

Outcome Team Roster

CO-CHAMPION Gayle Bullard (Montgomery County Department of Job & Family Services) **CO-CHAMPION Julie Liss-Katz** (Premier Health Partners) **Ken Betz** (Coroner's Office / Regional Crime Laboratory) **Olivia Hester** (Miami Valley Hospital - Through August) **Paul Jones** (Battelle & Battelle, LLP - Through August) **Larry Lewis** (Ohio Department of Youth Services) **Connie Lucas-Melson** (Community Volunteer) **Jim McCarthy** (Miami Valley Fair Housing Center) **Bonnie Parish** (Family Service Association) **Rev. William B. Schooler, Th.D.** (Dayton Baptist Pastors & Ministers Union) **Joe Spittler** (Montgomery County Criminal Justice / Data Acquisition) **Robert C. Walker, D. Min.** (Community Volunteer)

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STABLE FAMILIES

Vision

The community respects and supports families, recognizing that family composition in a diverse society is varied. Family members have healthy relationships with each other. Families nurture their members and provide a sense of well-being and safety. Family members work together and feel that they also belong to something larger than themselves.

Stable Families Outcome Team Report

Fatherhood

The Stable Families Outcome Team has been concerned about the insufficient supports for fathers, most notably those financially disenfranchised and without custody of and/or visitation with their children. These concerns are based on extensive information about the consequences of absent fathers and the impact of fathers' involvement on the well-being of children.

Research has proven the absence of fathers from their children's lives has harmful long-term effects on children. When compared to children whose fathers are present, children with absent fathers are...

- Five times more likely to live in poverty;
- Three times more likely to fail in school;
- Two times more likely to be abused and neglected;
- Two times more likely to develop emotional or behavioral problems;
- Two times more likely to abuse drugs;
- Two times more likely to become involved in crime; and
- Three times more likely to commit suicide.

During 2011, the Team learned about educational, employment, and other resources available for such fathers in Montgomery County. Although there are services to benefit low-income men of varying ages, there are very few services available to and specifically targeting fathers. Only through comprehensive expansion and/or the addition of other services could more low-income fathers be assisted in supporting and improving their relationships with their children. The Team is planning a project to address barriers that prevent involvement of fathers in their children's lives and gaps in services that would support such involvement.

