fathers targeted by fatherhood programs

(65% current support due collected and distributed in FY 2016, total arrears balance \$114.6 billion)

- •Sanctions ineffective with un- and underemployed NCPs (OCSE estimates 13% unemployed or underemployed)
- Fatherhood programs help w/child access, coparenting & jobs
- Child support can refer NCPs to fatherhood programs
- Child support can offer incentives & support fatherhood



## New FRPN Funding Opportunity: State Planning Grants on Fatherhood

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- Goal: Promote father inclusion in policies and practices of state agencies and programs that serve families
- Approx. 12 awards, one award per state; \$10,000; 5-page applications, now through 12/31/2018; perform by Aug.15, 2019
- Eligible recipient: nonprofit 501 c 3, state or local gov't agency, public or private university, research organization
- Must have a planning group in place that includes: State IV-D Director or designee, a fatherhood researcher & one other state leader (e.g, legislator, state agency, gov. staff, etc.)
- Funds for: fatherhood summit; regular meetings of interagency groups; facilitation, marketing or research; assessing fatherinclusive practices and gaps in agencies & programs; developing org structure like a commission; securing TANF funding
- Required products: Action Plan/Next Steps, learning community calls, participate in cross-site policy evaluation by FRPN



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#### **Planning Grant Clarifications**

- 15% overhead (OH) not required; direct costs are fine
- 5 pages for items 2-6; additional pages for 7-10 & abstract
- Proposals accepted through December 31, 2018
- Applicants do not have to be "invited" to apply
- Email a single pdf file with your proposal & attachments to Lana Hearne: <a href="mailto:lhearne@centerforpolicyresearch.org">lhearne@centerforpolicyresearch.org</a>

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## "State Approaches to Father Involvement in Programs and Policies Dealing with Children and Families." May 2018

Jessica Pearson, Ph.D.

Director, CPR & Co-Director FRPN

www.frpn.org and CommuniQue, October 2018

https://www.ncsea.org/documents/Including-

Fathers\_FORMATTED\_FINAL.pdf

## "Fatherhood EFFECT Evaluation Final Report: A Comprehensive Plan for Supporting Texas Fathers and Families,"

August 2017, Child & Family Research Partnership, University of Texas at Austin, School of Public Affairs

https://childandfamilyresearch.utexas.edu/fatherhood-effect-evaluation-final-report-comprehensive-plan-supporting-texas-fathers-and-families

Fatherhood Research and Practice Network, "Announcement of a Request for Mini-Proposals for State Planning Grants on Fatherhood," <a href="http://frpn.org/about/request-for-proposals">http://frpn.org/about/request-for-proposals</a>.



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#### **Contact Us**

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- Rob Pierson, CSEA Director, Stark County, Rob.Pierson@jfs.ohio.gov
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# Questions for the Panel?







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Please don't forget to take the survey!

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## YOUR INPUT IS IMPORTANT IN PLANNING FUTURE WEB-TALKS





#### Thank you for participating today

#### **Upcoming NCSEA Events**

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Web-Talk: The Hague Child Support Convention and UIFSA 2008

Thursday, November 8, 2018 - 2–3:30 PM EST Free for NCSEA Members and Non-members Registration now open

Web-Talk: Modernizing Medical Support

Thursday, November 15, 2018 – 2-3:30 PM EST

Members: \$150, Non-members: \$295

#### **2019 NCSEA Policy Forum**

**February 7-9, 2019 Washington, D.C.**Registration open!

