

Summit County Fatherhood Initiative March, 2019

2018 Report to the Community

"Mommy, why do the other kids in my class have a father, and I don't?"



"What's wrong with me, why won't my father have anything to do with me?"

The Challenge

More than 36,000 school-age children in Summit County are growing up in homes without a father. This represents one in three households. Why does this matter? Fifteen years of research shows that children are better off on almost every cognitive, social and emotional measure when a father is involved and connected in their lives. Such children are likely to be better academic achievers, less likely to become incarcerated, and less likely to become unwed parents.



Meeting The Challenge



SCFI works to help fathers connect/reconnect with their children through fatherhood workshops and individualized supportive services.

Workshops - The workshop course material is from the National Fatherhood Initiative. Their material is in use in more

"I'm learning new techniques for connecting with my children."

"We are learning from each other."

"Without their help, I wouldn't have my children back in my life."

"I want to take the class again (new father)"

than 6,300 organizations worldwide,

Supportive Services - SCFI helped 279 fathers "Navigate the System". Examples include assistance with: Child Support Payment issues, Driver's License reinstatements, pursuing child visitation orders, monitoring supervised child visitation, employment assistance, and more!

2018 Results: 594 Fathers, 1582 Children

SCFI partners Fame Fathers, Fathers & Sons, Man2Man; and affiliate Embrace Clinic & Care Center have graduated a combined 594 fathers from their fatherhood workshops in the 2018. 479 of these fathers report to us that they are spending increased amounts of time with their children – 1,582 children in all. This means that 1,582 children are now enjoying the benefits of an increasingly involved, connected and responsible father. Proven by 15 years of research, improved school performance and improved self-esteem are just two of the benefits enjoyed by children with an involved and connected father.

About SCFI

SCFI is a collaborative, community initiative dedicated to helping men connect/reconnect with their children through programming, education and individualized services.

SCFI was founded by three, prominent Summit County fatherhood service providers - Pastor Eugene Norris of Fame Fathers, Don Lykes of Fathers and Sons of Northeast Ohio, and Frank Williams of Man2Man. SCFI is supported by Akron Community Foundation, Huntington-Akron Foundation, United Way of Summit County, and the County of Summit - Department of Job & Family Services. Comments or questions about this publication, or about SCFI's programming and services, can be sent to Bill Macchione, william.macchione@jfs.ohio.gov

Dad's 1st Call 4 Help: Dial 2-1-1 or www.summitfathers.org

Past issues of Father Talks are available on SCFI's home page at www.summitfathers.org

