

Meeting Highlights and Action Plan

Topic/ Presenter	Key Points	Action Items <i>Including Responsible Party/Timeline if applicable</i>
Meeting focus	Fatherhood	
Attendees	R. Smith, E. Brown, M. Newsom, K. Melendez, T. Boggs, N. Jackson, J. Stowers, A. Schmersal, K. Tinklenberg, E. Shaffer, M. Ivory, S. Miller, J. Jaimez, K. Wise, R. Masser, J. Upshaw, G. Burke, C. Quelette, C. Young, C. Applin, L. Lambert, K. Gilbert, S. Walton Sr, V. Carter, K. Lawrence	
Meeting start and stop time	3:00 pm, 4:15 pm	
Mission and vision moment	3-3:05 AnnMarie Schmersal	
Introductions	3:05-3:10 Brief roundtable introductions, announcements and updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Gilbert provided an update Mercy Health Baby Fair event outcomes- went well, over 25 attendees • AnnMarie reminded group: Pedal for Prevention this weekend- who is going? Please connect at end of this meeting. • Kali Lawrence provided Promise Neighborhood and Community garden updates. • Ja-Lynn Sowers announced RHC is hosting a Baby Fair in June • Sandy Miller provided updates from state lead collaborative meeting • Carolyn Young shared Mercy Health has many plans for upcoming Men’s Health Month in June 	
Fatherhood panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fathering Strong & Urbanlight Ministries- Jon Upshaw, Spfld Promise shared about their fatherhood programming and their collaboration with other fatherhood initiatives. He shared that they have a group of fathers that meets each Monday and that they have successfully met for a consecutive 34 weeks. He also shared about a group that has met for Saturday workshops and that they have had 59 graduates from that group. He referred us to the Urban Light website for up-to-date activity information. They are looking for nominations for the Good Dad award and looking forward to a dad joke off! There is also a 	

	<p>Kings and Queens mentoring program and there is a critical need for more male mentors. Mr. Upshaw shared there is a fatherhood group specifically for teens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Region and State Updates- Mike Newsom shared some of the things that are happening in Montgomery County to support fathers. Montgomery and Clark counties are a part of a SEE grant (2023-2027) and some of the funds are used to support program participation. He mentioned Lego nights, Dayton Dragon games, cookouts, and a fatherhood banquet which will be held on June 12. There is also a collaboration with Clothes for Work and the re-entry program. He highlighted the importance for boys and girls to have positive male role models in their lives • Pregnancy Resource Clinic Father Mentoring and Education – Rani Masser for PRC gave a report for Rob. In his work there, he hopes to help father’s understand pregnancy and how to best support their partner throughout the entire pregnancy. He encourages dads to set up the prenatal care appointments and become involved in some of the family skills programming available. There are different tracks for first- and second-time parents. They also try to offer some relationship support and are available to meet faith needs if a parent so desires. Rob and Kris Tinklenberg from RHC created a To Do list for dads of newly expectant moms. Kris reports they are seeing an uptick in dads calling to schedule the OB appointments for mom. • Re-Entry Coalition, Health Equity, Past to Present Start Strong Fatherhood efforts- Vince Carter spoke about the relationship with Start Strong and his role as Health Equity Coordinator. He shared that many men are not aware of all that is available to support dads in our community. He wished the fatherhood survey was more successful in reaching fathers and suggested ways that collaboration could be strengthened. • MVCDC Father Champion Program- Mr. Sean Walton Sr from MVCDC spoke about the experiences that led him to serve as a champion for fatherhood and that we need more throughout our community. He is working to put some processes around the activities so that they are more consistent and successfully executed. He highlighted that we need to start with the relationship , which will lead to trust before a father will engage. He also shared about some of the incentives he uses to engage with dads and encouraged to approach dads by letting them know that we need their help rather than we need to help them. 	
<p>Group discussion</p>	<p>Gina suggested that we add a Fatherhood table as SS101 (Oct 2026)</p> <p>Cynthia shared continued discussion post meeting via email: The meeting was full of ideas after the panel discussion. We are all thinking about what is next to support the Fatherhood Initiative.</p> <p>Here are my ideas from yesterday regarding our FATHERHOOD Panel:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get the presenters together again and find a way to connect first by commonality, and then purpose. • Provide the agencies, organizations and councils that were in the room that would like to be involved and supportive of the Fatherhood Initiative with ideas on how they can help with adding value and volume to their programs. Perhaps a list like Rani shared on what we can do next, or how we can help as individuals or as agencies. • Provide us with an elevator speech to help talk about the Fatherhood initiatives in the community. "Spread the Word" so to speak including quick references. I just happened to google search and there are several resources under "fatherhood support". 	

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2026 Meeting Schedule, all meetings 3-4pm except NOV/ DEC combined meeting will be 2:30-4pm: 2026 Full Coalition Meeting topics
May 11: Fatherhood updates
June 8, subcommittees working meeting
July 13: , subcommittees working meeting

AUG 17 Teen Pregnancy
September: BF/ Safe Sleep: Birthing Center updates
OCT 19 subcommittees working meeting
Nov/Dec: extended roundtable updates, subcommittee reports