

FATHERHOOD PROGRAMS FUNDED

| Pathways to Responsible Fatherhood | Temporary Assistance for Needy Families |
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| <p>Recent research shows that children do better when their fathers are present in their lives. Other results show that children with involved, loving fathers are significantly more likely to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, exhibit empathy and pro-social behavior, and avoid high-risk behaviors including drug use, truancy, and criminal activity.</p> <p>The Department received funding from the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children & Families to provide funding for Responsible Fatherhood activities across the state. Grantees are called upon to help fathers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve their relationship with their spouses, significant others, and/or the mothers of their children. • Become better parents. • Contribute to the financial well-being of their children by providing job training. <p>The following three Responsible Fatherhood activities are specified in the Claims Resolution Act of 2010:</p> <p>1. Healthy Marriage – Activities to promote marriage or sustain marriage through activities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing information about the benefits of marriage and two-parent involvement for children. • Enhancing relationship skills. • Education regarding how to control aggressive behavior. • Disseminating information on the causes of domestic violence and child abuse. • Marriage preparation programs and | <p>The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program is designed to help needy families achieve self-sufficiency. The Department receives funding through the Department of Human Resources from the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children & Families. Grantees funded across the state administer programs that accomplish the purposes of the TANF program.</p> <p>Fatherhood Programs work with non-custodial or never married parents. These programs are focused on enhancing the bond between parent and child, access and visitation, job skills, and increased compliance with child support. These components are not stand alone and should be integrated into a successful Fatherhood Program:</p> <p>1. Education</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Adult basic education (tutoring, small classes). b. GED preparation (integrated into other components). c. Education on child support services and related legal issues. <p>2. Assistance with Employment</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Job readiness training (resume writing, interview skills, job search). b. Specific job skills training (computer programming, auto mechanics, etc.). c. Job placement assistance and post employment support. <p>3. Counseling Services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Referral for crisis intervention and individual needs (housing, substance abuse counseling, relationship and family counseling, Narcotics Anonymous, health |

premarital counseling.

- Skills-based marriage education.
- Financial planning seminars.
- Divorce education and reduction programs, including mediation and counseling.

2. Responsible Parenting – Activities to promote responsible parenting, such as:

- Counseling, mentoring, and mediation.
- Disseminating information about good parenting practices.
- Teaching parenting skills.
- Encouraging child support payments.

3. Economic Stability – Activities to foster economic stability, such as:

- Helping fathers improve their economic status by providing activities such as job training, employment services, and career-advancing education.
- Coordination with existing employment services such as welfare-to-work programs, referrals to local employment training initiatives.

services, legal assistance, pro bono lawyers, domestic violence counseling).

- b. Mediation services to promote successful team parenting.
- c. Early intervention – working with both parties (mother and father) before child support non-payment becomes an issue.

4. Fatherhood Development Activities

- a. Peer Support groups and/or parenting workshops – Suggested content:
 - Personal development (values, self esteem, manhood issues)
 - Life skills (communication, decision-making, stress management, etc.)
 - Violence prevention
- b. Evidence/Research-Based Fatherhood Curriculum “Examples”
 - Quenching the Father’s Thirst
 - Partners for Fragile Families
 - Foundations of Fatherhood
 - Dr. Dad Program
 - 24/7 Dads.
- c. Parenting Workshops
 - Child development
 - Parenting skills
 - Parent and child enrichment activities