



Hello Supporters, Collaborators and Friends of the Summit County Fatherhood Initiative:

SCFI has made progress in many areas during 2016, and I wanted to share a few highlights of them with you.

SCFI Outcomes

237 fathers and ~475 children – of the 337 fathers that completed SCFI classes, 237 (70%) of them report to us that they are spending increased amounts of time with their children. This means that approximately 475 children are enjoying the benefit of a father involved in their lives. Years of research continues to tell us that a child benefits academically, socially and emotionally when a father is involved in their lives and committed to them.

SCFI Partner Highlights

- Fathers & Sons of Northeast Ohio - Don Lykes, Executive Director

Second Oriana House Facility -- Don has expanded his fatherhood programming and services to a second facility at Oriana House. This means that more than 75 Oriana House Client fathers will be exposed to the pivotal role that they can play in their children's lives. Don's passion is working with at-risk fathers.

- Fame Fathers - Pastor Eugene Norris, CEO

Infant Mortality -- Pastor Norris has implemented a new program called Precious Cargo. It is targeted at improving Infant Mortality statistics in Summit County. The program has 4 segments targeted at training fathers from pregnancy through early child care, including Safe Sleep training.

- Man2Man – Frank Williams, President

From Introduction to Self-Sufficiency – in just a 13 month period, Frank has gone from introducing SCFI's programming and services to the City of Barberton residents, to training a volunteer team at Barberton Community Pregnancy Center in facilitating fatherhood classes. During the period February, 2016 through February, 2017, Frank: a) facilitated a class for fathers, b) facilitated a class to train volunteers in facilitating fatherhood classes, and c) now the volunteers are facilitating their own first class – self-sufficiency!

Important New Collaboration

- **Legal Assistance for SCFI Fathers** – through a new collaboration with Community Legal Aid Services, SCFI is able to help fathers represent themselves in Domestic Relations Court in uncontested matters of visitation and custody. The benefits are immense. Fathers have improved access to the Court because they have been coached on how to proceed. Fathers are able to overcome legal barriers in connecting with their children. The Domestic Relations Court enjoys improved efficiency because the father/plaintiff is prepared for his Court appearance.

2016 Outcome Details

Summit County Fatherhood Initiative			
Outcomes			
		January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016	January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015
		12 Months	12 Months
1			
2			
3	Dads Participating in Fatherhood Sessions (note 1)	457	381
4	Dads Graduating From a Fatherhood Class (note 1)	337	262
5	Dads With Drivers License Reinstatements	53	30
6	Dads Assisted in Navigating the Court System	188	61
7	Awarded Supervised Visitation	44	24
8	Awarded Unsupervised Visitation	76	37
9	Awarded Custody	33	9
10	Awarded a Child Support Payment Modification	44	29
11	Family Mediation Sessions	67	53
12	Supervised Visitations	42	97
13	Dads Placed in Jobs	64	28
14	Dads reporting an increase in time spent with children	237	150
15	Dads reporting an increase in time spent with children vs. Graduating from a class	70%	57%
16	New Class Facilitators Certified	4	0

Father Talks is a publication of the Summit County Fatherhood Initiative. It focuses on fatherhood client stories, and other items related to fatherhood. SCFI is a collaborative, community initiative dedicated to helping men increase their fathering skills 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, GAR 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