

ACTION PLAN to PROMOTE
RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD

Highlights

Sector	Action within Sector
Business	Establish Advisory Committee, Incentivize Participation
Civic	Establish POPS Club
Community Activ- ism	Promote the Community Father- hood Policy
Education	Engage teachers & institutions
Faith	Clergy Summit on Fatherhood
Government	Apply for grant funding
Health	Engage institutions
Law Enforcement	Host classes, make referrals
Media & Enter- tainment	Consistent promotion
Philanthropic	Increase financial support
Social Services	Publish Dads Resource Guide, Include in Network of Care

**Clark County Fatherhood
Commission Members**

*Marilyn Demma—Family & Children First
Council Executive Director*

*Dr. David Estrop—Springfield City School
District Superintendent*

Rick Lohnes—Clark County Commissioner

*Judge Joseph Monnin—Clark County Juvenile
Court*

*Bob Suver—Clark County Job & Family Ser-
vices Director*

*Eli Williams—Urban Light Ministries Execu-
tive Director (CCFC Chair)*

**The Clark County Fatherhood Com-
mission was established in October
2009 by resolution of the Clark County
Board of Commissioners.**

2011 DADS RESOURCE GUIDE

Services, Parenting Tips, Father Facts, and more!

Available free at area agencies.

**Clark County Fatherhood
Commission**

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**Clark County
Fatherhood
Initiative**



**Promoting
Responsible
Fatherhood**

**Clark County Fatherhood
Commission**

County Action Plan

Clark County, Ohio is the best place in America to be a responsible father. Wouldn't that be a great headline to read in the local newspapers? Okay, we're not there, but it can happen if enough citizens are determined to make it so. As it stands now, Clark County's father absence is higher than the state average. In the city of Springfield 4 out of 10 fathers are absent from their children. This is tragic for kids. They are at greater risk for child abuse, poverty, academic failure, emotional and all manner of problems compared to

"In the city of Springfield 4 out of 10 fathers are absent from their children."

children with two present, engaged, nurturing, supportive parents.

We can begin to increase the number of responsible fathers in our community by working together to encourage and support dads who are determined to be all the father they can be for their children.

To help with the community's mobilization efforts, in the first half of 2011 Clark County was one of 12 counties that participated in the Ohio County Fatherhood Initiative pilot project sponsored by the Ohio Commission on Fatherhood.

For six months, local citizens attended meetings, did research and planning, attended a community mobilization workshop, a focus group, and a lead-



The Clark County Fatherhood Summit was held May 25, 2011

ership summit. To inform our work, National Fatherhood Initiative published an assessment of programs and services for fathers. The report reveals many assets in the community that have not been fully utilized.

The work of the committee culminated in the creation of the Clark County Action Plan to Promote Responsible Fatherhood which is designed to engage all sectors of the community. See the plan highlights on the reverse side.

For a copy of the Clark County Action Plan to Promote Responsible Fatherhood, request it of CCFC Chair Eli Williams by email or by regular mail at the address on the adjacent panel.

Celebrate Fatherhood Campaign

Clark County Fatherhood Commission and partners presented the first annual Celebrate Fatherhood Clark County 2011, a Pre-Fathers Day event for families in Snyder Park on Saturday, June 18 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The public was invited to enjoy free food, carnival games including a bounce house, face painting, mini basketball, and many others. The Project Jericho Bucket Band performed.



There were award presentations for the 3rd through 6th grade students who submitted winning projects in the My Dad

Rocks essay/art contest... four top winners and three runners-up. Their fathers were honored with certificates. All dads in attendance were acknowledged. The celebration began with a rally at the Band Shell. After the presentations there was a Dad and Me Walk to the picnic grounds for music, food, games, and other activities for families. The free event attracted approximately 350 attendees.

If you would like to participate in the 2012 Celebrate Fatherhood campaign, contact the CCFC.

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