

# Fanning the Fatherhood **FIRE**:

A National Fatherhood Summit  
June 4-6, 2019 | Nashville, Tennessee



Family-focused  Interconnected  
Resilient  Essential

## **W16** **Fired Up and Ready to Go!** **Fathers Leading Positive** **Community Change**

### **Presenters:**

**Guy Bowling, Director,  
Goodwill Easter Seals FATHER Project,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**Damian Winfield, FATHER Project Graduate,  
Goodwill Easter Seals,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota**

**Michael Russell, FATHER Project Graduate,  
Goodwill Easter Seals,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota**



**FATHER Project Mission  
Statement:**

“Empowering fathers to  
overcome barriers that prevent  
them from supporting their  
children economically and  
emotionally”

# FATHER PROJECT

a program of **GOODWILL·EASTER SEALS**  
MINNESOTA



# Our Services:

## **PARENTING SUPPORT**

You'll learn practical parenting skills and receive support from other peer fathers in similar circumstances.

## **CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**

Hennepin County Child Support provides staff on-site at the FATHER Project. From paternity to payment issues, we help you understand and improve your situation.

## **GED SERVICES**

We provide intensive GED support and other educational services.

## **LEGAL SERVICES**

Central Minnesota Legal Services partners with us to provide family and civil legal services, including visitation rights, custody and child support.

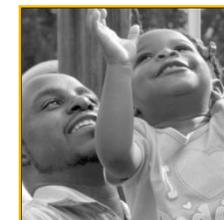
## **EMPLOYMENT TRAINING SERVICES**

We offer comprehensive employment services, including:

- Job search support and résumé development
- Job skills evaluation and short-term training
- Job placement support

## **FATHER/CHILD ACTIVITIES**

Recognition Dinner, Pumpkin Carving, Father's Day Picnic and Festival of Fathers & Families Celebration



*Good fathers make great kids.*



# The FATHER Project

## Additional services offered (may vary by site)

- Early Childhood Services
- Intensive Case Management
- Leadership Tracks:
  - Mentoring
  - Parenting Group Facilitation Training
  - Citizen Father Project

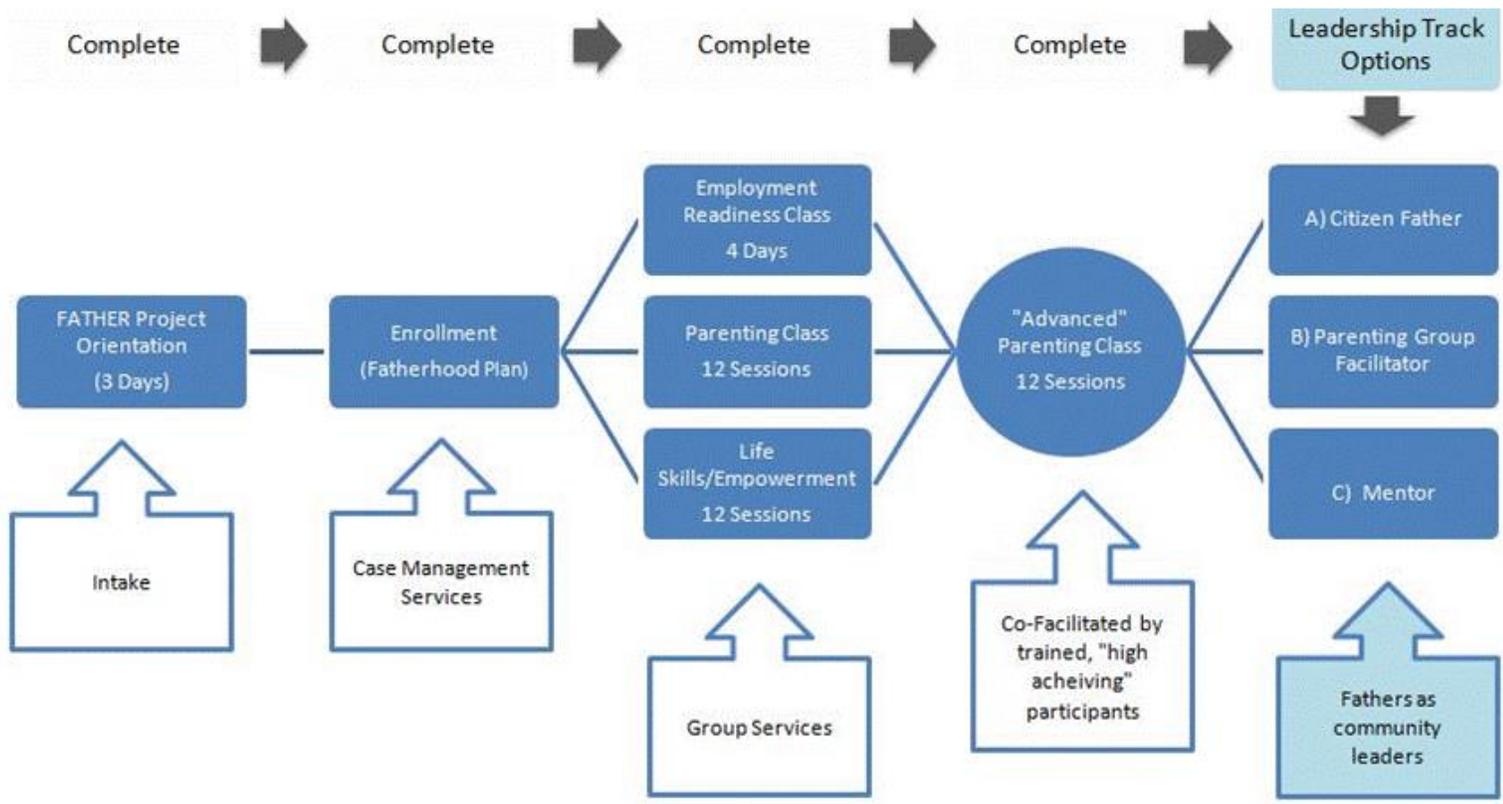


# History of Leadership Development at the Father Project:

## Leadership Track Background

- Self development and program engagement
- Progressive completion of program goals
- Fostering and developing opportunities to “give back” at deeper levels
- Progress, not perfection is required
- Desire to help others and continue to receive ongoing support, part of becoming a leader





# Develop Leaders & Engage Alumni



# Citizen Father Project: History and Background

- Citizen Professional Center at the University of Minnesota (Bill Doherty)
- Families and Democracy Model: Community Action on a specific community issue
- Flattening the hierarchy: Professionals and community members each bring skills, abilities, and knowledge
- Action-oriented approach



# Citizen Father Project:

## How our project developed

- Families and Democracy Model: Core Principles
- Families and Democracy: Process
- Our planning process and activities
- Our progress and impact: Volunteer hours and presentations made, impact on partners



# Citizen Father Project: Community Action Project



Our projects: Community Action and Video Documentary



Audiences: How we chose our key audiences



Our approach to presentations: How we structure presentations (self introduction / messages → personal / public issue)



CFP in action: Video Clip examples on Vimeo and YouTube



# Citizen Father Project: Discussion

- Benefits to partnering agencies / organizations
- Contribution to fatherhood field
- Program participation / engagement of participants / benefits to participants
- Other leadership work they are already doing (similarities, differences, pros/cons, challenges, etc.)
- Expansion- Park Rapids Citizen FATHER Project





# Questions and Answers?

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## Stay in touch with us!

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